THE MSU
exponent
February 6, 2014
MONTANA STATE'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1895



see page 3



FASTER, HIGHER, STRONGER

WINTER IN SOCHI

Heather McPhie, Bradley Wilson and Maggie Voisin will represent Montana in the XXII Winter Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia. The Games will be held Feb. 7 - 23 with over 2,300 athletes from 88 nations competing in 98 events. Who will win gold?

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FUTURE OF S.O.B. BARN UNDER SCRUTINY

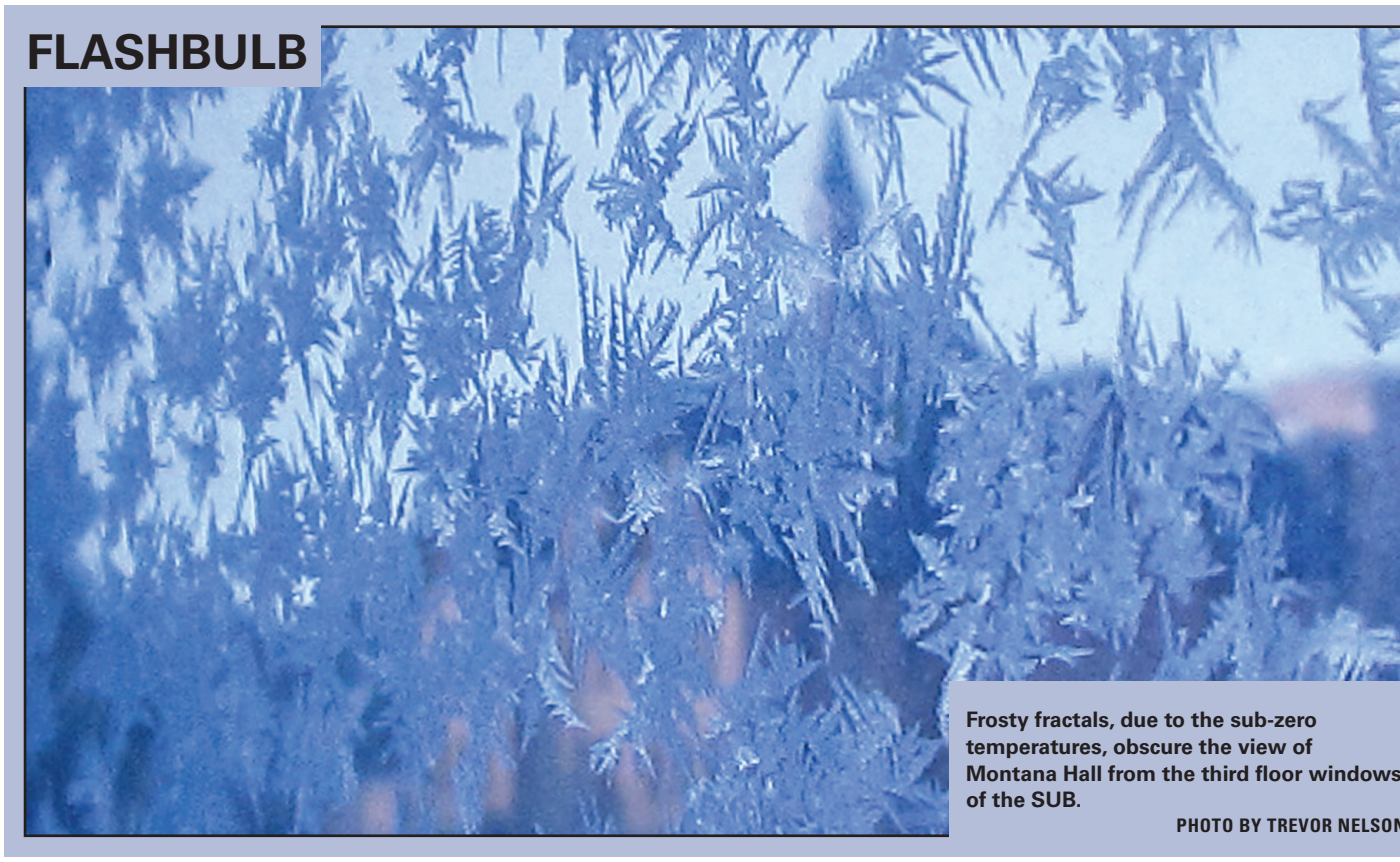
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FLASHBULB



Frosty fractals, due to the sub-zero temperatures, obscure the view of Montana Hall from the third floor windows of the SUB.

PHOTO BY TREVOR NELSON

SIGNIFICANT FIGURES: On the Winter Olympic Games

Compiled by Michelle Thomas

15 sports 98 events
12 new events
over 2,300 athletes competing

88 nations represented
Paraguay & Zimbabwe are new to the Olympics

Sochi gold medals contain 6 grams of gold
516 grams of silver
On Feb. 15 the gold medals will contain bits of meteorite from the meteorite that crashed in Russia Feb. 15, 2013.

Most expensive Olympics at $51 billion this year in Sochi
Previous record holder, Beijing, was $46.5 billion

Sochi is the warmest city to host the Winter Games: Average February Temperature 42.8°F

U.S. athlete Eddie Eagan is the only athlete to have won gold in a Summer and Winter Games.

Nations sending the most athletes: US 230 Russia 225 Canada 220

The torch was carried on a space walk by two Russian cosmonauts

Sochi's mascots: polar bear, hare & leopard

Bjorn Daehlie of Norway has the most Winter Olympic medals (8 gold, 4 silver)

HEARD ON THE WEB

@ksuta11



Eat enough of these and you'll get "Love Handles." #BrewedAwakening #MontanaState I made these at the bakery!

@wabermes

The #MontanaState pep band is so hot right now! Macklemore?! Daft Punk?! They are rocking the house! #GrizCat

@John_TheCowboy

I'm absolutely in love with #MontanaState after this #msuFriday I'm strongly considering going there :D

@Rizkyy_Business

Currently -17 degrees in Montana right now. Needless to day, I'm going to freeze when doing exchange there. #MontanaState

@sagelouise214

There's a kid on an ATV doing donuts in the parking lot on fresh snow. #MontanaState

TALK BACK:

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Comment on our site MSUExponent.com

Filter a photo and hashtag #MontanaState on Instagram

THE MSU exponent
Volume 108, Issue 18

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ASMSU associated students of montana state university

The MSU Exponent is Montana State University's student-run newspaper, bringing together more than 70 students of diverse backgrounds and approaches in service of the public interest. We strive to contribute to the university's community by providing thorough, original reporting and creating space for public discussion about topics important to students. The paper is funded through a $4.86 annual student fee and advertising revenue. It is published on Thursdays during the academic year and is available online at *msuexponent.com.*

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Sonja Benton

Alleged rapist still at-large, Briggs' history of crime and violence



MSU has posted these fliers around the campus to spread awareness about the escaped felon. PHOTO BY TREVOR NELSON

CASSIA WAGNER

Kevin Anthony Briggs, a 28-year old senior in chemical engineering at MSU, escaped from the Law and Justice Center on Saturday. He was arrested at 5:40 a.m. that morning after the police received a report at 5:16 a.m. of an alleged rape in which he tried to stab and strangle a drugged woman before getting away.

During an officer shift change, Briggs was left alone in an unlocked interview room for 10 minutes and he walked out of the unlocked Law and Justice Center's lobby. At the time of the escape, Briggs wore a body belt with his hands cuffed in front and ankles shackled. K-9 units tracked him to intersection of 7th Avenue and Babcock where they lost his trail.

"He definitely didn't seem dangerous. I do remember feeling bad for him; he seemed to not really have any friends in our classes, at least."

— ROBERT WIGHT, MSU SENIOR IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

As a registered sex offender, Briggs has a history of assault and escape. In 2003, as a 16-year old, the Helena native was arrested for detaining and raping a 14-year old girl at his apartment. Because of the nature of the crime, Briggs was tried in adult court, but his case was then transferred to youth court.

While under house arrest awaiting his appearance in youth court, Briggs disabled his electronic tracker and disappeared for a week. Helena authorities discovered Briggs in a senior living center's closet after responding to the screams of a girl — the same girl Briggs had raped. Briggs then led the police on a chase, shimmying down a drain pipe and running through alleys before being captured a few blocks away.

In 2004, at the age of 17, Briggs was convicted as a felon in the Lewis and Clark County youth court for sexual intercourse without consent, aggravated kidnapping, escape and unrelated burglary. He was sent to the Pine Hills Youth Correctional Facility and then transferred to the Montana State Prison after turning 18. In 2006, Briggs was also convicted for a 2004 attempt to escape from prison. He was released from the Montana State Prison on Jan. 15, 2008. Before Saturday's events, Briggs was label as a Level 1 sex offender meaning there was low risk of a repeat offense.

Along with his criminal record, Briggs has another history. He enrolled at MSU Billings in Fall 2009 where he succeeded academically, graduating in April 2011 with an Associates of Science in general studies and high honors. He then began studying chemical engineering at MSU Bozeman, making the Dean's list in Fall 2011.

Fellow classmate and senior in chemical engineering, Robert Wight, recalled Briggs as always showing up to class in a bicycle helmet and asking "fairly obvious" questions. "He definitely didn't seem dangerous. I do remember feeling bad for him; he seemed to not really have any friends in our classes, at least," said Wight, adding that, "He hasn't really been in any of my classes since sophomore year."

"It's our agency's top priority; all of my detectives are working on it."

— BOZEMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT CAPTAIN STEVE CRAWFORD

Since Briggs' escape, University Police have put MSU on high-alert: opening the emergency operations center, sending both text-message and email warnings, hanging wanted posters, reviewing dorm video footage and increasing patrol in and around campus. All the dorms have been placed on 24-hour lockdown, and the Vice-President for Student Success Robert Marley sent out an email concerning student safety.

Briggs is still at-large and is considered dangerous and possibly armed. If seen, do not approach but immediately call 911. Briggs is 5 feet 6 inches tall with a medium build, blue eyes and a pierced ear. He was last seen wearing a gray or black striped coat with stripes and green pants.

The Bozeman Police Department is coordinating with the FBI, Gallatin County Sheriff's Office, and University Police on the investigation, both locally and across the state. "It's our agency's top priority; all of my detectives are working on it," said BPD Captain Steve Crawford.

NOTEWORTHY

SCHOLARSHIP

The American Association of University Women in Great Falls, MT is offering $2,000 scholarships to women from Cascade County. Applicants must be full time juniors, seniors, or graduate students by Fall semester of 2014. Download applications and instructions at greatfalls-mt.aauw.net.

For information contact aauw.scholarship.cascade@gmail.com

Deadline: March 24, 2014

ESSAY CONTEST

Gallatin Writers, in cooperation with MSU and the Foundation for Research on Economics (FREE) and the Environment, are proud to offer a writing contest for MSU students. Their goal is to "provoke innovative thinking among MSU students who value the oft-elusive conjunction of ecology, responsible liberty and modest prosperity."

The judges are looking for nontechnical, well-documented papers that respond to one of the topics listed on their website. The prize for the best paper is a $500 award, two annual passes to all American National Parks for the 2014 season, and dinner for two and a one night stay at the Old Faithful Lodge in Yellowstone National Park.

For more information about the contest, and the topics for the essay, visit http://www.gallatin.org/Activities/Activities.html.

Deadline: May 1, 2014

Provost lecture highlights neural development and disease



Dr. Francis Lefcort accepts an award for her accomplishments from MSU Provost Martha Potvin. PHOTOS BY NICOLE SMITH



President Waded Cruzado and Lefcort embrace after the lecture.



Lefcort's leture discussed neurological diseases with effect one billion people worldwide.

CASSIA WAGNER

While a student at Smith College in Northampton, Mass., Dr. Frances Lefcort, dreamed of being a marine biologist, inspired by the discoveries and explorations of Jacques Cousteau aboard his ship the Calypso. Today, Lefcort is the department head of Cell Biology and Neuroscience here at Montana State. She researches cell signaling and neuronal development of which she shared about at the Provost's Distinguished Lecturer Series, on Wednesday, Feb 6.

