

THE MSU

excrement

April 1, 2021

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CANDLE CONSULTANT & DROP-IN DISTRIBUTOR
Grace Larsen
ExponentEditor@montana.edu

THE COMPUTER FAN
Gabe Barnard
ExponentProduction@montana.edu

PRODUCER OF NEWS
Phoebe Zea
ExponentNews@montana.edu

ONLY HERE FOR FREE GAMES
Jaxson Bishop
ExponentSports@montana.edu

PRODUCER OF FAKE NEWS
Phoebe Zea
ExponentOpinion@montana.edu

PROFESSIONAL POP CULTURE CONNOISSEUR
Meghan AmRhein
ExponentEntertainment@montana.edu

PIXEL PAPI
Chris Farrer
ExponentPhoto@montana.edu

MONEY MANIPULATOR
Abby Elliott
exponentads@gmail.com

ONLINE ENTERTAINER
Taryn Robinson

CEO OF VALHALLA
Veronika Turner

THE EXPONENT'S UMPIRE
William Lamberty



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FLASHBULB

The staff of the MSU Exponent poses for a photo before Wadaddy Cruzaddy stuffed them into the back of a single cop car. Police raided the newspaper's office earlier this week and discovered enough drugs to supply the entire country of Amsterdam for about a weekend.

PHOTO BY CHRIS CLIPPER OF HORSE NAILS

This week's edition continues the *Exponents* annual tradition of publishing a satire edition in celebration of April Fool's Day.

With the exception of all advertisements, and this statement, all articles and illustrative content are entirely comedic in nature. Nothing in this edition should be construed as truth, and any gentle mocking is done with greater or equal amounts of affection. All names have been changed, all quotations fabricated and all premises made up.

The point of this edition is not to belittle or demean, but to provide commentary and perhaps a laugh or two about life at our great university.



HEARD ON THE WEB

One of the *Exponent's* beloved designers, Tim Lee

Photo by Crocs Farrer

SIGNIFICANT FIGURES

(in)significant figures
grass

Artificial turf is not living grass, but rather plastic "grass" held by nearly 40,000 shredded tires (per field)

Grass' hexadecimal color code is #567d46

Grass grows on all seven continents

There are 12,000 subspecies of grass

Grass is one of 369,000 flowering-plant species in the world

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COMPILED BY P HOE BEE ZEBRA • DESIGN BY COSMIC PIZZA KAT

MUMBO JUMBO

Local man celebrates end of pandemic by staying inside

BY BRAD(EN) URION

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced that, as of Friday, March 26, 80% of the country had been vaccinated and we have indeed reached the nationwide goal of herd immunity against Sars-CoV-2. People across North America are rejoicing as life is returning to its pre-COVID-19 state. Wild parties and giant music festivals are being held in every city. When asked what his plans are for celebrating the end to the pandemic, Bozeman resident Peter Kuntz

said, “I’m going to stay in my room and watch the Lord of the Rings Trilogy.” Kuntz’ friend, Brian Speckles, is going to Miami, Florida, and had an extra plane ticket he was willing to give to Kuntz for free. Kuntz refused the ticket because flying makes him nauseous. “Flying doesn’t just make my stomach sick. It hurts my ears, the seats are cramped and if you fall asleep your neck hurts for the rest of the day. The beaches are crowded anyways,” Kuntz said. “It’s not like I’m not glad that the pandemic is over, I just celebrate in

a different way,” Kuntz said. “The pandemic didn’t really mess up my life that much, honestly.” Even though he hasn’t seen his friends and family for over a year, Kuntz is in no hurry to go visit them. Local musicians were hosting a concert on Main Street in Bozeman on Saturday, March 27. Many of Kuntz’ friends and neighbors attended, but they couldn’t convince Kuntz to change his plans. His longtime childhood friend, Bev Willis, commented, “Peter was self-isolating before this pandemic ever

happened. We had to force him to go to the prom with his girlfriend. It’s just the way he is, probably didn’t even notice there was a pandemic.” At the end of the interview, Kuntz began to realize his mistake. “You must think I’m crazy. The end of the pandemic should be celebrated and watching the ‘Lord of the Rings’ trilogy alone is a little sad,” Kuntz said, with tears rolling down his cheek. “Maybe I’ll change my plans.” Peter then selected the “Planet of the Apes” trilogy and sat down on his couch.

Avocados, cocaine and gas leaks...oh my

BY MEG HAN AMRHEINSTONE

On Wednesday, March 24, during an editorial staff meeting at the *Exponent*, Editor-in-Chief Grace Larsen and nine other members of the team were arrested by campus police. There is limited information available at this time, but the MSU Police Department (UPD) released a short statement last Thursday morning, March 25, explaining the situation. What seemed to have started weeks ago, with Larsen finding cocaine in some avocados, quickly became a scheme to sell the drug out of the *Exponent* office to make up for a decline in ad revenue coming in (thanks a lot, Abby). UPD was notified of the drug scheme when a gas leak in the SUB on Wednesday night, March 24, caused a building-wide search. What this means for the *Exponent* is up in the air, but stay tuned for updates as the story continues to develop.



The staff of the MSU *Exponent* lines up for mugshots at the Bozeman Police Department after MSUPD discovered thousands of pounds of cocaine wrapped in newspapers in the campus office.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS FARRER

Bringing the Cold Smoke even closer

BY KYLE NOT CALEB RUX

In honor of Bozeman being named “the best ski town in America” by *Wikipedia*, MSU will be constructing a 900,000-square-foot indoor ski resort, making it the largest indoor ski resort on the globe. The Harbin Wanda Indoor Ski Resort, located in China, comes in a close second. MSU’s “Super Dome” will be kept at a lovely 28 degrees Fahrenheit, day and night, as the center will be open from 7 a.m. - 12 a.m. After 6 p.m. daily, the digitalized walls and ceiling will transform from bluebird skies and evergreen trees to disco balls and black lights.

“This will be a great addition to our already booming campus,” said President Caded Wruzado. “We hope this will increase student enrollment as we are bringing the Cold Smoke even closer.”

The resort will be covered in over 200-tons of powder and will feature beginner, intermediate and advanced runs as well as a sick freestyle terrain park. For those who have yet to learn how to hit the slopes, there will also be a bunny hill and a place to rent all the required gear inside. If you want to save yourself the embarrassment of not being able to make it up the magic carpet without falling and entangling your skies, a sledding hill will also be located in the vicinity.

Rumor has it, the 2026 Winter Olympics will be held right here in the Super Dome. Roskie Hall will accommodate all athletes, providing them with the best sleeping environments inside the spacious, unique, pizza-shaped rooms, and Miller Dining Commons will provide five-course meals to competitors as well. To control the swarm of expected visitors, MSU will schedule a two-week early spring break during Feb. 2026, to cut down on the traffic through campus.

“I can’t wait for Shaun White to sign my toboggan,” said speed skater Nyah Boyd, an MSU sophomore training for the 2026 Winter Olympics.

