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Logan Sadler, a freshman at MSU (right), competes in burling at the 83rd AWFC Conclave in Corvallis, Oregon, on Thursday, April 13. PHOTO BY EVAN HANSEN

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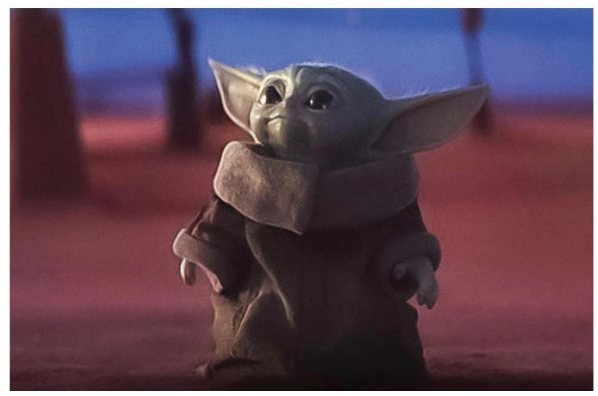
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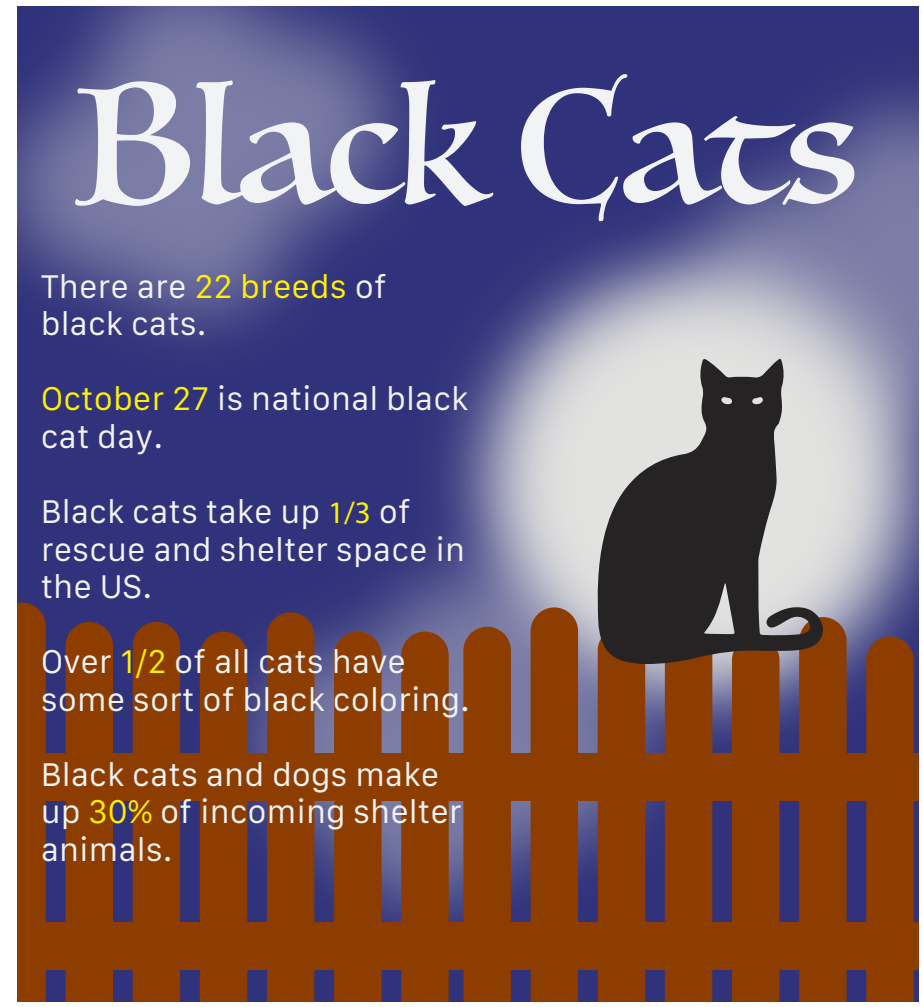
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Bikes and copy machines: an investment-worthy combo

BY JACKSON OLLIFF



Matt Lessmeier, chief technology officer and co-founder of Telepathy Bikes, rides the first prototype of the company's product. Photo courtesy of Helen Bruil

Bozeman is well-known for its epic mountain biking and tight-knit community of bikers. Two years ago, a small group of those community members came together to solve common frustrations they had with their bikes. Now, those same engineers and their company Telepathy Bikes, are set to compete to win up to $18,000 in the MSU’s $75k Venture Competition.

The Venture Competition is put on by the Jake Jabs College of Business and is a chance for entrepreneurs to go head-to-head in front of a group of judges.. Participants will be able to access experienced entrepreneurs, investors and other resources and win cash for their ideas, according to the competition’s website. The first-place team in the competition will win $18,000.

This year, the Venture Competition will occur on Thursday, April 20, in Inspiration Hall. During the competition, finalists will pitch their ideas to a panel of four judges and then answer questions regarding their idea. Telepathy is competing against seven other teams to win big and expand their company.