"Over the last 20 years, [Dr. Francis Lefcort] has demonstrated that in Bozeman, Montana, she can do world-class neuroscience."

—DR. THOMAS HUGHES, PROFESSOR OF CELL BIOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE

The series has been held throughout the year in the Hager Auditorium and the Museum of the Rockies. The lectures were created as part of the Year of Engaged Leadership and "recognizes faculty distinguished at Montana State University for their scholarship and creativity," providing "these faculty with an opportunity to describe their journey in becoming a leader in their discipline."

Growing up Lefcort was no stranger to neurological disease, having five cousins who suffered from Fragile X syndrome or Familial Dystautonomia. In her lecture she joked about how her family was a walking neurological disease textbook. However, Lefcort did not decide to study neuroscience until spending her junior year at Columbia University, where she discovered the research of Dr. Eric P. Kandel. The nobel-prize winner studied sea slugs that could learn and remember and those tales of sea slugs propelled Lefcort into a Ph.D. in neuroscience at the University of California, Berkeley.

Neuroscience is a vast field, but Lefcort has narrowed her focus to the autonomic peripheral nervous system, which controls breathing and heart rates. "We're not even conscious of it. But... it's what keeps us alive," Lefcort said. Specifically, Lefcort examines how cell signaling affects development of neural crest cells, a key cell type in the autonomic peripheral nervous system. She and her team have spent the last twenty years using chick embryos to map out how different genes, viruses and molecules affect neural crest cell development.

More recently, Lefcort has studied Familial Dysautonomia, a devastating disease from which her cousin died. Sometimes called Riley-Day syndrome, the disease affects the nervous system and results in various systems like insensitivity to pain and poor growth. Simply getting out of bed brings a wave of nausea on patients, even causing them to faint. The disease is caused by single-point mutation in a gene with an unknown function. Lefcort's research has linked the absence of this gene to a cause of death of neural crest cells.

Lefcort's lecture highlighted the importance of teamwork in her research. Many of her lab members are full-time moms, so one person will start an experiment and another will finish it. "Most of us are trying to have a healthy, sane as possible home life and have a healthy, sane as possible work life," Lefcort said. As a mom of two children, Lefcort's life shows that one can do worthwhile science and live a fulfilling life.

In his introduction of Lefcort, Dr. Thomas Hughes, a professor in cell biology and neuroscience told the story of Lefcort's advisor telling her, "Your career is over," upon accepting a position at MSU in 1994. Yet Lefcort did not live up to those expectations. "Over the last 20 years, she's demonstrated that in Bozeman, Montana, she can do world-class neuroscience," Hughes said.

After the lecture, President of MSU, Dr. Waded Cruzado, and Provost of MSU, Martha Potvin, presented Lefcort with a certificate, medal and flame-shaped award, commemorating the lecture and honoring her accomplishments.

Refreshments were served after Lefcort's talk including the ever-popular red velvet cake pops.

FACULTY PROFILE: AFROTC Commander Weide mentors leaders

MARY GRANDY

Two thirds of the way through his 0600 to 1800 work day, Lieutenant Colonel David Weide was seated behind the shining dark wood of his desk, a foot-and-a-half high pile of paperwork in front of him, waiting to be addressed. Weide is the Commander of Montana State University Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) Detachment 450, and department chair and professor of aerospace studies. He is one semester into his assignment at MSU, a post that will last two or three years, and one his military career has made him ideally suited for.

"First and foremost, lead by example ... set the example ... you never have to tell an officer to shine their boots."

— LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAVID WEIDE

In this position, Weide is responsible for the six active duty members of the Air Force ROTC cadre, as well as the commissioning of around 75 graduating student cadets. Additionally, he currently instructs two courses: MAS 411 National Security Affairs and MAS 260 Air Force Weapons Systems.

"In my entire career this is the first time I've been assigned both the job and location I wanted."

— LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAVID WEIDE

His office in Hamilton Hall is decorated with formal photographs, awards and keepsakes from his long career, including a group picture of his Basic Training graduation from 1991 and three boonie hats from his tours in Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and, most recently, a 14 month tour in Afghanistan.

Throughout his 24 years with the Air Force, Weide has been assigned ten different job placements at a multitude of bases. Counting his assignments off on his fingers, he explained "I've served in a diverse number of positions ... including four different major commands," making him a useful mentor to the Cadets in the program. "These cadets could be assigned to any position at any base ... I've had exposure to all of them in some way."

Weide began his career as an enlisted Airman First Class in 1991. Initially inspired by an air show in 1985, Weide says he was "looking for something exciting to do with my life out of high school."

Throughout his first assignment from 1991 to 1993, Weide developed a deep respect for the leadership skills of his superiors. His own leadership ethic was shaped by "my exposure to my officers...[their] ethics, perseverance and discipline. They were always on their game," he said. "First and foremost, lead by example ... set the example ... You never have to tell an officer to shine their boots."

He then attended Angelo State University while stationed at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas. He was a distinguished graduate of the ROTC program, and attributes much of his desire to hold his current position to his positive experiences as a cadet.

Since his commission in 1998, Weide climbed the ranks from Second Lieutenant to Lieutenant Colonel, a promotion he received shortly after his arrival to MSU. For the past decade, Weide has worked towards his current assignment, and made it through the competitive selection process for Commander.

"In my entire career this the is the first time I've been assigned both the job and location I wanted," he said.

"Watching the development of our young citizens and watching the growth of the cadets, is the most rewarding part of the job."

— LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAVID WEIDE

However, the job, like any other, has its faults. "Administration was a surprise for me. I was not expecting the paperwork. I've got paperwork for my paperwork," said Weide, gesturing to the stack of files on his desk. The calendar on his computer screen is crammed with multicolored reminders of his various obligations. "I wish I could say there was such a thing as an average day," he laughed.

Weide's reward, however, is worth it. "Watching the development of our young citizens and watching the growth of the cadets, is the most rewarding part of the job," he said.

NEWS BRIEFS

MSU business students to offer free tax filing help

Adapted from MSU News

MSU accounting students will be offering free tax preparation help for MSU students who made less than $58,000 in 2013. The sessions will be held Feb. 11, 18, 25, 27; March 4, 18, 25, 27; and April 1 and 8.

The help sessions will be held on campus in Reid 302. No appointments are necessary and sign-up sheets will instead be posted before each session at 5 p.m. The sessions will be run by upper-division accounting student volunteers who will assist in filing federal and state income tax returns. The students will also be prepared to answer tax questions.

Individuals interested in this service should be prepared with their 2013 W-2 forms, other tax documents, social security card and copies of their 2012 tax returns (if available). Free electronic filing will be available for most 1040 forms.

– MOLLY REED

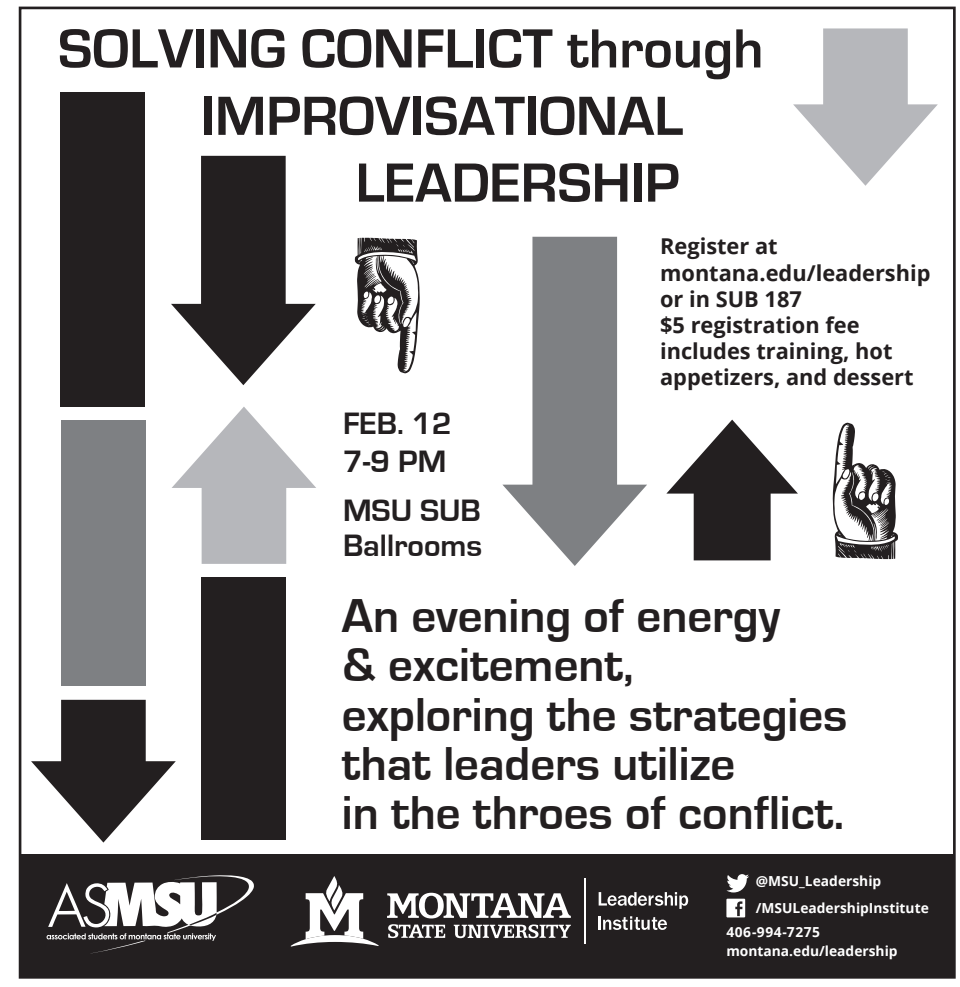
MSU Symphony Orchestra to perform

Adapted from MSU News

The MSU Symphony Orchestra is set to perform in Reynolds Recital Hall on Friday, Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. The Symphony, under the direction of Dr. Tobin Stewart will perform works by Beethoven, Mozart, Shostakovich and Mark Dal Porto. Two of the 2014 student concerto winners, Andrew Major and David Kirk, will be featured during the concert.

Tickets are $10 for general admission and $5 for students and can be bought at the door or online at ticketpeak.com/msumusic. Space is limited, so attendees are encouraged to arrive early to get a seat. For more information contact the School of Music at 406-994-3562.

– MOLLY REED



Future of SOB barn uncertain

ERIN MURDOCK

The prospect of the "Save Our Barn" (SOB) barn has the Bozeman community concerned. The Barn was closed around late October after it was determined that it did not comply with fire egress code. The barn is most commonly known among students for being home to Friday night swing dances.

The barn is part of MSU's land grant heritage and is regarded as a historical landmark. The barn was almost demolished in the 1970s but students voiced their opinions toward the barn and saved it from being destroyed, hence the name "Save Our Barn". The barn's history is what makes it such an iconic and unique building on campus.

When the issues were initially discovered, faculty began investigating the different options and analyze how financially feasible the options were. Tom Stump, the Director of Residence Life/ University Food Service and Auxiliary Services, has been involved in evaluating the possibilities.

The barn was assessed by an architecture firm and the report stated that the barn was vertically and horizontally stressed, adding yet another issue to be considered. The accumulation of problems makes the barn unsafe, which is the main concern of the schools. "Safety is the number one issue here and what we are focusing on," Stump said.

The range of solutions take into account what they want the barn to be used for. The minimal amount of repairs, taking care of problems like emergency lighting and ensuring all doors open outwards, would allow for a crowd of around 49 people in the barn. The most basic repairs would not address certain structural issues and the issues only guarantee temporary use of the barn. As more intensive repairs are considered, the amount of money increases as well.

Stump noted that when the barn was initially saved from destruction, it was not remodeled or fixed. "They saved the barn, they didn't put any money into it, they didn't say 'let's make the barn so it's here for another 100 years,' they just saved it. From that point on in the late 60's we haven't done a lot of repair to it. Part of it yes has withstood all these years, but now we need to do something about it."