Not only will this be a solution for students who lack the time to drive to Bridger Bowl between homework and classes, but also a solution to the effects of climate change, which has decreased annual snowfall over the years, resulting in a shorter ski season. Like Norm Asbjornson Hall, the Super Dome will be built to LEED Platinum certification, making it the highest-rated green building in the certification program. Whether you have been “sending it” since you were three years-old or you just want to enjoy sledding with your classmates from Texts and Critics, MSU’s Super Dome is for everyone.

The Super Dome ski resort will cover what is currently the Norm Asbjornson parking lot and the large grass lot located behind. Due to the lack of parking spaces available, additional parking will be built behind Corgi Stadium (see the feature on pages eight and nine for more background information). This massive resort does not come cheap, however. The entire construction will cost \$10 million, which will be funded by a raise in tuition of \$300 per semester for every student. Furthermore, students who choose to visit the Super Dome will have to pay an additional \$150 in fees per month.



ILLUSTRATION BY KATY SIT STAY

Unbelievable feat: loners find love

BY GRASS LARSON

A little-known gem that comes out of our very own Bozeman, Montana is the “missed connections” section of the Bozeman Craigslist page, found under the “community” tab. Here, lonely Bozeman residents post about lost dreams and could-be-love-affairs as opposed to going up to the people they find attractive in real life and striking up a conversation.

Posts range from “I was your cashier at Wanda’s - you had blonde hair and ordered an 8 piece chicken nugget. I’d love to take you on a drive,” to recollections as broad as “I saw you in your van outside Sprire. You had a towel so I’m assuming you were there for a shower. I love your lifestyle and would be down to bake you a lemon loaf.” (I’m not joking, this was an actual post).

One would think that true love

could never be found in such a manner, but believe it or not, our very own Sticks and Rocks section editor, Jaxson Bishop, found out recently that someone had noticed him in the Tar-jay parking lot rocking his knock-off Birkenstocks and loose dad jeans and was over-the-moon for him. The lass posted a search on “missed connections” seeking “hot dad-denim adorned man who had just purchased a fake plant, a box of

Swifterr wet pads and cat food from Tar-jay and hopped in a pea-green Subaru”. Jaxson’s good friend Lid-e-a France (like the country) found the post and knew it had to be Jaxson. The two have arranged a soiree to meet up for a Six Men cheeseburger and another trip to Tar-jay in the near future. Stay tuned as this breaking story of legitimate love being found through “missed connections” develops.

STICKZ AND BALLZ

Perfect pickin’ in a pandemic

BY BEAU(TIFUL) BOYFRIEND BAXTER

When Mac Hamburger set out to make his March Madness bracket earlier this month, he had absolutely no idea he’d be in the running for one of the most accurate brackets in the world. After a perfect first round, Hamburger found himself among only 14 other people in the country with a perfect bracket out of 16.2 million submitted brackets from college basketball fans.

Though no one in the history of college basketball has ever successfully predicted the one out of 9.2 quintillion possible outcomes for the tournament, Hamburger still believes he’s the one, and this is his year.

“It’s been a lot of hard work, I can’t lie,” Hamburger said. “I missed a lot of Zoom classes so I could keep up with every team this year. I even invested an entire stimulus check into buying 13 new TVs, so I could watch every game of the season, all at once while simultaneously binging ‘Bridgerton.’”

Between typical powerhouses like Duke and Kentucky not even qualifying, to the dramatic variation in total games played by each team due to COVID-19 cancellations (not to mention the frustrating training schedules,) this year’s tournament proved to be the most daunting in years. If there was ever a

‘good’ year to make a perfect bracket, this was not it.

“I have to give credit where credit is due,” says Hamburger. “I wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for the extensive network of Craigslist ads I found in college towns that offered paid advice. Shoutout to Terry in Tulsa for giving the goods on Oral Robertos’ new crop of shooters this year! Also shoutout to Reggie-Denim Paper for absolutely killin’ it as Sam Bassist, I mean that dude can seriously act!”

As the COVID-19 pandemic surged across the U.S., many found themselves scrambling to find new hobbies to save themselves from boredom; college basketball became Hamburger’s saving grace after his third two-week quarantine back in December. Hamburger, a statistics major, knew the impossible likelihood of actually making a perfect bracket, but found the determination to push through the doubt and put together the first bracket to have a serious potential of proving all the numbers wrong.

With vaccines rolling out to anyone 16 and up in Montana on Thursday, April 1, and a glimpse of normalcy on the horizon, we asked Hamburger if he thought his newfound passion might stick through the coming years. “I don’t know,” Hamburger said. “We’ll have to see I guess. I think it’s gonna be weird to watch anything once we’re out of the pandemic, I mean we’ve all changed so much. I’ve been spending a lot of time lately looking at forums speculating what next year’s season will look like, how it’s gonna happen and supposedly the story’s shifting focus from the Duke and Daphne to her brother Anthony Bridgerton... Wait what did you mean by ‘next season?’”



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Cows are food, not friends

BY MERE-DOG TOOBER

Just two months ago, Montana State was excited to announce the hiring of new head football coach Brent Vigen. When Vigen held his press conference, that excitement evaporated like Montana's chances of winning the 2019 Brawl of the Wild. Since news broke that Vigen is pronounced as "Vegan" and not "Vee-jin," the cattle ranchers of Montana have been angry as a bull. "It's a huge disappointment," MSU President Wadaddy Cruzaddy commented, "When we considered all the hires for the job, we never even took into consideration the way his last name was pronounced." As Cruzaddy spoke to the Exponent, her demeanor was clearly off-putting, and the stress of the uproar was certainly taking a huge toll on her thoughts about the fall football season. "It is difficult because with a name pronounced like 'vegan,' it's nearly impossible to seem like a threat in the great state of Montana," she said.

Unfortunately, the concerns extend further than just President Cruzaddy, as the Director of Athletics, Leonal Costellon, is also mildly concerned with the potential future of the football program here at MSU. "When we hired Brent, our main thought was about his previous

success with his past teams and how he can better our football program," Costellon said. "The pushback against him has been notable and even some of our players from ranching communities are upset with his name." His main agitation was directed toward how the players felt. "The players' well-being is also a major priority, and if some of the players continue to find issues with Brent's last name, we might have to take into consideration an ultimatum," he said. Costellon would not clarify what the ultimatum may include, but it can be assumed Vigen may have to face a name change or be prepared to vacate the state.

The Exponent attempted to contact a few players to gain inside insight into the situation, but the team remained silent. However, as many of our editors were working in the office just last week, a few anonymous comments about training were submitted. "Practice can be extremely annoying. Not one day goes by without the coach saying something along the lines of... 'Let's go boys, we need to *squash* the competition.' Or even something like 'you've *guac* this boys.' I simply cannot stand it anymore," a player wrote.

While reaching the team for answers was a difficult task, The Exponent received countless comments from Montana ranchers as they flooded the inbox of our

Candle Consultant & Drop-in Distributor, Grace Larsen, with outrage. "I am humiliated. I have been a Bobcat football fan for as long as I can remember. Seeing a man come in with a name like 'Vegan,' is like a slap in the face," one Custer County rancher said. "I cannot cheer for someone who has a connection to everything that goes against my livelihood. In Montana, we eat meat." Another rancher told the Exponent he contacted the university in hopes of returning his diploma because he does not want to be associated with "veganism." This is an unprecedented ordeal that has never occurred in MSU's history. Unfortunately, the other complaints can not be shared due to their comprehensive usage of curse words. The Stickz, Ballz and Rockz staff tried to contact Coach Vigen about his feelings toward the issue but were left with no response. Our staff is on top of this story and will continue with updates as the story evolves.

ROCKZ

When the stimmy hits...hit the slopes

BY BEAU HOTEL BAXTER

On Monday, March 29, the Byeden administration announced a last-minute addition to the recent American Rescue Plan, a COVID-19 stimulus package that grants extra resources to ski bums struggling in the wake of the pandemic. The plan adds an extra \$450 to the checks of anyone with more days spent skiing this winter than dollars in their savings accounts — plus an unemployment supplement that varies based on the number of knee surgeries the recipient has undergone.

This new addition comes in response to a flood of complaints coming in over recent weeks citing a tragic lack of opportunities for their "sick end-of-season edits." The new \$450 addition — the exact price of a new GoPro — is intended to solve this problem before lifts around the country stop turning.

"I've heard a lot of people say that this money could go toward other underserved populations, but people forget that we're the beating heart of ski towns in the U.S.," said Joe Padita, a local ski bum, while laying out his sweaty socks to dry in the Bridger Plate parking lot. "Without us, Bozeman would just be another Aspen or Jackson or Tahoe."

Between reservation systems and overcrowded backcountry sites, ski bums have struggled this winter to get out and achieve their seasonal quotas. In the face of such challenges, some locals opted to bring the mountain to their door, building entire terrain parks in their backyards.

"I'd say I spent about 90% of my stimulus check on PVC pipe at Casa Depot," said local bum Bennett Brown. "I mean it's been great to still get in a full 100 day season this year, but I tore my ACL twice since last March... at least my unemployment will pay off

my new ultralight touring setup."

Under the wave of recent legislation, some ski bums may now qualify to receive the vaccine ahead of the general population — so long as they can consistently land a cab 540, single cork or make a really good teller turn. Recipients must also have at least one friend with a drone and/or a BA in film.

"Social media content took a huge dive this year," Padita said. "It's high time that we have the means to get back out there and continue to push the edge of the sport forward. Hashtag ski fast, get vax'd."

While the added stimulus will come as a much-needed relief for those late on their van payments, the package is — as for many Americans — too little and too late, as thousands of bums have forgotten their vagabond dreams and fallen into a deep hole of stable incomes, 40 hour work weeks and actually buying a season pass instead of borrowing a friend's.

The winners and losers of climate change

BY JESSICUH MCMURTREE

The Big Sky state of Montana attracts an eclectic bunch of outdoorsmen and -women. The town of Bozeman showcases just about all of them. The key to loving the great outdoors is finding your way to play, whether it be hiking for an afternoon ski down Bradwey's or taking a quick morning lap on Levepoor before work. As you might consider a tent to be necessary to ensure a dry night of sleep, seasons are essential for whichever outdoor adventure you desire. With the changing climate, some seasons may flourish while others may wither.

In our whimsical little town, you could find yourself summiting Sacajawea Peak at sunset with the mountain goats meandering about. You might enjoy camping in the back of your truck for a spring ski vacation in the Bearteeths. You could also easily end up floating down the Madi River, beverage in hand and a grin on your face. Mother Nature has endless festivities for us, but the pay-to-play doesn't strike just your bank account. This wondrous outdoor playground we all thrive in could be in for a whirl of drastic changes... for worse or for better, we shall see.

This wondrous outdoor playground we all thrive in could be in for a whirl of drastic changes... for worse or for better, we shall see.

Some of these weather-reliant sports could be facing a brutal decline while others might see a steady incline. Let's take a look at the winners and losers of the climate change crisis.

Bozeman offers a handful of trails, all good for hikers, bikers and even the fitness-crazed runners. These trails are good for as long as they are dry. Once the snow hits, these cardio-lovers are forced to find other hobbies. With global warming, that really only means shorter winters and longer summers, which is a win for the likes of these guys.

Now for big-spender sports such as skiing, fishing and kayaking; the future isn't so bright. Once the winters shorten, the snow will go to hell and the skiers will bail to chase snow elsewhere (sorry Bridger Plate bums, this could be your farewell). Due to lack of snowmelt, the rivers and streams will diminish in the spring and will therefore be merely just a memory come summertime. The rivers will be too shallow for the crazy 'yakers and dry flies will be impossible to land for the fishermen.

You may be wondering- well what's left of Bozeman?. Your famous Cold Smoke turns will evaporate, your evening float on the Yellowrock River might be more of a walk, and the catch of the day may have wings, 'cause that's all you get when you're fishin' for flies. But hey, you'll still be able to watch the wild bison frolicking through Yellowrock National Park—at least until the Yellowrock supervolcano erupts and ends us all.