The repairs will vary for the intended use of the barn. If a decision is made to repair the barn to a state where it can safely occupy large crowds for events then it will be an intensive and time consuming process. Another possible outcome is using the barn not for crowds. Because of the uncertainty surrounding the barns future, there has not been a set budget for the repairs.

Chancey Ringer, the assistant director of Family and Graduate Housing (FGH), used the SOB barn for FGH events. Ringer also emphasized the hesitation of the school



The SOB Barn was closed on Oct. 31, 2013 due to fire safety concerns. PHOTO BY CONOR GLESNER

to make a decision on what the barn will be used for. "We're looking at the building as a structure and not necessarily what will be in it," Ringer said.

Stump and Ringer both emphasized that the decision will be made taking into account the students' voice as well as all other variables, the only option not being considered is demolishing the barn. "This is an iconic barn, there is no way we would ever tear it down," Stump said.

MSU hosts Start Smart Workshop, focuses on salary negotiation for women

ERIN MURDOCK

A Start Smart workshop twas held at MSU on Saturday Feb. 1. The aim of Start Smart Workshops are to teach college women about salary negotiation for employment after graduation. Various issues are covered, such as, how the gender gap affects college women, how to create a personal budget that determines salary needs, and how to negotiate for their first salary out of college.The workshop encompass women of all professions, ensuring that they will be equipped with the proper knowledge for salary negotiation regardless of the field they pursue.

The workshop was sponsored by ASMSU, the MSU Women's Center, American Association of University Women (AAUW), the MSU Diversity Awareness Office and MSU Career Services. The program focuses on pay equity, which is a prevalent issue in Montana, as women earn 33 percent less than what men earn, making Montana 39th in the nation for pay equity.

In the US, 225 campuses have held Smart Start workshops and Montana is the third-to-last state host one.

Rachel Harrington, a senior majoring in graphic design and business marketing found the workshop valuable. Harrington learned about the Start Smart Workshop through an email that was sent to all females in the College of Business. The event was convenient for her because it only lasted three hours and did not require a large level of commitment.

Harrington believes more female students should take advantage of the program. "It was a super positive experience and I think it should be something every woman has to do."

Lexie Kambich, a junior majoring in biochemistry, was motivated to attend the program after watching her mother fight the battle for equal pay. She enjoyed the activities that they did throughout the workshop and found them enlightening. "We did a role playing exercise where someone was the employer and someone was the employee, it was super helpful because I had never realized how difficult it was for the employer to negotiate salary," Kambich said.

"We did a role-playing exercise where someone was the employer and someone was the employee, it was helpful because I had never realized how difficult it was for the employer to negotiate salary."

—LEXIE KAMBICH, MSU JUNIOR IN BIOCHEMISTRY

A related event, The Montana Equal Pay Summit, will take place on April 1. This free event will be held in the SUB Ballroom A. The focus of the Summit is similar to that of the Start Smart Workshop and will focus on gender pay equity and employment opportunities in Montana.

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EDITORIAL

Assaults Deserve Community Response

This past weekend, there were two reported attempts of sexual assault. The first occurred Saturday morning, when former MSU student Kevin A. Briggs allegedly assaulted a woman using a knife. Though Briggs was taken into custody at the Bozeman Law and Justice Center, during his questioning he was left alone in a room for ten minutes and walked out the front door of the courthouse wearing shackles and handcuffs. He was last headed north toward Main Street. It was later discovered that in 2003 he was convicted of rape, burglary and kidnapping in Lewis and Clark County. Since his escape on Saturday, Briggs has yet to be located.

Statistically, one in three women and one in thirty-three men will be assaulted in their lifetime. Despite the immense privacy surrounding these events, they undoubtedly impact our entire community. At a time like this, it is more important to support survivors and the community at large than be the first to cast stones.

Later, at 1:27 a.m. on Sunday morning, an attempted assault took place on Pioneer Drive in Bozeman. The assailant reportedly approached a woman next to her parked car, pushed her against it and stated he was going to rape her. The woman elbowed the man in the nose, which appeared to be bleeding, and he fled running south. The assailant has not been located. Due to conflicting descriptive details of the assailants, it is thought that the two assaults are unrelated. For more details about the assaults, see the article on page three.

These are the facts; clear and supported by evidence. The response from MSU has included multiple warnings on campus, including MSU alerts, residence halls increasing security and the posting of Briggs' picture in many locations on campus. Though public perception has varied, the responses have generally been very supportive of the survivors of the alleged assaults.

It is easy, at times like this, to point fingers. Maybe the most obvious to blame, other than the assailants themselves, are the Bozeman Police Department. Bozeman citizens trust the police to keep them safe, and when a dangerous assailant just walks out of their custody, that relationship is betrayed.

This argument holds water, but with both assailants at large, now is not the time to play the blame game. Surely, that will come later — in the wake of the events the focus should be more on finding the assailants than punishing those culpable. Statistically, one in three women and one in thirty-three men will be assaulted in their lifetime. Despite the immense privacy surrounding these events, they undoubtedly impact our entire community. At a time like this, it is more important to support survivors and the community at-large than be the first to cast stones.

Similarly, it is also crucial that the MSU community holds itself above the impulse to spew needless gossip about the incidents, especially regarding the survivors. The impacts of an attempted or completed assault are already extreme, and it undoubtedly makes the trauma more difficult when the entire student body is aware and speculative of the event. This situation is serious and should be taken as such.

The response from MSU has included multiple warnings on campus, including MSU alerts, residence halls increasing security, and the posting of Briggs' picture in many locations on campus.

The best way to support the community at this time is through vigilance and respect. This call for vigilance goes beyond staying in groups or walking in lit areas, especially because these actions decrease risk but do not prevent assault. To protect itself, the entire community must keep their eyes out for the two men involved. Any information, no matter how insignificant it may seem, needs to be reported for the safety of our campus and our community. If we concede that the safety of all revolves around the protection of all, then now is as good a time as ever to watch out for your fellow man. Events like this can fracture a community with doubt and blame, or, if we let it, allow us to come together as one.

Editor's note: Any sightings or information related to the weekend's assaults can be reported anonymously at switness@montana.edu or the MSU VOICE Center.

CLASSIFIEDS

Cult or Religion?

Share an hour with the Gallatin Valley Interfaith Forum. Hear views on this topic from five different faith traditions.

Wednesday February 5th from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM in the Strand Student Union Room 235.

Bring your lunch and enjoy a break from studying.

PROCRASTINATOR

ALL IS LOST

– 2/6 - 2/8 **6:30** PM
– 2/9 **12:30** PM

DALLAS BUYERS CLUB

– 2/6 - 2/8 **9:00** PM
– 2/9 **3:00** PM

THOR: THE DARK WORLD

– 2/10 - 2/11 **9:00** PM

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Next meeting: February 13 at 4:30 p.m. in SUB 366

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

LETTERS TO EDITOR:

Inspired or angered by something we've published? Want to call out our editorial judgement, good, bad or otherwise? Just want to send one of our writers "fan" or "hate" mail? Send us a letter at *editor@exponent.montana.edu*. Submissions should be signed and kept under 300 words and may be edited for AP style, grammar and length.

RANTS:

Fed up with one of the myriad injustices of campus life? Want to publicly rail against it? Send us a rant to *editor@exponent.montana.edu*. Just keep submissions between 200 and 300 words. And please, try to refrain from personal attacks or innappropriate language.

STAFF COLUMN

Campus Suicide Prevention Warrants Support

Mountains rise to greet the day, inspiring us to do the same in the amazing state of Montana. It can't be denied, we are fortunate to live in a place with open spaces, winding rivers and plentiful wildlife. This ideal beauty holds an ugly truth, however, depression and suicide have shockingly powerful pull on our state and our young people.



GRETA ROBISON
Opinion writer

In the U.S., suicide is the 10th most common killer, and the third among people ages 15 to 25, according to a 2010 American Association of Suicidology report. One person kills themselves every 13.7 seconds, and this rate is rising. In 2010, 38,364 people committed suicide. Montana's suicide rate has ranked in the top five states in the nation for thirty years, according to the 2010 Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services report. It usually ranks in the first three spots. MSU alone has had 41 suicides in its history. Four were committed last school year alone and three attempts were recorded in a single weekend.

Seventy-seven percent of Montana suicides in 2010 were men. Women attempt suicide at a rate three times higher than men, but men are four times as likely to complete suicide. The reasons behind this are complex. Brian Kassar, a professor and counselor at the MSU Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS), explains, "Men tend to chose more violent means, like firearms or their automobiles. Men are typically less likely to seek help or counseling, so their depression, substance abuse, or personal crisis can get very intense and contribute to the hopelessness that leads to completed suicides."

This statement is backed up by MSU-specific statistics provided by a 2006 study. According to this study, 31 percent of MSU men are not aware of the on-campus counseling services. Maybe more strikingly, of those who said they would not use a counseling service, forty-four percent said their reason was they did not want to appear weak. As Cindy Uken of the Billings Gazette reported, "Even when (men) can get help, they tend to 'cowboy up,' afraid their illness will be seen as weakness."

MSU's Counseling & Psychological Services currently offers free and confidential counseling. Kassar commented that, in regards to men, "CPS sees many men in counseling and provides 'male friendly' services. Over half the students I see are men, and I train the staff on how to work effectively with men. The guys who come in often report being surprised about how helpful it is and how comfortable it felt once they got over their initial discomfort." They also offer both CPS and QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) training throughout the semester to teach about suicide prevention.

ASMSU vice president Lukas Smith is also concerned about this issue on campus. He commented that, even among friends, where women are more likely to discuss emotion, men are more likely to turn away. The strict and impossible gender norms people are expected to live up in our culture can make it more difficult for men to seek help than women. Smith is looking for other ways to address this issue, and is seeking student opinion on the subject. There has been discussion of creating a Men's Center on campus to deal with men's health issues and suicide prevention.

A suicide prevention center on campus is a needed asset to the MSU community. The evidence shows there needs to be a program that focuses on men's health at such a center, due to their higher risk. That being said, it should not be forgotten that women still attempt suicide at a higher rate than men. Their issues with depression and self-harm should not be discounted because their attempts are less likely to be completed. Women clearly need support as well when it comes to suicide prevention. Furthermore, according to Clara Moskowitz in her article on transgender suicide rates, 41 percent of Transgender people attempt suicide. The Suicide Prevention Resource Center also reports between 30 and 40 percent of LGBT youth attempt suicide.

Additionally, if ASMSU and the student body want to be more involved in prevention it would make more sense to collaborate with the CPS which is already doing this work. A boot in funding, staff and student involvement would help address this issue without having to reinvent the wheel. Perhaps the most influential thing students could do is start talking about these issues with their friends and loved ones. Culture may shape us, but we create culture through our every day actions. It may seem insignificant, but asking questions and promoting a non-judgmental atmosphere can save lives. This is the first step towards making MSU a safer, more supportive place for all students.

Have an idea for how MSU could deal with the situation?
Email asmsuvp@msu.montana.edu to share your thoughts with Lukas Smith.
Want to know more about counseling services on campus?
Visit *montana.edu/wwwcps* or call (406) 994-4531
In crisis or need help?
Call the 24-Hour MSU Counseling and Psychological Services hotline at (406) 586-3333. It's free and anonymous and screens for depression, anxiety, nd substance use problems: *mentalhealthscreening.org.screening/MontanaStateUniv*



STAFF COLUMN

Inside Wheat Montana

MICA JENKINS
Opinion writer

Handy resealable plastic bags of flour, brightly colored bread loaf packages advertising ancient grains, non-GMO pancake mix and half-sized loaves for the modest consumer of breads; these are all examples of the clever marketing strategies that Wheat Montana has developed over the years in response to ever-changing consumer-whim. Let's take a look beyond the packaging.

Dean Folkvord, founder of Wheat Montana in Three Forks, attended Dr. Perry Miller's Sustainable Cropping Systems course as a guest lecturer on January 21, 2014. A farmer, entrepreneur, and MSU graduate (class of 1982), Folkvord spoke with students about the evolution of Wheat Montana and the future of his business. Dale Folkvord, Dean's father, purchased the first sections of the Wheat Montana Farm in 1958, and the farm has grown steadily over the years to encompass a swath of land that historically included 65 separate homesteads. With especially low precipitation rates in Three Forks, the farm mentality is "do more with less."

The next time you're at the grocery store, staring down the long and perhaps ominous aisle of breads, look for the resealable plastic flour bags and the rainbow of bread loaves.

Accordingly, Wheat Montana has evolved away from a summer-fallow system, in which cultivable land is left idle for an entire growing season, and toward a no-till system that helps to retain water. In dryland Montana, this system has proven to significantly impact farm yields and is widely accepted as an appropriate method of conservation farming. Out here, every bit of water counts; snow trapped in wheat stubble over the winter months is essential in maintaining soil moisture for the following season, and timely diversified crop rotations help to ensure that available water is used to its maximum potential.

Though it might be more expensive than Wonderbread, Wheat Montana's average profit per loaf is a mere twelve cents. The wheat flour itself does not represent the main production cost; Rather, packaging and transportation mandate the prices that we see on the shelves in Town and Country or even in Wal-Mart. As Wheat Montana grows steadily, the company has garnered the interest of large grocery chains, and even TJ Maxx, where its Whole Bran Flax Seed product can frequently be found on the shelves. In order to keep up with demand, Wheat Montana has expanded its network of growers to include farmers statewide, and in some cases, farmers from surrounding states and Canada. They also supply ingredients for Dave's Killer Bread, an Oregon based company that is now steadily growing due to Costco's purchase of their goods.

When it comes to food, trends are important. Wheat Montana pays attention to its loyal customers, continuing to supply bagels and half-loaves even though the profitability of those items pales in comparison to the immensely popular High Fiber, Flax and Sunflower loaf. And as consumers increasingly demand whole wheat products that have a similar color and texture to the traditional white wheat flour, Dean has chosen to cultivate hard white wheat. While this variety maintains all three components necessary to make a wheat product "whole"—the bran, the germ, and the endosperm — the natural light color combined with intensive milling results in a product that is white, fine and great for baking.

As for the future of Wheat Montana, organic certification is paving the way. The National Organic Program, managed by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), stipulates that synthetic fertilizers, sewage sludge, irradiation, and genetic engineering may not be used[1]. However, consumers who demand non-GMO wheat may not have done their homework; according to the USDA, there is no firm evidence demonstrating that such a thing exists on U.S. markets[2]. Those who increasingly demand organic should not anticipate complaints from wheat producers. Organic wheat has the earning power of $18/bushel, while production costs stand at only a fraction of the cost of inputs (herbicides, fertilizers) used in conventional wheat production.

So the next time you're at the grocery store, staring down the long and perhaps ominous aisle of breads, look for the resealable plastic flour bags and the rainbow of bread loaves. Not only are you likely to find something that suits your palate, you'll end up with a product produced close to home by an operation with a track record of adaptability.

1. National Organic Program. http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/nop
2. Statement on the Detection of Genetically Engineered Wheat in Oregon. http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2013/06/0127.xml

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OLYMPIC TIME OF THE YEAR

ATHLETES CONVERGE FOR XXII WINTER GAMES

OLYMPIC DATA COMPILED BY MICHELLE THOMAS

This past weekend 47.6 percent of American homes tuned in for Super Bowl XLVIII, making the event the fifth most-watched television event in U.S. history. This Friday, Feb. 7, will see another top rated TV program with the opening ceremony of the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Games. Last year more than 41 million viewers in the U.S. tuned in for the 2012 London Olympic Games, with over 900 million watching world-wide. This year the numbers are expected to be even higher.

HISTORY OF THE GAMES

Ancient Greece, a period of Greek history lasting from the eighth century BC to 600 AD, was host to the first Olympic Games. The Games were developed as a competition between representatives of many city-states and kingdoms in Greece. The Ancient Games hosted a variety of competitions from athletic running events, to combat sports such as pankration and wrestling, and of course the horse and chariot races. The date of the first Olympics was 776 BC, and it has been said that a cook named Coroebus was the first champion.

The original Olympics featured one race, held every four years, called the "stadion" race. The myth explains that the race was measured after Hercules, son of Zeus, walking in a straight line for 200 steps, somewhere between 590 and 790 feet. By the year 520 BC the last running event had been added to the Olympic Games which had been expanded from a one day to a five day affair, featuring the diaulos (the double stadion), dolichos (4800 meters), hoplitodromos (350-800 meters, with 50 pounds of armor) and stadion races, as well as chariot racing, javelin throw, long jump, discus throw, wrestling, boxing, a pentathlon and pankration. The five days Games included an opening ceremony during which 100 oxen were slaughtered as a sacrifice to Zeus, and a closing banquet for all the participants on the final day.

In 1894 the International Olympic Committee (IOC) was founded, and thus began the modern Olympic Games, held in a rotating country, every four years. The IOC is responsible for the organization of the Olympic Movement with has been the cause of several developments in the Games over the past century. The Movement created the Winter Games in 1924, the Paralympic Games in 1960 and the Youth Olympic Games in 2010, and changed the participation of the Games to allow professional athletes to compete.

The first of the modern Games was held in Athens, Greece, in 1896. The Games featured 241 athletes from 14 different nations who competed in 43 events. The next Olympics were held in Paris, France in 1900 and it was the first time women were allowed to compete. When the Winter Games were introduced in 1924, the Summer and Winter Olympics were held the same year until 1994, in which the schedule switched to that of today, with both the Summer and Winter Games being held every four years — each Olympics two years apart.

THIS YEAR'S GAMES

This year's Olympic Games will be held in Sochi, Russia, from Feb. 7 - 23, with over 2,500 athletes from 88 nations competing in 98 different events. This year there are 12 new events to debut.

Freeskiing Halfpipe — Like the snowboarding halfpipe events currently included in the Winter Olympic Games, all athletes will have two runs in the preliminaries for a chance to qualify for the finals. The event consists of skiing down a halfpipe with a routine of flips, twists and jumps.

Freeskiing Slopestyle — This event features a combination of alpine racing speeds and aerial skills. The event is judged based on the execution of skiing down the course over jumps and rails.

Snowboard Slopestyle — Same as freeskiing slopestyle, except with a snowboard.

Snowboard Parallel Special Slalom — Two athletes board down a course with the same obstacles side-by-side. The first one to the bottom without crashing wins.

Biathlon Mixed Relay — The teams will be composed of two females and two males. The female athletes will each race six kilometers followed by the two males racing 7.5 kilometers each. During the race, all four athletes must fire a shot from a prone and standing position, and will be penalized with a 150 meter lap for each miss. The team with the lowest time wins.

Women's Ski Jumping — The jumping will take place on the same event hill where the men compete. Each jump is scored based on distance travelled and style. The athletes will do two jumps and the highest combined score wins.

Figure Skating Team Event — One score per country will be combined from four classifications: mens, ladies, pairs and dance skating.

Luge Team Relay — One man and one woman single luger and one doubles team will race down the track and reach up to slap touch pads at the bottom to open the gate for their teammates. The team with the fastest time after the third sled crosses the finish wins.





MONTANA NATIVES COMPETE IN SOCHI

MEGAN BERNHARDT

John Misha Petkevich represented the USA in the 1968 and 1972 Olympic Games. The Great Falls native competed in figure skating, and was the top American skater in 1971.

Former governor Judy Martz was a speed skater on the 1968 Olympic team.

Tommy Moe made history in the 1994 Olympics, becoming the first American male skier to win two medals in a single Winter Olympics. The Missoula native took gold in downhill and silver in the super giant slalom race.

Great Falls native Scott Davis competed in figure skating for the United States at the 1994 Olympics, placing eighth.

Tune into NBC this month to watch Voisin, Wilson and McPhie, along with the rest of Team USA compete in the 22nd Olympic Winter Games!

With a record number of American athletes going to the Olympics in Sochi, Russia, some Montanans were bound to be in the mix.

There will be 230 athletes competing for the United States, and three Montanans will be among them.

Bradley Wilson — The 21-year-old Butte native will be competing in moguls for the USA. His brother, Byron competed in the 2010 Vancouver Olympics, which inspired Bradley to make the team this year.

Heather McPhie — The Bozeman native will be competing in her second Olympic Games. She placed 18th in moguls in the 2010 Games. The 29-year-old will once again be competing in the moguls competition, which will take place February 6 and 8.

Maggie Voisin — At 15 years old, she is the youngest American in the Olympics. Her event, slopestyle skiing, is debuting at these Games. The Whitefish native became the youngest athlete to compete and medal in the Winter X Games last month, where she won a silver medal.

Montana also has a storied history of Olympic competitors in the Winter Games. Missoula native Eric Bergoust went to the games four times in 1994, 1998, 2002 and 2006, and won the gold medal in aerials in 1998.

OLYMPIC EMBLEMS

MOTTO — There are many symbols that have become associated with the modern Olympic Games since their inception in 1894. The first is the motto, "Citius, Altius, Fortius," this is Latin for "Faster, Higher, Stronger," and was developed by Pierre de Coubertin when he founded the IOC. The Olympic motto was introduced to the world during the 1924 Games in Paris.





MEDALS — The medals — gold, silver and bronze — are awarded to the top three finishers in each event. One side of the medal features a design for the particular Olympics at which it is given, including the name of the host of the Games, and the other side exhibits an image of the Greek goddess of victory, Nike, holding a winner's crown and a palm. Since 2004, as a symbol of the renewal of the Games, Nike has been featured flying into the Panathenaic Stadium.

TORCH — The Olympic flame is transported to the host country each year from Olympia, Greece, the site of the Ancient Olympics. The flame is lit several months before the game is held and transported, by foot, horse, car, carriage, rocket and even satellite, to the site of the Games. This tradition commenced in 1936 with the Berlin Games. The torch is lit by concentrating the rays of the Sun on a parabolic reflector. The torch reaches the main stadium during the Opening Ceremony of the Games as a symbol of the beginning of the Olympics.



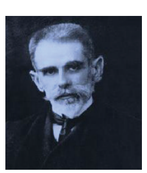


OLIVE WREATH — The "kotinos" is an olive branch twisted into a circle introduced in the Ancient Olympic Games by Heracles. In the Ancient Games there was only one winner in each event and they were crowned with this branch. The kotinos was used again in 2004 during the Summer Olympics in Athens.

PAGE DESIGN BY ASHLEY MOON



FLAG — Perhaps the most well-known symbol of the Olympics is the interlocking five rings, known as the Olympic rings. The symbol was designed in 1912 by Coubertin, and the Olympic flag with the symbol was introduced in 1914. The five colored rings and white background encompass the national colors of Sweden, Greece, France, England, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Hungary, Spain, Brazil, Australia, Japan, China and the U.S. Prior to 1951, each color was stated to correspond with a continent, this is no longer the case, as today the five interlocking rings symbolize the meeting of athletes and the union of the five regions of the world from which they come.



ANTHEM — The Olympic anthem was first performed in 1896 at the Athens Games, however it was not the official hymn until 1957. The original hymn was composed by Spyridon Samaras using the words from Greek poet Kostis Palamas.

MASCOTS — Although there is no official mascot of the Olympics, the Games since 1968 have featured an animal native to the country in which the Games are held or another figure that represents the culture of the nation. In 1980 in Moscow, the first true mascot, a Russian bear named Misha, was introduced.





CEREMONIES — The opening ceremonies designate the official start to the Olympic Games. There are many traditional components of the ceremony including the "Parade of Nations," in which athletes walk into the stadium by country. Beginning in 1928, it has been tradition that the nation of Greece enter the stadium first and the host country last. The Games this year will then be opened with the address, "I declare open the XXII Olympic Winter Games of Sochi," given by the host country's head of state, Russian President Vladimir Putin. After the parade of nations, the Olympic flag is presented with the playing of the Olympic hymn and lighting the stadium's cauldron. During the closing ceremony the host country's flag is again raised with their national anthem, and the "Parade of Flags" commences, however, the athletes are not grouped by nation in the closing ceremony. This tradition began in 1956 as a symbol of the unity of the athletes of the world. There is then a final medals ceremony, and the flags of Greece and the next country to host the Games are raised. The Olympic flag is lowered and taken out of the stadium, and finally, to mark the end of the Games, the Olympic flame is extinguished.