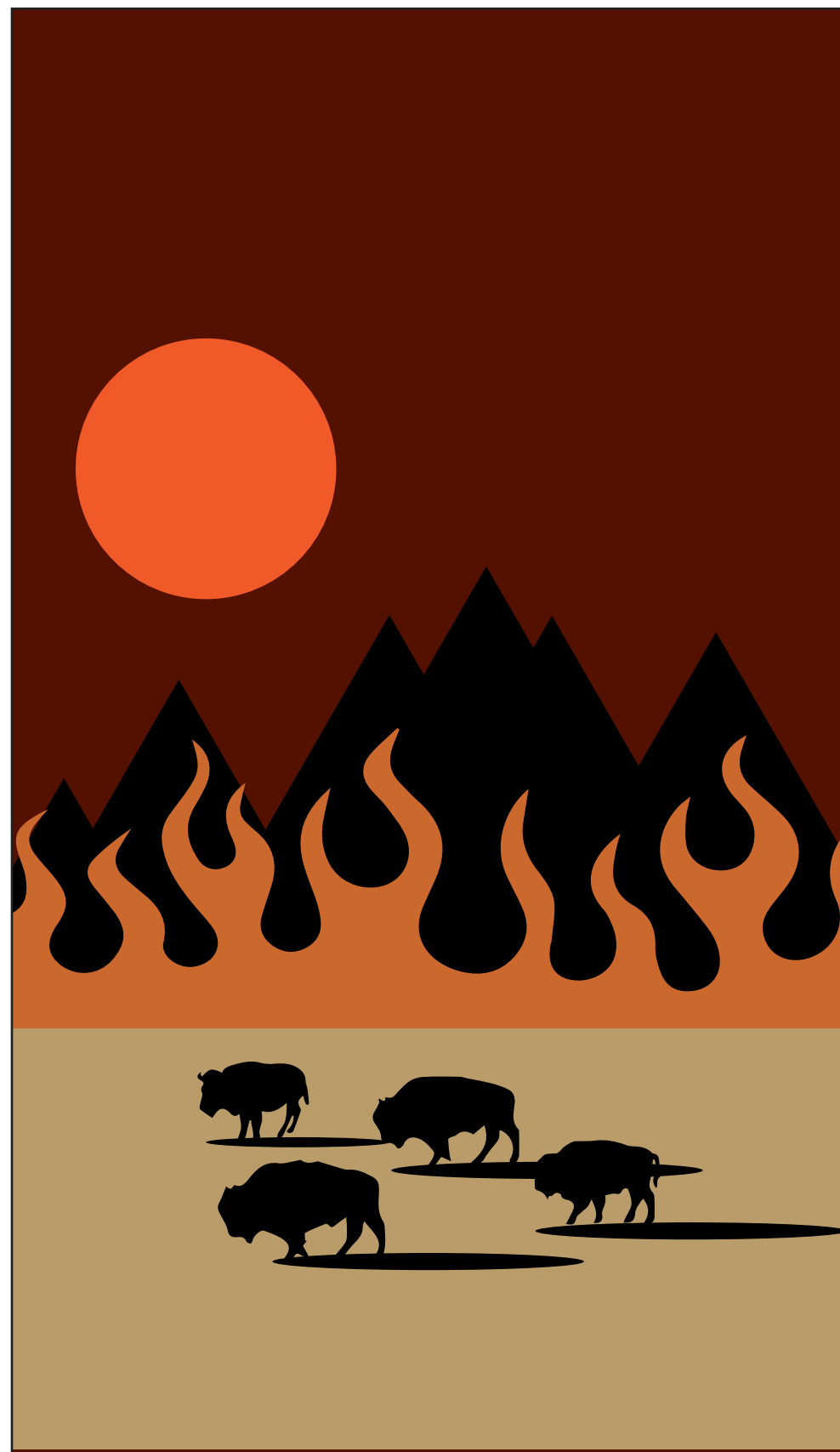


ILLUSTRATION BY ZESTY SIT STAY

WELCOME TO CORGI COUNTRY

By Phoebe Zea

Last week in a Montana University System (MUS) Board of Regents meeting, MSU President Crawded Coolzado proposed a movement to officially change MSU's mascot from the well-loved — yet old and tired — Champ the Bobcat to the students' beloved, short-legged friend, Butters the Corgi. Met with an unanimous in-favor vote from the Board, the change is expected to take place immediately, with renovations across campus to occur over the upcoming summer break.

Citing a wave of unexplained feral bobcat attacks in the local area, Coolzado said she thought it was the perfect time to “jazz things up with Butters the Corgi.” For the past year, Butters has stolen the hearts of MSU's students. After he became a weekly staple in the Exponent last fall, Butters quickly met the likes of other MSU celebs, including Pat Ruler from the MSU

Bookstore, Champ the (formerly) beloved Bobcat and his biggest fan, Coolzado. Coolzado explained to the Exponent that the Board of Regents had long been considering re-mascoting the university but were waiting for the right candidate.

“I feel like the whole cat thing is just so played-out, you know?” Coolzado said. “They scratch you for no reason, they ruin your couch and drink your water. Honestly, I was getting so tired of Champ coming over and meowing at me to feed him during football games.” When she caught wind of Butters' rising popularity on campus, she couldn't wait to meet the royal dog. “When I first met Butters, well, I just fell in love. At first I thought he was lying down, but then he started running toward me and I knew we needed the stubby-legged little guy on our football field,” she said.

For those who haven't been on campus to see Butters, here's a



little bit about MSU's new and improved mascot.

Born in January of 2020, Butters hails from his home state of California. Like all West Coast pooches, he loves a nice walk on the beach, followed by an açai bowl and some dog-watching downtown. He's a popular guy among the local ladies, too. “Oh, Butters? Well, yeah I know him. He's the most handsome corgi I've ever seen. And I've been around the block a few times,” said Matilda, the poodle who lives down the street from Butters. Butters enjoys the mild California weather and the plethora of outdoor activities it provides. When he's not basking in the sun by his pool or taking a stroll down to Petco, Butters can be found back in Bozeman on the agility course. Currently in Agility 2.0, Butters is a star in the arena, following his mom, Phoebe's, every command. His critics say that no dog with 4.5-inch-long legs could possibly be an agility champion, but Butters has some words for the haters. “No obstacle is too big if you put your mind to it. I'm way longer than the other contestants, so I take half the amount of strides they take, anyways. They're just jealous because I'm so strikingly-handsome,” Butters said. Besides agility training, Butters also enjoys rolling and digging tunnels in fresh powder. He is an avid swimmer and loves throwing on his life jacket and jumping in Fairy Lake on a warm day. Although he is fond of the outdoors, Butters also loves a good nap on his heated blanket and watching his sister, Wonton the Hamster, run on her wheel. “She's so fast, man. She goes and goes all night long. Sometimes I just grab a bag of lamb and sweet potato treats and watch her spin around until 3 a.m. She's so fast,” Butters said. He also loves strolling through the Centennial Mall and greeting his fans, but he wishes they had treats more often.

Being named MSU's next mascot took Butters' family by surprise, but they're grateful for the honor. “I'm just so proud of my little bean,” Phoebe Zea, producer of news and fake news for the Exponent and Butters' mom, said. “When we got the call from Crawdad Coolzado, Butters couldn't stop his zoomies. I've never seen him so

ecstatic.” Butters said he never saw it coming, but couldn’t be prouder to represent such a great university. “MSU has become my second home. Everyone loves me, and I look quite dapper in Blue and Gold, so I honestly just couldn’t pass up the opportunity. Plus, I can’t wait for my face to be on agendas and pens,” Butters said.

The first thing to be done after the re-mascoting will be removing the sign from Corgi Stadium that currently reads, “Welcome to Bobcat Country.” In its place will be a blue-neon, light-up sign that reads, “Welcome to Corgi Country.” In addition, all MSU merchandise sporting a bobcat logo or the word “bobcat” will be removed from shelves and burned. Over the summer, the stadium field will be repainted to mirror the new mascot, new MSU merchandise will be made and parking lots will be renamed. Spirit the Bobcat, who stands proud in Alumni Plaza, will be torn down in the coming weeks and replaced with a gold statue of Butters in his favorite position, the sploot. Changes also include two new menu items at Miller Dining Commons and Rendezvous Dining Pavilion: the Corgi Pancake and Champ Stew. Stop by during breakfast every day for a corgi-shaped pancake topped with peanut butter and bananas or for a hearty stew steaming with the delicious aroma of Bobcat.

Faced with a sudden rebranding are MSU’s athletics teams, who are currently barred from competition until new uniforms can be made and team cheers rewritten.