BASKETBALL



Sophomore guard Marcus Colbert blocks a UM Grizzly shooter as teammates Terrell Brown (13) and Antonio Biglow (5) look on. PHOTO BY ROGER MILLER



Jasmine Hommes looks to get past a Southern Utah defender. Hommes, a sophomore, had a career-high 24 points in the game. PHOTO BY ROGER MILLER

Cats drop Brawl of the Wild

MEGAN BERNHARDT

Flavien Davis poured in 22 points for the Bobcats, but they could not withstand a strong UM Grizzly team. Forward Kareem Jamar led the way for the Griz, with 20 points, and three other players scored in double figures for UM (10-9, 5-5).

The Cats trailed by as much as 13 and tied the game twice, but were never able to take the lead. MSU (10-11, 5-5) had 24 points off the bench, with guard Antonio Biglow and forward Terrell Brown with seven apiece.

The Bobcats had 30 points in the paint, compared to Montana's 20, but they were outrebounded by the Griz, and could not make their three pointers fall in the final minutes, shooting only 25 percent in the second half.

The final score was 70-66. The Cats are home again tonight, Feb. 6, taking on the Eastern Washington Eagles at 7 p.m.

Lady Cats fall against SUU

MEGAN BERNHARDT

Sophomore Jasmine Hommes had a career-high 24 points, but it was still not enough for the Bobcats (8-11, 6-4) to beat the Thunderbirds of Southern Utah on Jan. 30. The Cats had a 16 point lead in the first half, and went into the break on top, 46-38.

The Cats led the entire second half, until 3:28 when Southern Utah's Hailey Mandelko hit a jumper to put the T-Birds on top, 75-74. She also hit two three-pointers in the final three minutes to help Southern Utah win the game. She finished with 22 points.

Bobcat junior forward Jackie Elliott had her fourth double-double of the season, with 17 points and a team-high 10 boards. Junior guard Ausha Cole and sophomore forward Kayla DeWit each added 10 points.

The final score was 87-81, with Southern Utah (12-7, 6-4) taking this matchup.

John's Sports Talk
Bozeman 2026?

JOHN PANKRATZ

Now that football is over, our sports-saturated culture will look to obsess over the next exciting sport that presents itself. Entering right on cue, the Sochi Winter Olympics begin today! Sports that we only watch once every four years will become a daily drug for many Americans, as we glue ourselves to our television sets. Also around this time of year, the subject of Bozeman hosting a Winter Olympics seems to make a few local headlines. Apparently this is more than a pipe dream, with at least one website (www.bozeman2026.com) dedicated to bringing the Winter Games to the Gallatin Valley in 2026. While this alone doesn't say much does Bozeman actually have a shot at hosting the biggest international winter sports event someday?

Around this time of year, the subject of Bozeman hosting a Winter Olympics seems to make a few local headlines. Apparently this is more than a pipe dream, with at least one website dedicated to bringing the Winter Games to the Gallatin Valley in 2026.

Of course, like many things in sports, the first aspect of hosting an Olympics is money, and being named host is no financial picnic. This year's Sochi Olympics are estimated at costing a record $50 billion. This is probably not a great indicator of what an Olympics would cost in Bozeman, as Russia is buying an extravagant Olympics to show off their country, much like China did in Beijing in 2008. A better model to go off of is the last time the U.S. hosted a winter games, in Salt Lake City in 2002. That year, Salt Lake City spent $1.2 billion, with $600 million coming from local taxpayers. Every citizen in Gallatin County would have to contribute over $6,000 in extra taxes to reach this figure. This number would go down to $600 per person if everyone in the state of Montana voted to get behind the effort, but this increase would be too much for state citizens to justify the games, given that the primary benefit would be for the Gallatin Valley. Not to mention the total estimate of $1.2 billion is low to start with, as it is from twelve years ago and in a city with more infrastructure in place. The bottom line is that the organizing committee of Bozeman 2026 would have to jump through some major financial hoops and look for monetary help from either the federal government or private investors in order to get the games off the ground. Even if funding could be secured, hosting an Olympics is a major future financial risk. The Montreal Games of 1976 took 30 years to pay off their Olympic debt, and Athens in 2004 lost so much money that it was a major contributing factor to Greece's total financial collapse as a country.

Another major factor is infrastructure. Bozeman does have great skiing infrastructure with Bridger Bowl and world-class resort Big Sky nearby. Bobcat Stadium could host the opening ceremonies, but the seating capacity would have to at least be doubled. While the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse could host some events, the city would have to build at least four more arenas with a combined capacity that is bigger than the city's population. Another critical aspect would be transportation and housing. An estimated 2.1 million people attended the first three days of the London 2012 games, double the population of Montana. Building enough hotels, restaurants and amenities for all the people the games would bring, in addition to over 2,500 athletes participating in the games, is an extremely tall order for a town of just under 40,000 people. The airport would have to be given a major expansion and the Gallatin Gateway highway to Big Sky would have to be expanded and tunneled through the mountains, creating environmental issues. The biggest problem with all this is when the games are over. The events only last two weeks, but the buildings and infrastructure are permanent. If left empty or unused, this could result in local and regional financial collapse.

While all of these issues and many others I have not touched on are daunting, they aren't the biggest reasons why I would advocate for not hosting an Olympics in Bozeman. The Olympics would forever change Bozeman, and not necessarily in a good way. The Gallatin Valley would have to see an increase in population and tourism in order for the games to be a financial success, and this influx of people would forever take away Bozeman's small-town feel. Bozeman has all the recreational benefits of a world-class mountain town without the crowdedness or other problems of a bigger city like Salt Lake or Denver. Part of what makes this town special is that its residents know it is one of the nation's best kept secrets for a great place to live. That secret would be ruined with Olympic exposure and could end up being the biggest price to pay of all.

Bobcats sign strong recruits

LIZZY NARIGON

Since his junior year, Ennis, Mont. wide receiver Connor Sullivan was recruited by colleges all over the country, both FBS and FCS, to play football. On Feb. 5, Sullivan signed his National Letter of Intent to attend Montana State, turning down all other offers and making his commitment official. Twenty-two other future Bobcats signed their letters on Wednesday as well, adding to a strong 2014 recruiting class for the Bobcats.

"It's a large, talented, deep, athletic, highly skilled class of guys with good character that we are signing on this year for Bobcat football," Coach Rob Ash said on National Signing Day, a bitter cold day in Bozeman. As part of the proceedings, Ash named and said a few words about each of the new players to emphasize the things each player will bring to the 2014 roster.

When asked if he had addressed the needs of the team with these recruits, Ash said, "Absolutely. I really feel good about the class, and we have filled every position we needed with at least one quality player." The players come from a multitude of states, as far south as Texas and as far east as Massachusetts. The list of newcomers consists of mainly freshmen, with three transfers. Wawa Leota is a transfer from Bedford, Tex, who signed to play with his cousin Toti Moeakiola, an incoming freshman from Euless, Tex. Moeakiola is brother to current Bobcat linebacker Na'a Moeakiola. With an essence of family already incorporated into the team, this new array of players sets up the Bobcats for a stellar season.



Defensive line coach Bo Beck talks to the media at the National Signing Day press conference on Feb. 5.

PHOTO BY MEGAN BERNHARDT

For the complete list of recruits and Coach Ash's thoughts, go to *msubobcats.com*.

OUTSIDE

Starting to downhill ski in Bozeman

MICHAEL THOMAS

In Bozeman, the winters are cold, windy, snowy, and have all of the general characteristics that scream "stay indoors!" to many. The message many other people receive couldn't be any more opposite. Winter and snow means it's time to get out and hit the slopes. If you are new here or new to skiing in general, it can be hard to know where to get equipment and go skiing. There are many options nearby, and here are some answers to common questions for those just starting, and tips on how to make your trip up to the mountain a blast.

Where do you go to get ski equipment?

There are many different places to buy or rent equipment for your ski trip. If you want to rent equipment here in Bozeman, go to various sports shops, including Bob Ward & Sons, Chalet Sports and Round House Ski and Sports Center. Another place to rent ski gear is on the mountain itself. Most mountains have a ski shop that rents out equipment. Although the prices for ski rentals vary, usually you can expect prices to be somewhere between $20 and $40. If you are looking to buy equipment, any of the ski rental shops also sell new or used equipment, and used equipment can also be found at Play It Again Sports or various ski swaps.

Where should you go to ski?

Near Bozeman there are many options to ski. One of the most popular options, and the closest, is Bridger Bowl. Bridger is about a 40 minute drive from Montana State University and features great skiing at a price of $51 for a day pass. The other popular location around Bozeman is Big Sky Resort. Big Sky is about one hour away from MSU and is a more expensive, bigger, more luxurious mountain at $99 per day. Another option a little farther away is Discovery Ski Area, which is one of my favorite mountains. Discovery is about two and a half hours from MSU, just off Highway 1. Discovery has great terrain, and a lot of it, with ticket prices of only $40 per day.

If you're looking to get out skiing, it isn't hard to do. Rent equipment from one of the many ski rental shops, and get up to one of the ski areas nearby to hit the slopes and have some fun!

Fashion and frost: A look at the locals



Leggings and warm ankle boots pair well with wool sweaters and cute skirts.

ANJELI DOTY

Among the characteristics that distinguish Bozeman, the observably eclectic sense of style is remarkable. Having lived on the East Coast, where the population seemed homogenous with the invariability of Sperry Top-Siders, striped tops, pea coats and pastel-toned skinny jeans, Bozeman's diversity is refreshing. Walking down Main Street, one can observe vintage-influenced outfits, metropolis styles, the outdoor enthusiast look, practical professional fashion, nautical-themes, gothic and punk wear, attire reminiscent of the steam-punk era, and so on. Further surprising, is that the styles continue even though temperatures decline into the negative double-digits.

When the thermometer slides even slightly below zero, my outfit choices tend to shrink to the following: sweatpants, beanies, sweaters, blue jeans, snow boots and slippers. Fashion and sub-zero degrees seem incompatible, yet Bozemanites do not adhere to this belief. Through a few essential articles and creative slant, they continue their eclecticality even through frigidity. By experimentation and observation, I am learning the tricks to dressing well in the cold. If you are currently one who maintains a sense of winter style, you have my respect. If you are like me, wondering how to avoid looking frumpy without sacrificing fingers or toes, the following is for you.

1 Wool- something in which the stylish and warm are fluent. Particularly, wool socks. Nearly everyone owns a pair; mine sit in the same drawer with hiking clothing. However, those fuzzy little stockings are God's winter gift to mankind. Utilizing wool socks opens the door to wearing fall boots and summer slip-ons. Even the ugliest pairs of stockings, which I happen to own, can be safely hidden underneath faux-leather and buckles. Additionally, wool socks pair nicely with short snow boots and I have learned folding over the top half inch to show a little fuzz is encouraged. Another trendy wool item is the knee-length skirt, which is toasty when coupled with leggings, my next topic.

Fashion and sub-zero degrees seem incompatible, yet Bozemanites do not adhere to this belief.

2 Leggings- the all purpose item. Base-layer synthetic leggings are an inobvious key to winter style. The first time I slipped mine on under a pair of skinny blue jeans, I asked myself, "Why have you never done this before?" A slim pair of leggings or a thick set of tights can be worn underneath nearly every pant, and turn skinny-jean-love into winter warmness. Skirts and dresses also look great and fit nicely with synthetic leggings, permitting them freedom from the closet to wait impatiently for spring no more.

My favorite aspect of crochet and knit headbands is their wide variety of styles.

3 Knit headbands- the ear-saving device. My favorite aspect of crochet and knit headbands is their wide variety of styles. Blue and yellow Bobcat colors, ones with flowers and buttons, thick wool ones, and the variability goes on. Additionally, if one has a creative bone, knit headbands are fairly simple to make. Brown and pink wool threads, a trip the craft store for gold buttons, a few YouTube tutorials, and one can produce a decent-looking creation. A cute knit headband can make even the fall-back messy bun look like a winter-savvy hairstyle. Ears are hardy, but they appreciate being warm, too.