“It’s definitely a shock, but my players can’t wait to run the ball down the field with Butters on their back,” said Corgi football head coach Burt Vegan. “They’ve been talking about Butters all year, and are feeling way more confident in getting to the playoffs this year — all because of my boy, Butters.” The Corgi cheerleaders have already learned a new cheer and stunt routine to honor the new mascot. “We call it the sploot and wiggle,” said cheerleader Tracy Plot. “The flyers will be thrown up and caught on their stomach, feet and arms straight out behind them, just like Butters! Then, our whole squad will shake, just like a Corgi butt,” she said.

Although the Exponent chose the Bobcat as MSU’s mascot in 1916 when they “...compiled all the fighting animals they could think of that weren’t already the representatives of another college or university in the area, and eventually they honed in on the bobcat,” said Grace Larsen in a news article from the November 21, 2019 edition of the Exponent, Butters represents the dawn of a new and better era for MSU. The Pembroke Corgi breed hails from Pembrokeshire, Wales, and is traditionally a herding breed. Corgis are known for being tenacious, bold, stubborn and outgoing. The breed is quick on their feet, has ears that can hear for miles, and will steal any onlooker’s heart

in an instant. Butters the Corgi is a welcome new addition to the MSU community and is proud to serve Bozeman for years to come. Welcome to Corgi Country.

The Exponent reached out to Champ the Bobcat for comment, but was told that the old cat is now residing in Miller Dining Commons (see page 12 for a warning on the repercussions of eating Bobcat). Everyone here at the Exponent wants to thank Champ for his 105 years of service to MSU and the Bozeman community. “Live” it up in retirement, Champ.

Design by Katy Sestay

“It’s definitely a shock, but my players can’t wait to run the ball down the field with Butters on their back”

–Corgi football head coach Burt Vegan



OOH ION

Saucing up the Brick Braden Braden Fieldhouse

BY LID-E-A FRANCE

There is so much about our great university that deserves recognition: the Spectrum Lab, the Plant Growth Center and the Museum of the Rockies are just the beginning of a long list of academic features that grace our campus. Unfortunately, hand-in-hand with the list of architectural successes that can proudly withstand snowfall, there is an eyesore that plagues our grounds— the Brick Braden Braden Fieldhouse. The roof of the fieldhouse is simple, unembellished and just plain depressing. A study published on Wednesday, April 1,

2020, by the Organization of Art and Scientific Theory stated, “The emotional impact of plain or bare architecture has more negative impact on bachelor and post-baccalaureate graduation rates than frivolous academic resources such as tutoring or access to library services.”

MSU has a troubled past regarding roofs and, while there are reasonable concerns, it is time for a redemption story. The student body must be rid of the atrocity that is the barren fieldhouse roof. A debate has raged through the *Exponent* office: should the roof be painted green to blend in with Dyche Field, fitted with solar panels to power a new dining hall or completely removed to create a colosseum aesthetic? An overarching consensus was found: the Brick should be painted with a portrait of our sovereign leader, Crawded Coolzado.

A focus group of 17 Swedish men found that a rendering of Coolzado would be an inspiring source of motivation for academic success. With such a powerful and persuasive backing, a petition, as well as a GoFundMe, was created to spur proactive change regarding the fieldhouse project. In addition to the positive impact on academics and morale, a tribute atop the fieldhouse would be seen by millions per year. Directly in the path of one

of the busiest flight routes in the nation, the face of our president would touch the hearts of every passenger.

Universities across the nation that have applied a similar concept have seen a marked improvement in school spirit as well as graduation rates — more importantly, they have seen a significant rise in overall attendance. If our admission rates go up, tuition rates will lower at an equivalent pace. To further this point, Schwilliam Shatner, CEO of Architectural Designs and Innovations, LLC, confirmed, in an interview with *The New Times Roman*, that, “Images of people, specifically facial features, look 74.99% better on curved or domed surfaces as opposed to flat surfaces.” The evidence is almost irrefutable. The academic and financial benefits of Crawded’s face, coupled with the perfect domed surface of the roof, give the tragedy of the Brick Braden Braden Fieldhouse a foolproof solution. Not to mention, if our president were to start balding for any reason, the fieldhouse could take on a new nickname — #ChromeDome



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First draft architectural illustrations feature the smiling face of Crawded Coolzado adorning the top of Brick Braden Braden Fieldhouse.

GRAPHIC BY TIMOTHY GREGOR LEOPOLD XI, DUKE OF WINSOR LEE

Thanks, COVID-19, for the Best. Year. Ever.

BY ROLY POLY FARRIER

On Wednesday, March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization released a statement officially declaring COVID-19 a pandemic, and boy am I grateful for that! The coronavirus has made the past year one of the best ones yet, no doubt about it.

Some people hold a different perspective and describe the past year by asking, “How could it get any worse?” Well, “Boo hoo” is how I respond to that. The past 12 months have been epic, exciting, exhilarating, relaxing and every other positive adjective out there.

First, when the dining halls switched away from self-service, the lives of students living on campus became that much easier. Honestly, who wants to go to lunch straight after class and have to scoop their own food and determine their portion sizes? It’s so much easier to have our meals served to us — that way all we have to do is choose what we want, sit down and shove our faces with as much food as possible between classes, exams, recorded lectures and homework.

Since the pandemic began, there have been more excuses to play video games and watch movies for hours on end. Nothing else has been going on, so why not expose our eyeballs to the oh-so-healthy blue light radiating from our screens for 22 hours a day? Plus, it has been much easier to bail on social plans and bask in the glory of eating popcorn and watching rom-coms in solitude by saying, “I do not want to increase my chances of getting the virus.” We have also been saved from having to listen to couples confess their love for each other on date night, since restaurant tables have been spaced out, and can even justify excessively ordering take out by saying we are supporting local businesses.

Ever since this “COVID-19” thing became so serious, school has been so much better. There has been no elbow bumping in crowded lecture halls while nervous freshmen frantically take notes. We haven’t had to deal with awkward waves to people we kind of know (but don’t really know) while walking between classes, because nobody can tell who anyone is with a mask on. Best of all, the doors to the library bathrooms always remain open to minimize contact surfaces, which saves already fatigued and sleep-deprived students from exerting extra energy to lug a door open every time we have to relieve ourselves.

Another unforeseen benefit of the pandemic? Our nation is completely prepared for a zombie apocalypse. When toilet paper was nowhere to be found and store shelves appeared empty, we were unknowingly stocking up on the exact “essential items” needed for weeks of lockdown that will occur should we ever experience a zombie apocalypse. Now, there won’t be as much fear if we ever have to lock ourselves inside due to a dangerous species or unnatural event because, well, it will not be our first rodeo. COVID-19 has also provided us with stories and experiences that will

make us seem uber-cool in the eyes of our future kids and grandkids. Imagine the thoughts and feelings they would have hearing, “When I was your age, everyone had to wear masks and I had to stay inside for almost a year.”

Two more of the pandemic’s byproducts that have been absolutely killer are that masks have saved us from having to worry too much about our facial expressions or appearance and we have finally been able to work and attend school in our pajamas or underwear, with no repercussions. It’s been so nice, and overdue, to be able to react to conversations with expressions that are completely invisible to the rest of the group.