Another trendy wool item is the knee-length skirt, which is toasty when coupled with leggings.

4 Convertible glove-mittens- or as I have heard them titled, "glittens." Many Bozeman stores carry them, from synthetic sporty ones, to wool knitted ones, to fleece-lined ones. Certainly I am not the only one who sacrifices warm fingers to send a text message or carry on a phone conversation while walking to school. Owning a pair of glittens drastically improves the necessary winter travelling, including keeping fingers from freezing to the steering wheel. Mom will still receive her call home, and you will not risk frostbite in the meantime.

I am learning the tricks to dressing well in the cold.

Each Bozmanite has their particular tips and tricks, but I hope these four assist both your wear and warmth this winter. If you have a winter essential that helps you survive and thrive in the cold, we'd love to hear. Tweet us at: @MSUExponent. Go forth and be warm, Bobcats!



Haley Christensen models her crocheted scarf and ear warmer. PHOTOS BY KARISA ERICKSON



Soft, wool mittens that can be converted into gloves combine convenience with warmth.

Big music in the Big Sky



PHOTO COURTESY OF BIG SKY SKI RESORT

NICK OLDHAM

If you've skied or boarded at Big Sky recently you might have been slightly disappointed by the conditions (and your friends talking about their "epic powder day at Bridger" probably didn't help much either). Fortunately, there will be plenty of opportunities for a snow dance with all the live music that's coming up in Big Sky. This weekend, Bozeman's neighboring mountain town will play host to its 8th Annual Big Sky Big Grass Festival, attracting big acts—and hopefully a snowstorm—to the small mountain setting.

Big Grass is the largest winter bluegrass festival in the Northern Rockies, but the mental image of a massive, corporate-driven festival this statement conjures couldn't be further from the truth. This surreptitious festival is hosted in several ballrooms and bars scattered around the Mountain Village. So relax, you don't need to throw elbows to get a good view of the stage. In fact, most of the tourists in Big Sky don't even realize the world-class musicians all around them, which translates to more dancing room for you!

The festival boasts an impressive lineup this year, with a variety of Big Grass veterans and a handful of new acts to join them. The festival begins Thursday night with The Infamous Stringdusters playing a kickoff party and undoubtedly setting high expectations for the days to come. Darol Anger and friends will make their Big Grass debut headlining the Missouri Ballroom on Friday night. A crowd favorite from last year, The Sam Bush Band, headlines for an energetic Saturday night. There are so many other talented bands playing in various spots throughout the weekend including Travelin' McCoury's, Tony Trischka Territory, Drew Emmitt Band, Deadly Gentlemen, Special Consensus, Chris Jones and the Night Drivers and Mountain Standard Time. There's always somebody playing from the moment you kick off your ski boots until the wee hours of the morning.

There is also a multitude of bands from right here in Southwest Montana playing Big Grass. These up-and-coming bluegrass musicians will put a local spin on the festival during the Regional Band Showcase, which takes place Friday through Sunday at Whiskey Jack's. Holler n' Pine, Driftwood Grinners, Kitchen Dweller's and Lil' Smokies will all have their opportunity to show why they are local favorites. Another unique component of the festival is the Music Academy. It provides aspiring musicians an opportunity to take vocal and instrumental workshops from the professionals. This close interaction between performers and fans, including the late-night hotel jams that have been known to spring up, is what gives this festival it's relaxed, hometown feel.

The 8th Annual Big Sky Big Grass Festival will take place this weekend, Feb. 6 - 9.

A detailed performance schedule, along with weekend passes and individual show tickets, is available at *www.bigskybiggrass.com*. If you're not planning to stay the whole weekend, the Skyline bus runs between Bozeman and Big Sky at a variety of times — visit *skylinebus.com* to view their schedule.

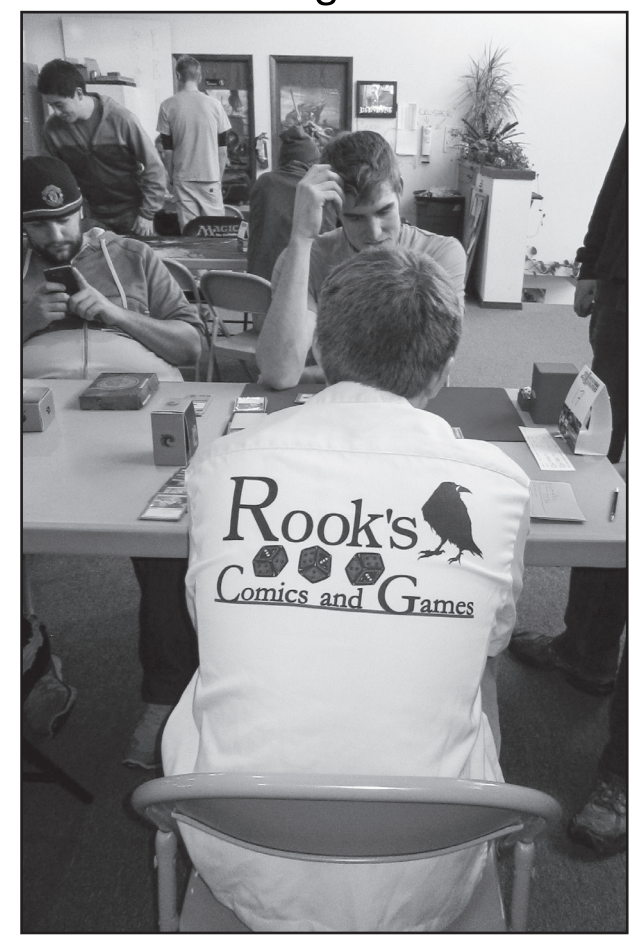
A Gathering for Magic

Freshly printed "Born of the Gods" set brings in a crowd



Jonathon Mortenson builds a red-green deck during the Saturday Feb. 1 pre-release sealed event.

PHOTOS BY SONJA BENTON



Above: Rook's Comics and Games Owner Lincoln Erickson plays a match during the "Born of the Gods" pre-release. He and his wife, Sara Erickson, have owned the store since 2006.
Below: Andrew Price and Stephen Mery play a game surrounded by other Magic players.



BROOK GARDNER-DURBIN

Over 100 people braved the late-night snowstorm to gather at Rook's Comics and Games on Friday night to play Magic: The Gathering pre-release. Some had been there for hours, but most started showing up shortly before midnight. The newest set, "Born of the Gods," goes on sale on Friday, Feb. 7, but this tournament offered players a sneak peek at what was coming and a chance to get ahold of some of the newest cards.

"The pre-release is super casual, and a great time to learn," said Cody Brown, a junior physics major. "Everyone is seeing the [new] cards for the first time, so its a ... level playing field."

Despite being fairly new to Magic, Brown managed to emerge unscathed in the tournament and also went undefeated on Saturday, when Rook's hosted two more tournaments.

Edwin Haegele, a senior in accounting, was also undefeated at the end of both tournaments. "I like pre-releases because its a big scene, and feels more like a 'real,' competitive tournament, without the huge stakes."

Magic tournaments have a wide variety of entry fees and potential prizes, ranging from free tournaments with no prizes to a Pro Tour held four times a year where players can win up to $40,000. Having lower stakes than bigger tournaments, while still having a large number of players, gives pre-releases a unique feel: "It's incredibly new player friendly," Haegele said, who has been playing Magic for close to a decade.

Sara Erickson, who owns Rook's Comics and Games with her husband Lincoln, had to make a late-night trip to get additional chairs for the event. "We were ready for a 10 percent increase over the last [pre-release]," Lincoln said, "but this was our biggest midnight release ever. It was great."

Rook's hosts Magic events every Tuesday and Friday, as well as most weekends, which have an average of 15 to 25 players, but it also regularly holds larger tournaments like this pre-release. "We're hosting States this spring," Lincoln said. He is also looking forward to the official release tournament on Friday Feb. 7.

"Born of the Gods" is loosely inspired by greek myths and several players got into the spirit by arriving in togas. Most players, however, were unconcerned by the storyline of the new cards, as it makes the game more flavorful but does not have any direct impact on the game.

"It's a fun game that is intellectually challenging," said Brown, when asked why he played Magic.

"I like the complexity of it," added Haegele. "It's an evolving game." While most games are static, Magic releases new cards four times a year, which means there is always something new to try.

Brown and Haegele both emphasized the appeal of the social gathering as well: "I've met all my best friends playing Magic," said Brown.

Rook's Comics and Games is located at 2740 West Main Street, across the street from the Gallatin Valley Mall. A complete schedule of their Magic and other events is available at *rookscomicsandgames.com* and also their Facebook page.



The Roost: deep fried, delicious



The Roost offers a Southern dining experience. PHOTO BY EMMA NEILSEN

EMILY HARRIS

Do you ever have the thought, "my friends and I always end up eating at the same place?" I can imagine this being the case for most upperclassmen especially since I, after spending three years as an undergraduate at MSU, have come to the conclusion that my palette is becoming accustomed mostly to Johnny Carino's and Pita Pit for date night and weekend dining. I'll be the first one to admit I have very picky taste when it comes to food; I'm not exactly a connoisseur. I want to expand my eating horizons and find out what the best places to eat in Bozeman are, and if I can do it on a college student's budget, that'll provide even more incentive for my food adventures.

I began my travels at a relatively newer restaurant called "The Roost." This southern-style, fried chicken restaurant came to Bozeman in early May of last year and serves a fairly wide-range of fried chicken-centered menu items, fairly priced. Their menu has three different basket/bucket options that come with your choice of sides (there's about five or six options listed), a few sandwiches, rotisserie chicken, homemade pies, and you can't forget the sweet tea. Before ordering, I already knew I loved buckets of fried chicken so I chose the ½ bucket option in a large size (comes with two sides, instead of just one) and the "Come Back" sauce, for an extra $.50. My date got the same and with our drinks our total came out to $22.50. The Bucket comes with a biscuit, and my sides were mac n' cheese and mashed potatoes. After ordering, my date and I filled up our cups and took a seat at the only available table (we foolishly went at noon so the whole place was full of other diners).

The atmosphere inside was lively, but not too loud, and the large windows on every wall provided for a lot of light. There are about seven or eight different sized tables which are plain wood with wood chairs and the tea dispenser is in the shape of a beehive, probably as to play into the southern motif. We waited about 10 to 15 minutes for our food to arrive, giving us some time to chat and observe our location: the parking lot is big enough for about four to six cars — they're located right off Main Street, hidden by some surrounding trees and bushes — the setup is reminiscent of an old, small farmhouse; and their sign outside is red with a rooster, which is very fitting and sets off the all-white siding of the restaurant.

Conveniently, the food is brought out to your table. After the first few bites of salty, fried goodness I knew this meal would be hard to beat. The biscuit was buttery and the mashed potatoes were served with the skins and garlic seasoning. By the time I was about three quarters of the way through my whole meal, I realized I probably had too much food already and I ended up not even tasting my mac n' cheese.

Overall "The Roost" satiated everything I wanted out of my dining experience: reasonable price, good food and a subdued and relatively quiet atmosphere. I highly recommend this restaurant for anyone that loves fried chicken or who just wants to experience a new place for dining in Bozeman. I'll definitely be revisiting, hopefully soon.

CALENDAR

February 7 - 14

Want your event featured here?
Email information to
entertainment@exponent.montana.edu,
preferably two weeks in advance.

ON CAMPUS

LIBRARY WORKSHOP: POWERPOINT BASICS

Friday February 7, 2 – 3 p.m.

Renne Library

Learn the basics of creating a PowerPoint slideshow including terminology, formatting and adding/deleting slides. Also add ways to "spice up" your presentation such as transitions, sound effects and ways to manipulate the words on a slide and how to include video or change the backgrounds on your slides.

MSU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT

Friday February 7, 7:30 p.m.

Howard Hall

Cost: $10 general, $5 students

The MSU Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Tobin Stewart, will perform works by Beethoven, Mozart, Shostakovich and Mark Dal Porto. The concert will feature two of the 2014 student concerto winners — Andrew Major on the Adagio movement of Mozart's 23rd piano concerto and David Kirk on Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1, movement 1.