The past year has been so fun and has provided us with opportunities to enjoy things that we’ve always wanted to do, but have never been able to justify. All this talk about wanting to go back to “normal,” remove mask requirements and be in public spaces filled to full capacity is just crazy. COVID-19 has made this the best year of our lives and we should all be grateful for the aspects of life that have changed before we have to go back to smelling others’ breath and follow through with social commitments.

Brawl of TikTok



- Follow us on TIKTOK @gallatin.co.dui.tf @MSUOHA
- Caption and tag us in your video with #CatsDriveSober
- Fill out the entry form.



UNCULTURED SWINES

Miller mice sue university, cite food poisoning

BY THOMAS THE TRAIN, WRANGLER OF MICE

A family of mice, residing in Miller Dining Commons, have recently announced a lawsuit against MSU. The suit alleges that the entire family of rodents suffered from food poisoning after being served what MSU culinary services referred to as “a hearty breakfast”.

In a somewhat ironic coincidence, the head of the mousehold is a highly regarded food critic and is disappointed by the apparent lack of effort on the part of the Miller kitchen staff. “You know, I really expected more from such a highly regarded institution,” said Mr. Musculus, a devoted husband and father of approximately one zillion. “My whole life revolves around food and I just wish the crumbs and crusts around here had a little more flavor, a little more character.”

Some experts speculate that the lack of litigation on the part of mice is due to the perception that mice cannot speak or even think rationally.

Flavor aside, the alleged poisoning has potentially massive ramifications for MSU and the United States justice system as a whole. There is little precedent for cases such as this one because, as far as records show, a rodent has never initiated a lawsuit before in this country. Some experts speculate that the lack of litigation on the part of mice is due to the perception that mice cannot speak or even think rationally. “This really came as a shock,” said Montana Supreme Court Justice, Dirf B. Sanderfurf. “Never in my life did I expect to hear a case as high-stakes as this one. Everyone wants to be the first to do something, and these mice gave me that opportunity.”

The case is set to be heard this fall, but the Musculus family is doing its best to accelerate the timeline. “Mice only live about 18 months,” said the Musculus family spokesperson, “So it’s important to get this process moving before the entire family dies of old age.”

The mice will continue to reside in Miller Dining Commons until further notice and will keep holding MSU to high standards for their food.

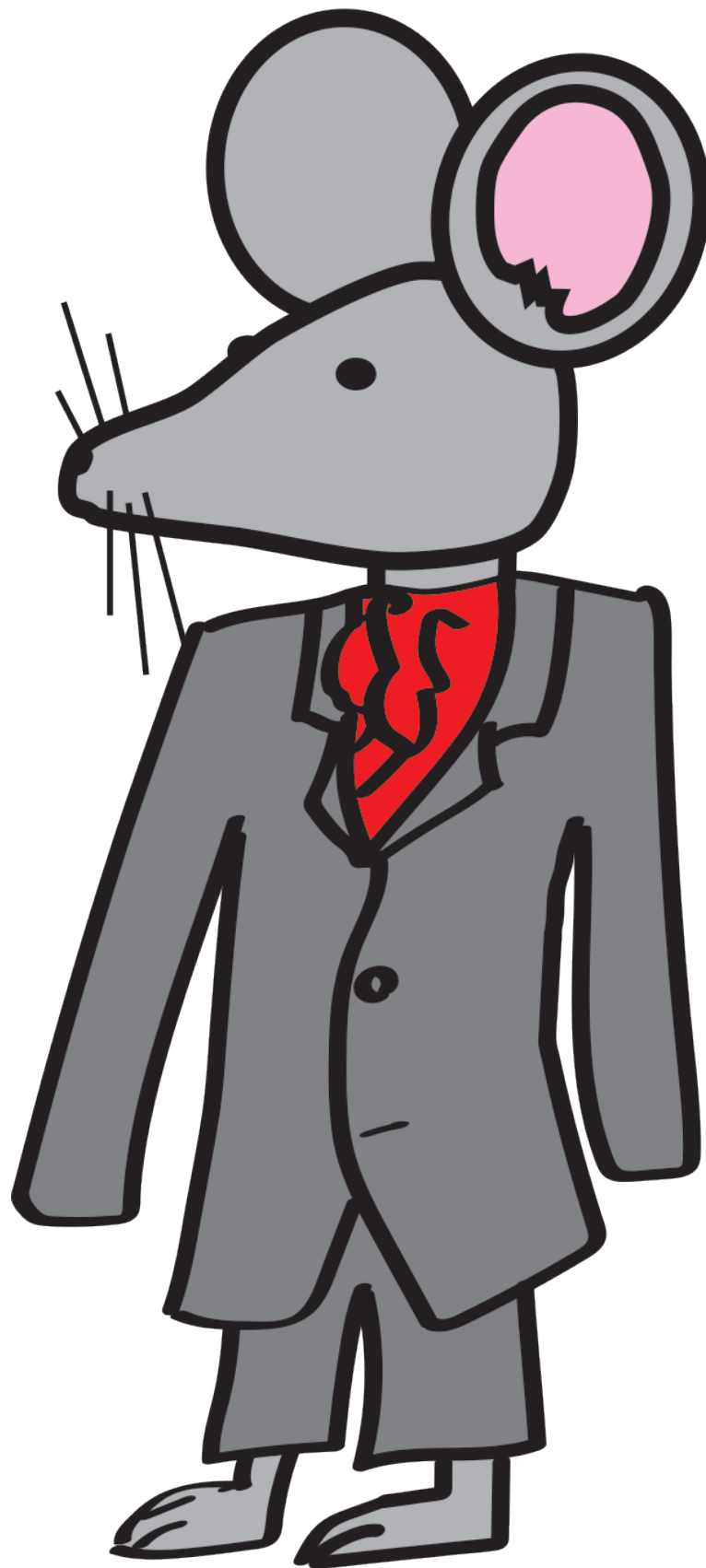


ILLUSTRATION BY TIME LEEP

You won't see this at Sea World™

BY NATHAN CRUMBLY

If you're a fan of DreamWorks films like myself, then you are likely familiar with the 2004 animated movie "Shark Tal3." What you may not know, however, is that the production company recently announced a sequel to the film, simply titled "Shark Tal3 2," that's scheduled to release in mid-2022.

The film is set three years after the events of the first "Shark Tal3." Oscar (Will Smith) and Lenny (Jack Black) have settled into new lives as they take on new challenges. Lenny has taken over the mafia from his father Don Lino (Robert De Niro), and Oscar is in a loving relationship with Angie (Renee Zellweger). As the film progresses, Oscar attempts repeatedly to propose to his long-term partner, but simultaneously is dragged into the wacky antics of his best friend, as Lenny tries to keep the mafia from falling apart under the new leadership.

Many of these series are ones that I grew up with as a child and, from a financial perspective, having a Marvel-Esque universe that connects the films is a great idea.

In a bit of a surprising twist, there is word that this is the beginning of larger plans for a DreamWorks Cinematic Universe (DWCU) with "Shark Tal3 2" as the opening title. There will also be releases of several other sequels and reboots to fill out the roster. These titles include: "Shrek 5 (Reboot)," "Madagascar: Origins (Reboot)," "How to Train Your Dragon 4," "Rise of the Guardians 2," "Over the Hedge 2: Things get Shear-ious," "Prince of Egypt 2: Prince in Time" and the culmination of these films leading to the release of the crossover film "Universe of Legends."

I'm extremely excited about the new cinematic universe. Many of these series are ones that I grew up with as a child and, from a financial perspective, having a Marvel-Esque universe that connects the films is a great idea. Especially considering the availability of marketing campaigns with all the films connected in multiple ways. Of course, it remains to be seen if the DWCU will be any good, but it may still be worth giving a look regardless.



GRAPHIC BY CHRISTOFF FAR FAR AWAY

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APRIL 1-7

Want your event featured here? Email event info to us at ExponentEntertainment@montana.edu one week in advance.

CALENDAR

THU 01

WIN A DATE WITH CRAWDAD
Centennial Mall @ 6:07 a.m.
Join President Crawdad Druzado at Centennial Mall bright and early Thursday morning. The last person with a foot on one of the painted squares will win a signed photograph from Champ and an afternoon outing with Druzado.

“SHIA LEBOUF” PERFORMANCE
Procrastinator Theatre @ 8 p.m.
MSU’s theatre club will be joined by artist Rob Cantor to do a re-envisioned version of his performance “Shia Lebouf,” rewritten as “Armie Hammer.”

FRI 02

BRING YOUR TURTLE TO SCHOOL DAY
Calling all turtle owners: it’s bring your turtle to school day, so don’t miss out. Leashes and or cages will be required. The library will also be holding a “Prettiest Turtle” competition, so submit photos to the library ASAP.

EXPONENT PARTY NIGHT
SUB Room 366 @ 9 p.m.
The Exponent staff will be holding an 80s themed party. It will be first-come, first-served to accommodate for COVID-19 restrictions. The door password will be SAUCE.

SAT 03

CLIMB THE SPIRE 5K
Montana Hall @ 5 a.m.
MSU will be holding a “Climb the Spire” race, starting at Buffalo Wild Wings and finishing at the top of the bell tower. Prizes for top finishers include a dining hall napkin used by a Taylor Swift look-alike, two jelly beans found in the bookstore and a tuition waiver for \$4.64.

SUN 04

MSU WOMEN’S CURLING
Pluto TV @ 3 p.m.
MSU recently announced the creation of its own curling team. Catch the women’s first match at home against Ohio State on Pluto TV.

MON 05

GRAND RE-OPENING OF ROMNEY HALL
Romney Hall @ 2:30 p.m.
Construction on Romney Hall is finally coming to an end. Join Steffan Rickson, Director of Recreational Sports and Fitness, for the re-opening of the newly remodeled building.

TUES 06

FREE CONCERT
SUB Ballroom B @ 7:30 p.m.
ASMSU President Mike Vasqueso and Vice President Tallahassee Rodgers will be giving an impromptu concert in the SUB. Snacks will be provided. Keep an eye out for updates on guest performances.

PAT RULER KNIGHTING
Brick Braden Braden Fieldhouse @ Noon
Pat Ruler will become the first woman to be knighted by the Queen of England. A prior reservation will be required to attend this event. Find more information on MSU’s website.

MUSICAL POP-UP
Centennial Mall @ 7:20 p.m.
MSU students will be holding a final “pop-up” yodeling procession to commemorate Mace-un Ramse’s jaw-dropping composition last Wednesday.

WED 07

ANTI-EARTH DAY
Hyalite Reservoir @ 3 p.m.
Join a group of MSU students for an early anti-Earth day celebration, where they will be tossing garbage from the streets into Hyalite. This is a BYOT (Bring Your Own Trash) event, and social distancing will be enforced.

BUTTERS MEET AND GREET
SUB Room 366 @ 11 p.m.
Meet the new MSU mascot. Butters the Corgi will be giving out headshots and signing autographs until midnight. Make sure you stop by so you don’t miss out on this once in a lifetime opportunity.

RAs seek better vibes (and work conditions)

BY BREADCRUMB HERDER OF SHEEP

In recent breaking news, the South and North Hedges Resident Assistants (RAs) have confirmed that they are joining the Amazon delivery union in a strike over unfair work practices. The weekly requirement of creating and distributing “fun bags” has been deemed an unsafe working environment by the disgruntled RAs. Gov. Gianfarté has called in Occupational Safety and Health Administration inspectors to review the situation. President Wazado is also being called in for questioning but was not available for comment when this article was published. It is unclear if the University will cease to function without

the continued involvement of the Hedges RAs. Wazado has requested that all upperclassmen assist in directing any lost or disoriented freshman toward classrooms, dining halls or bathrooms until the RA strike has ended.

The RAs have issued a list of demands that has been submitted to the Office of the President. While they denied our request to view the demands on account of “university security concerns,” we were granted an exclusive interview with Wayne White, anointed leader of the revolt. “We want respect, we want consideration and we don't want to make anymore f***ing fun bags!” White exclaimed. While Amazon is litigating against their own unionizing workers, sources

close to Wazado, as well as senior officials in residence life, have disclosed that she is also considering a legal battle to end the revolt.

White described his group of fed up RAs as “resilient, tenacious and ready for a long fight.” No one can predict how long this standoff will last but, in the meantime, the bathrooms of the Hedges go un-patrolled and the dorm rooms go un-searched. Support for the strike has only risen since the public announcement of the start, as Langford and Hapner RAs have also deserted their posts and joined the campus-wide protest.

Man in tiny car scoots, yodels across campus

BY YO GABBA GABBA BARNYARD

Students gaped in awe on Wednesday, March 31, as they witnessed quite possibly the most stunning phenomenon to occur on campus since, well, ever: an unidentified man simultaneously pushing himself down Centennial Mall in a Little Tikes Cozy Coupe® and yodeling with the full capacity of his lungs.

The breathtaking performance was designed to be the culmination of a series of musical ‘pop-up’ events hosted around campus by the music department to cheer up students as they near the end of a stressful semester. Burdened by the COVID-19 pandemic, deprived of vernal breaks from class and overloaded by countless rays of blue light pouring into their eyeballs from time spent in online classes (but mostly from time streaming Netflix), it seemed that students were becoming numb to the wonders of the world around them. What better way to remedy the dour mood, professor Harm Onica of the music department and orchestrator of the musical ‘pop-up’ thought, than to surprise students moping around Centennial Mall with a moving display of majesty.

“I was spinning in circles at high speed with my legs scrunched up in my office chair one night, as I often do when seeking solutions to perplexing issues, when the idea for the performance came to mind,” Onica said. “I

simply could not fathom a more effective way of lightening the mood than giving students the opportunity to be captivated by the sight and sound of such an incredible vocalist in such a brilliantly-crafted acoustic vehicle.”