5TH ANNUAL LATEX & LACE CONDOM FASHION SHOW

Friday February 7, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.

SUB Ballrooms

In collaboration with the MSU Women's Center, the VOICE Center, AIDs Outreach and Bridger Care, MSU Health Promotion is hosting the 5th Annual Latex and Lace Condom Fashion Show to kick-start Sexual Health Awareness month this February. The goal of the event is to promote the use of condoms as part of positive, healthy sexuality and to encourage communication about condoms and their use. This year's show will have 30 new designs and 1300 people in attendance. Music will be provided by DJ Missy O'Malley.

DROP IN FAFSA ASSISTANCE: COLLEGE GOAL MONTANA

Sunday February 9, 1 – 3 p.m.

Reid Hall third floor Computer Labs

The FAFSA priority filing date of March 1, 2014 is fast approaching! Need help filling out your FAFSA? Join the Office of Financial Aid Services at College Goal Montana on February 9 in Reid Hall's third floor computer labs; they will be there to answer all of your FAFSA questions.

FLOWERS FOR A FUTURE

Monday Feb. 10, Thursday Feb. 13 and Friday Feb. 14

In front of the Cat Card Office

Cost: $2 to $5

Alpha Gamma Delta and Alpha Omicron Pi will be selling flowers for campus and self delivery for the important people in your life. Proceeds from the sale benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and the Arthritis Foundation.

VALENTINE'S DAY SALE: XOXO HANDMADE CARDS

Tuesday Feb. 11 through Friday Feb. 14, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SUB (by the Ask Us desk)

Come buy your special someone a handmade card from the Printmaking Guild at MSU. Low priced cards, packaged deals and the best cards in town — sweet, sarcastic, snarky, quirky, lovey-dovey and more! Accepting cash, credit and check.

SPORTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. EASTERN WASHINGTON

Thursday February 6, 7 p.m.

Brick Breeden Fieldhouse

MSU TRACK & FIELD INVITATIONAL

Thursday and Friday February 7, 4:30 p.m.

Brick Breeden Fieldhouse

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. PORTLAND STATE

Saturday February 8, 7 p.m.

Brick Breeden Fieldhouse

FILM, THEATER

THE SHAPE OF THINGS

Friday and Saturday February 7, 8 p.m.

Verge Theater

Next up on the Verge Theater's main stage is "The Shape of Things," written by famed screenwriter Neil LaBute ("In the Company of Men," "Your Friends & Neighbors") "The Shape of Things" takes a critical look at the nature of art, intimacy, self-perception and the search for love through a relationship between Adam, a self-conscious English major, and Evelyn, a beautiful art graduate student. After a chance meeting in an art gallery, Adam and Evelyn embark on an intense romantic affair.

DOROTHY MEETS ALICE OR THE WIZARD OF WONDERLAND

Saturday February 8, 2 p.m.

Verge Theater

This new play version of the delightful meeting of two of literature's most famous young ladies unfolds when a young man puts off a book report until the last minute, then suddenly finds himself in a strange place somewhere between Oz and Wonderland. It then becomes his responsibility to unscramble the stories and steer the familiar characters — the Cowardly Lion, the Mad Hatter, the Scarecrow and the White Rabbit, among others — to their ultimate destinations while avoiding the Wicked Witch and the Red Queen.

BOZEMAN FILM FEST PRESENTS 2014 OSCAR SHORTS

Sunday February 9, 6 p.m.

Emerson Center's Crawford Theater

Cost: $10 general, $7 senior, $12 Student double feature

As the 2014 Oscars gain steam, the Bozeman Film Festival is thrilled to bring the highly anticipated Academy Award-Nominated Shorts back for the sixth year. This annual showcase of animated and live-action short films includes five of the best in each category from around the globe.

IMPROV ON THE VERGE

Monday February 10, 7 p.m.

Verge Theater

Recover from your weekend with Improv Comedy! Once again we are offering up a Monday night sacrifice of the most daring, death — defying type of live theater there is: Improv! Improv Monday Nights begin with one of our Harold Angels taking a suggestion from the audience and performing a short, comedic monologue which leads to the whole team improvising sketches built around the monologue.

COMMUNITY

BIG SKY BIG GRASS

February 5 – 9, 4 p.m.

Big Sky Resort

Enrolling up to fifty students, the three-day music camp appeals to players at all levels. Announced instructors include Montana based accomplished artists John Lowell, Tom Murphy and Kevin Fabozzi, band members of Deadly Gentlemen, Darol Anger, Emy Phelps, Greg Cahill, Greg Liszt and Joe Walsh.

FAST FUNDAMENTAL QUILTING CLASS

Sunday February 9, 1 p.m.

Quilting in the Country

This class is designed to teach today's fast piecing techniques. Learn fabric selection, patchwork history and up-to-date techniques making a small sampler. Have fun and be ready to make nearly any project your heart desires. Even if you are not a beginner you would enjoy this revamped class.

PINTS WITH PURPOSE — USGBC

Monday February 10, 5 p.m.

Bridger Brewing

Bridger Brewing's Pints with Purpose supports a local nonprofit each Monday night; $1 from every pint sold from 5 - 8 p.m. is donated to the organization. The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) Students is an independent, nonprofit organization representing college - and university-based groups of students from all disciplines. USGBC Students is a way for hundreds of young leaders to come together and participate in hands-on green building experiences on their own campuses through service initiatives.

MONDAY MADNESS

Monday February 10, 9:30 p.m.

The Bowl

Cost: $1.50 games and shoes

Come to The Bowl and enjoy some cheap bowling and fun with friends.

MUSIC

M.O.T.H

Friday February 7, 9:30 p.m.

Zebra Cocktail Lounge

Cost: $5 at the door

Come down to Zebra Cocktail Lounge and enjoy some electro/funk of M.O.T.H.

BOOZEHOUNDS

Friday February 7, 9 p.m.

Eagles Bar

Boozehounds Old Time Quality Trailer Trash, Rock /Roll.

BOB BRITTEN-PIANO

Saturday February 8, 5:30 p.m.

Kountry Korner Café

Britten studied piano and guitar as a youth growing up in New Jersey, but it was the guitar that brought him to Montana. He studied classical guitar and attended Christopher Parkening's master classes at Montana State University in 1981 and 1982.

DEADLY GENTLEMAN

Monday February 10, 8 p.m.

Peach Street Studios

Cost: $10 at Cactus Records

The Deadly Gentlemen employs a lineup that's usually associated with traditional bluegrass, but their music defies conventional genre restrictions.

THE BREWPONENT
BARISTA EDITION

brew·po·nent (**broo**-poh-n*uh*nt)
n. a person or thing who expounds, explains or interprets drinks for refined palates < Old English *brēowan* + Latin *expōnere* >

The life of a bean: A caffeinated love affair

CONOR GLESNER

The world produced more than 8.7 million metric tons of coffee beans last year. The U.S. alone has been known to import as much as 123 thousand metric tons in a single month. In North America and Europe, the average ingestion of coffee is around a third of that of tap water; this means for every two cups of tap water drank, a cup of coffee is also imbibed. It's clear that humanity has a bit of a love affair with this little brown bean. But how much do you really know about your "cup o' joe?" What is a coffee bean really, and where does it come from? These are all questions that we're here to answer today. Let's learn a little more about the world's favorite caffeinated vice.

All coffee beans are derived from several species of shrubs in the Genus Coffea. The bean itself is actually the seed found inside of the bright red berries (actually considered cherries) that grow on the shrubs. The two main species of shrubs that are cultivated are Coffea arabica and Coffea canephora or, as it's more commonly known, Robusta. The arabica strain is less bitter than the Robusta (due to lower caffeine content), and is grown more commonly — it makes up 75-80 percent of the world's coffee market. Both are native to Sub-Saharan Africa. The plants can only be grown specifically between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn (a latitudinal band that stretches from the middle of Mexico to the top of Argentina). Because of its specific geographic needs, the only U.S. state that commercially produces coffee beans is Hawaii. Nonetheless, more than 70 countries produce both arabica and robusta beans every year.



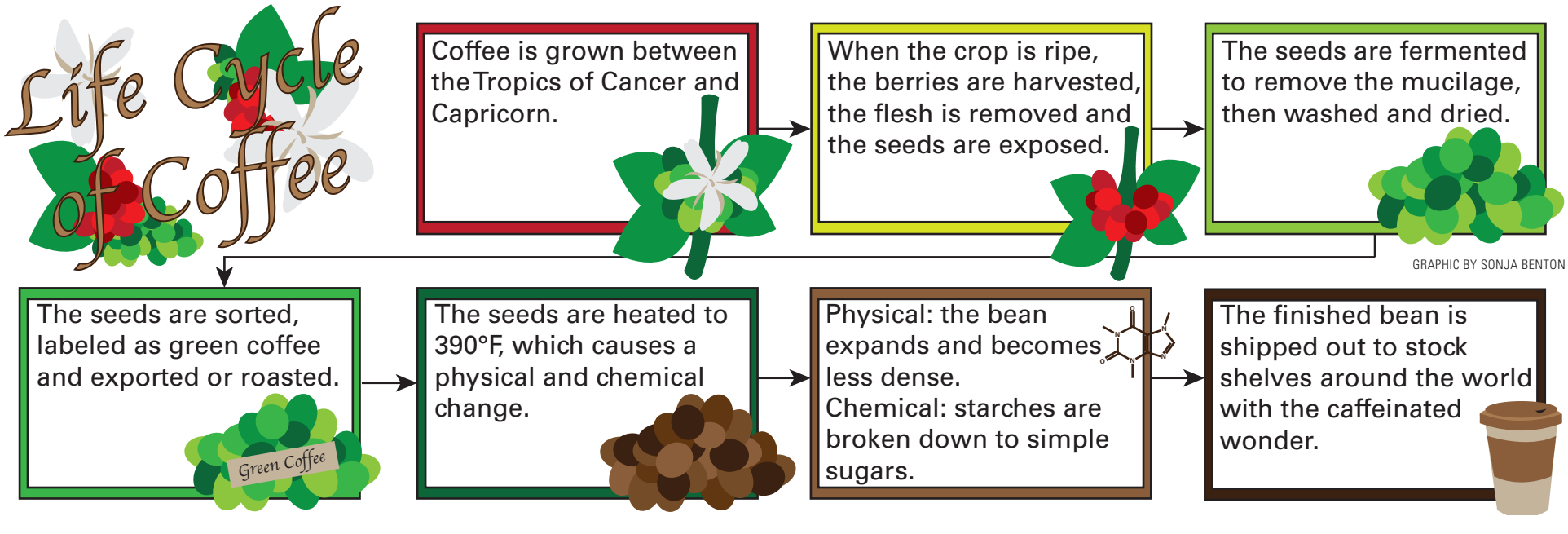
Ethiopia is thought to be the first place where coffee berries were found. PHOTO BY CONOR GLESNER

The top five coffee producers in 2011 (listed in order of greatest production) were Brazil, Vietnam, Indonesia, Colombia and finally the native turf of Ethiopia. These five countries alone produced over five of the 7.8 million metric tons of beans cultivated in 2011. But growing is only part of the journey — let's look at how the bright red cherry is processed into the seed we are more accustomed to.

Once the crop is ripe (as is judged by the color of the fruit) the berries are then harvested, and the flesh is removed, leaving the seeds. Seeds are not completely clean — they are still covered in mucilage (a thick, gluey substance that plants produce to help germinate the seeds). The seeds are fermented to remove this, and then washed and dried. From there they are sorted and labeled as green coffee, ready to be exported or roasted. These little green seeds are still a far cry from the brown, aromatic beans we are familiar with. This is where roasting comes in.