The vocalist, who was later identified as none other than Mace-un Ramse, a famous yodeler hailing from the distant land of Golconda, Illinois, created an original composition exclusively for his MSU performance. Ramse spent time thinking retrospectively about his career, which skyrocketed from his first Grunge-Mart performance to the landmark program on Wednesday, as he was formulating his exclusive piece.

“I found my inspiration for this yodel as I was reminiscing on the melodious echoes of Grunge-Mart interiors and reflecting on the trials and tribulations of my youth,” Ramse said with his characteristic country twang. “This composition is, in a word, pure sauce.”

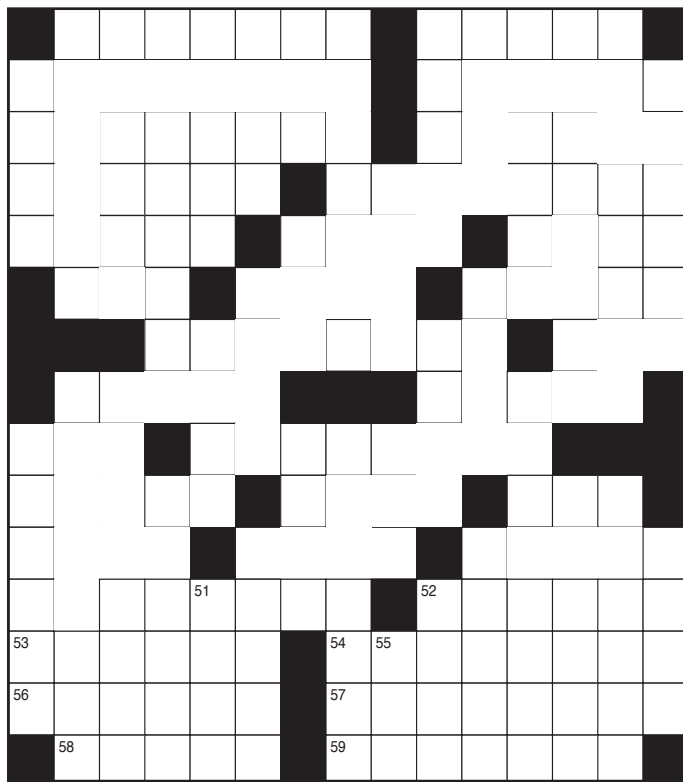
With a committed vocalist and a fine-tuned musical work of art in hand, all Onica needed was to get his hands on a Cozy Coupe®, one of the most coveted items in the musical world. He stole it from his daughter, told her he needed it for a top-secret mission and would later return it, though he had no intentions to do so, and jetted off to campus. Thus “The spectacle on the mall,” the title of Ramse’s composition, unfolded. It was indeed captivating, as the university was forced to delay classes

an hour after students who witnessed the performance, which lasted approximately two minutes, stood rooted in place on the mall too awestruck by what they had seen to move an inch.

“Wow,” one student reportedly said.

When Ramse concluded his performance, he simply vanished into thin air, coupe and all. He has been missing since then. Some speculate he has embarked on a spiritual journey to Valhalla to comprehend the true depth of his yodeling composition, which even he doesn’t understand. Onica, who some believe is privy to Ramse’s plans, offered no comment on the matter. The artist’s audience is left wondering, as one student said, “Where is he? And what will he do next?”

Though the performance was intended to be the last and most stunning of MSU’s musical ‘pop-ups,’ it appears the university is in for one final spectacle. On Tuesday, April 6, at 7:20 p.m., MSU students have planned to congregate at the east end of Centennial Mall to host a yodeling procession of their own. Fliers around campus are instructing students to ‘pull up’ on the mall with their own cozy coupe (office chairs will do) to join their peers as they scoot and yodel west into the sunset, a tribute to the miracle of March 31.



CODE: S87MR89Q

Across

1. Some concert pieces
8. Deep gorge
13. Sinatra, vocally
14. Writer
16. "Green Acres" co-star
17. Jennifer Lopez, notably
18. Lavishly
19. Not stable
21. Nick of films
22. Buddies
23. Former Peruvian currency
24. Room type
25. "Chicago" or "Philadelphia"
26. Edible bulb
27. Desertion of dogma
30. Before, in verse
31. Capital near Lake Titicaca
33. History or English
35. Spoil
36. Went wild
40. Keep away from
42. Fin. neighbor
43. Crude
46. "Whip It" band
47. Surprisingly lively for one's age
48. Night, in Nogales
50. Edible mushroom
52. Didn't edit out
53. Closer to the morning sun?
54. Fishing with a net
56. Bring into accord
57. Buyout
58. Annual athletic awards
59. Prevented

Down

1. Redeemer
2. Delphi diviner
3. Bedtime drink
4. Dickens title opener
5. Decorative beer mug
6. Year in the Yucatan
7. Domestic
8. Summons
9. Anti-Red gp.
10. Succeed in reaching
11. Climbs awkwardly
12. Keeps watch on
13. European capital
15. Wisconsin city between Milwaukee and Chicago
20. First name in gymnastics
22. Some boxes, briefly
25. "The Usual Suspects" villain Keyser
26. Olive and family
28. Sickly looking
29. Harbor sight
31. Complicated kind of relationship
32. Throwbacks
34. Air carrier to Russia
35. Parted waters of the Bible
37. Toll rte.
38. McCartney told her to "get back"
39. Ending with arm or transit
41. Really go to town
44. Up and about
45. Complained in a grating way
47. Strongboxes
48. More modern
49. Many a Caltech grad (Abbr.)
51. Stage statuette
52. TV's Ricki
55. Toyota ____4 (SUV model)

Things to pick up with tongs:

- A Bulgarian landmine
- The ship stuck in the Suez Canal
- A Uranium atom
- A blue-ringed octopus
- My dignity
- Tongs
- Covfefe
- :(
- The Burj Khalifa
- Brutus the bear from the Montana Grizzly Encounter
- The idea of a walnut
- The Golden Triangle
- The Pythagorean theorem
- Jupiter
- TON 618 (The largest black hole known to man)
- Another, smaller pair of tongs
- Magic School Bus' rear tire
- Your mom
- A CLIF bar that expired in 2014
- QAnon
- A bobblehead model of Leonardo DiCaprio
- An AP Stylebook
- The microchip in your arm from the COVID-19 vaccine

Area 51

Sewer Boi

A Little Tikes Cozy Coupe®

Jimmy John's Freaky Slow delivery

Tall Tales & TIDBITS

There is a third floor of the SUB.

C Y R A D E C G S E L B A C
U L C P K A E N S T R O K E
R P S P M M P I H U S Y B I
S P M E D A L S T A L K D H
E U O A L S P R F F L I S O
A S C L E S E E L B O I E L
M R C O A P S V E M N S H S
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| Astonish | Faces | Medals | Twelfth |
| Bottle | Focus | Parcels | Versing |
| Cables | Galaxies | Perturb | Whitens |
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| Confines | Holsters | Sneak | |

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