Roasting is arguably the single most important factor in determining the overall strength and flavor of a coffee. The actual roasting process begins when the green coffee seeds reach about 390F. At this heat the beans begin to physically and chemically change. Physically they expand as moisture leaves the bean and they become less dense. From a chemical standpoint, the roasting begins to break down starches within the bean, turning them into simple sugars that begin to turn brown from the heat — creating the color of the beans. This process also creates aromatic oils that determine the subtler notes of the coffee's flavor. Roasts are generally classified by the color of the bean — darker roasts are regarded as bolder, since a majority of the fiber has been eliminated, leaving mostly sugar, and almost all of the aromatic oils have been eliminated by prolonged heat. Lighter roasts are less bold, but have a subtler, more complex flavor due to preserved aromatic oils and lower sugar content. The roasting process actually has no effect on the caffeine content — this depends solely on the bean itself. After roasting we are left with that ubiquitous little bean that populates store shelves across the world, ready to bought and brewed in any number of ways.

So that's the life of a coffee bean. From a bright red berry thousands of miles away to a warm steaming mug in your hands. Who knows how long humanity's obsession with coffee will continue, but it's been rooting itself in our lives for at least the last 600 years, and it shows no signs of slowing down.



GRAPHIC BY SONJA BENTON

the **SUGARBEET**

"Sorry, I can't think of anything clever today."

Next week:

MSU uses salt to unthaw frozen students.

The Sugarbeet is a biweekly satire page. It falsely quotes figures and non-existent people and sometimes completely makes stuff up in the name of stimulating discussions around critical community issues.

The Sugarbeet surmises: A guide to Marga Hoseaus Fitness Center wildlife

PAT HESSMAN

Bozeman is famous the world over for its unique wildlife dwelling in her bountiful forests and mountains, but some of the most unique animals of all dwell within the city limits. The Marga Hoseaus Fitness Center has developed a reputation for playing host to the strangest life forms dwelling in Southwest Montana. Fancying a trip to the gym? Make sure you check out this handy catalogue of indigenous species first:

Juicing Howler Ape: This species is characterized by its unnatural muscle bulk and tight tank top shirts. Juicing Howlers earn their name by grunting and yelling loudly when lifting weights. Their diets are known to consist of anabolic steroids and low-grade Chinese amphetamines.

New Year Gym Fairy: This seasonal primarily-female species (though males are known to appear from time to time) is characterized by its brand new workout clothes and misplaced look of determination. Usually appears at the don of a new year or semester, chanting resolutions to become thin, but slowly migrate to bars as the semester wears on.

Neglecting Flamingo: Thought to be a relative of the Juicing Howler Ape. This creature evolved as leg day was skipped so often its lower extremities evolved to resemble skeletal sticks in contrast to its beefy upper body.

Occupying Wolf: Forget waiting to use the bench press when a group of these beasts enter the gym. Packs of five or more will occupy a single piece of equipment for hours at a time, with their inane boasting about sex and partying slowing them down further.

Pining Womandrill: Dressed ornately and the only one wearing jewelry on the gym floor, she is possibly the most noticeable species at the gym. The Womandrill often does little actual exercise and prefers to prostrate her spandex-clad backside in hopes of attracting a mate.

Now that you know what wildlife awaits, you can have a safer trip to the gym. Or, alternately, you can adventure to the gym in the early morning hours, when none of these creatures have yet to awaken, and therefore will not be around to annoy you. Happy exercising!

Biff the Bobcat disappears

DENVER JONES

This past week a big question was raised around campus when someone realized "Hey, where is Biff the Bobcat?" Yes, that's right ASMSU Presidential candidate of 2013 Biff the Bobcat has disappeared. Previously thought to be on holiday after his major loss, it's suddenly been revealed he has been missing this whole time.

When asked about his recent absence, Campaign Manager Natasha Duglous responded "We are actually very concerned that he is missing and have no idea where he could have gone." One MSU student thought he had seen Biff on a hike, but acually spied a wild bobcat not affiliated with MSU in any way.

Duglous also added "There is no reason why he would just get up and walk away from MSU. Someone must've had a hand in this."

Biff the Bobcat was also a news broadcaster for the Exponent, and when the office was asked about his appearance no one had any response. Some students blame the Exponent for his loss and one student even said, "All they care about in that office is themselves and not others."

No one will know if the sly and graceful bobcat will make his presence known, and if anyone has information about our beloved bobcat please contact The Exponent. Please do not approach him; he can be a little stiff.



ILLUSTRATION BY TREVOR NELSON

PETA involved in scandal

BROOK GARDNER-DURBIN

PETA officials were sent into defensive mode earlier this week when it was revealed the animal rights organization had been deliberately sabotaging many college cafeterias across the nation. The scandal broke when a PETA employee, working undercover at MSU's Bobcat Grill, served a student a near-raw chicken patty on their sandwich. "It was still clucking," said the student, who asked not to be named. "I brought it back to complain, and it turned out the guy that gave it to me was not a real MSU employee at all."

While the PETA employee is not currently facing criminal charges, the county District Attorney is still considering pressing charges. "It doesn't seem much actual damage was done," the DA said, "though serving raw chicken could have potentially been a health risk if the student hadn't noticed."

"I've been giving out raw chicken for months," said the PETA mole. "If people saw their daily lunches bloody, straight from the slaughterhouse, maybe they'd remember they're eating helpless animals."

It is not yet clear whether PETA was also responsible for burgers being stockpiled for three days before being served or if that is standard MSU policy.

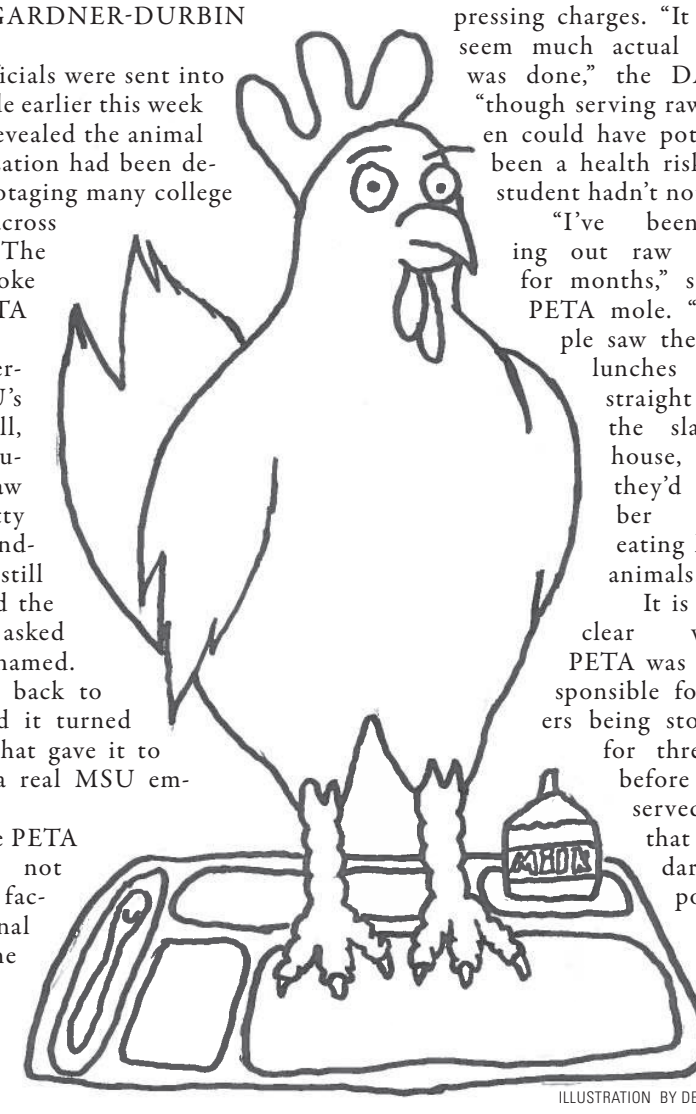


ILLUSTRATION BY DENVER JONES

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SUN-WED: 1 pm - 11 am
THUR-SAT: 1 pm - 12 am

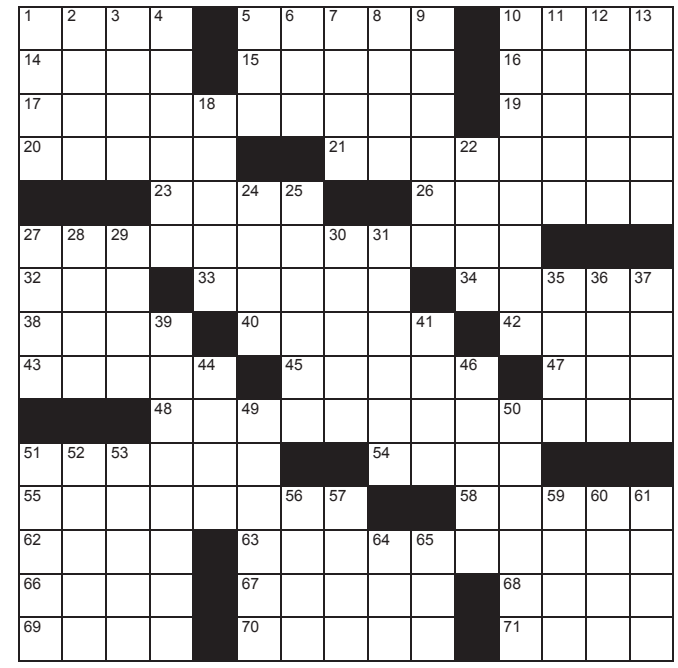
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5		1	8					



Across

1. Big Broadway hit, in slang
5. Muckety-muck
10. Side muscles, for short
14. 1930's dust bowler
15. Be head over heels about
16. Coll. subject
17. Not pertinent
19. 79, for gold: Abbr.
20. Home buyer's financial inst.
21. Putting back on the payroll
23. Awfully long time
26. Banks and Ford
27. "I'm afraid not!"
32. Vietnam's___Dinh Diem
33. Adventurous person
34. Argentine statesman
38. Exclamation of regret
40. Aired an encore presentation of
42. Common noun suffix
43. Italian salami city
45. Spoiler
47. Louis IX or Philippe IV
48. Childbirth
51. Sow again
54. Milit. medals
55. Free from evil spirits
58. Like most bathroom floors
62. N.Y. and S.F., e.g.
63. 25th century action hero
66. Giant armadillo
67. Crazy Legs Hirsch
68. Catch, slangily
69. Terminate
70. Chopin specialty
71. "___ All That": 1999 comedy

Down

1. Wood, in French
2. Sticky pod
3. Snow at the top of a glacier.
4. Bird seed holder
5. Dundee negative
6. Really or truly, e.g.: Abbr.
7. Pigpen dweller
8. River of France
9. ___ Park, Pennsylvania
10. Students
11. Musical segment
12. 1000 kilograms
13. Treks (through)
18. Comedian Harold
22. Colorful perennial
24. Raleigh's state: Abbr.
25. Tatters
27. Capture
28. Undress with one's eyes
29. Horse's hue
30. Old autos
31. For adults, as films
35. Million or billion ending
36. Keep at it
37. "Step___!"
39. Dries out after a binge
41. Buntline and Rorem
44. Baldwin of "The Hunt for Red October"
46. Front of a sheet of paper
49. Not poisonous
50. Churchill flashed them during W.W. II
51. Silence markers, in music
52. Certain exile, for short
53. ___ voce (almost in a whisper)
56. Ingredient in mincemeat pie
57. Neutral tone
59. Jacob's wife before Rachel
60. Lake named after an Indian tribe
61. Fast PC connections
64. Pasted in the ring
65. Word in a Salinger title

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Olympic drinking games

Take a drink whenever there's a false start.

Take two drinks if the athlete is upset because the new zero tolerance rule states that a false start is grounds for immediate disqualification.

Take three drinks if the athlete throws something.

Take four drinks if you think you could have done better.

Take a drink if there's a crash.

Take two drinks if the camera catches them crying after their performance.

Drink for every Phelps commercial you see.

Take a drink every time you see one of those inspirational video packages that make you realize how much of your life you've wasted up until this point.

Take a drink every time Montana is mentioned.

Take three drinks if Shaun White is referred to the "Flying Tomato."

Chug an entire drink for every time an awkward interview takes place.

Take two drinks when you think Bozeman skiers could do better.

Take a drink every time the cost of the Games is mentioned

Take a shot every time someone asks, "Is this an actual sport?"

FUN FACT:

The 2014 Winter Olympic gold medals are worth approximately $550 each.