The group has been regularly meeting and practicing its presentation to prepare for the competition. If they win, the company plans to use the money to expand its operations and produce up to eight prototypes on top of the three current models, said co-founder and engineering student Matt Lessmeier.

Telepathy Bikes thinks its idea and design for a “mind-reading mountain bike” will be strong enough to bring home the gold. The idea behind the company is an improved linkage on the bike. A bike linkage connects the front and rear frames of a mountain bike, and it defines how the rear wheel moves when the suspension is compressed, said mechanical engineering student Kari Perry, one of the co-founders of Telepathy. The improvement makes the suspension top tier, causing the bike to be more reliable and “do exactly what you think it will do when doing around turns and down hills,” Perry said.

Telepathy was founded in February 2021 by five MSU engineering students. These engineers all had specific reasons why they were dissatisfied with mountain biking, leading to numerous meetings after class where they brainstormed what they could fix and how they could accomplish their dreams.

Perry said the idea of creating a company and trying to solve a problem was daunting at first. “As students, we think we don’t know anything. It was a lot of brainstorming, a lot of spitballing, and lots of whiteboard markers we went through,” she said.

However, she said that after over a hundred hours of analyzing issues with mountain bikes and trying to solve them, they found a way to build a better bike.

The answer was in the suspension system, she said. Typically when riding a mountain bike, the front and rear wheels of the bike move separately, causing the bike to shrink when rounding corners and a change in cornering radius due to the bike compressing as it absorbs impact. Perry and her co-founders had the idea to create a new type of linkage that does not allow the tires to move separately so that the bike's length never changes and allows the rider's center of gravity to stay confident.

“Avoiding this shift in gravity makes the bike more reliable, especially in corners,” Perry said.

This seemingly simple idea to change the linkage was easy to think of, Lessmeier said. “It was finding a linkage that would accomplish our goal [that] was not easy,” he said.

At first, the team looked at what was being done with the current bikes, but no one had been producing what they were looking for. After almost settling for a pre-existing mountain bike linkage, Lessmeier said that the co-founders and students in their capstone team decided to look outside the biking world for a linkage that worked how they wanted.

The answer came from a student who saw a mechanism used on copy machines that allowed two pieces to move simultaneously in the same direction, Lessmeier said — exactly what they hoped to accomplish with the mountain bike tires. After taking this inspiration from copy machines, the team furthered the linkage design until they had an idea that was implemented in the first prototype.

The company now includes a team of undergraduate and graduate students at MSU. Mechanical engineering students can choose to join the team for their capstone project and help create prototype bikes. According to Perry, these capstones have been vital to the young company. “The first and third prototypes were built entirely by students during capstones,” she said.

She also credits capstone students for their current linkage design. “The final designs for the current linkage we're using were actually brainstormed during the capstone by a student leader,” Perry said.

Lessmeier expanded on the impact of students in capstone programs. “Students have been doing the work. Everyone participated, giving ideas and working as a team,” he said. For example, one student used their welding skills to assemble a bike prototype in the MSU ‘capstone shop.’

“Using students' perspectives and specific talents was integral in creating the design and prototype we have today,” Perry said.

Those ideas and prototypes will go head-to-head with six other entrepreneurial ventures during the upcoming competition on April 20. Although the team hopes to win big, they are excited about the company's future regardless of the competition's outcome, Lessmeier said. The next step for Telepathy is finalizing the design and getting riders out to test and critique the product.

To keep up with the company and see what the team is up to, visit *https://www.telepathybikes.com/* and keep an eye out for a biking movie they are also producing soon.

Week of Belonging generates mixed responses from students

BY CHRISTINA GIBBS

In light of recent campus events including the death threats made against the Queer Straight Alliance (QSA) and the Young Americans for Liberty (YAL), the Office of the President and the Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU) student government created a series of events called the Week of Belonging, which occurred from April 10-14.

Last week's events included a resource fair, chalking the Centennial Mall, a concert featuring local band 70 in a Skool Zone and a de-stress day, all culminating in Friday's teach-in. The overall purpose of these events was to create greater awareness of the on-campus resources available to students, and to create a physical community through events, said MSU President Waded Cruzado.

"We were looking for ways to reach out to students who felt impacted by the adverse situations that we had been dealing with this semester," Cruzado said. "We translate lessons learned into action."

The planning process was relatively swift, Cruzado said. During a routine planning meeting on Tuesday, April 4, "I mentioned something like, in my culture, there's nothing that you cannot fix with music," Cruzado said. The next day, ASMSU president Lucas Oelkers called Cruzado.

"I said, 'We've got to make this all five days with events of different types to cater to different people's identities,'" Oelkers said. "People need different types of resources and different styles of events."

The original concept of the Week of Belonging was to host a concert to bring people together, said ASMSU Vice President Bella Roccisano. After receiving feedback while planning the concert that would take place Wednesday, April 12, she said ASMSU realized that more events should be done throughout the week to cover the wide range of student needs.

"We created opportunities for students to give tons of feedback to ASMSU and to the administration so that we can learn how to support people better through an event like this in the future," Roccisano said.

Student feedback was indeed given, with a mixed bag of responses. "I had a group of students be really frustrated and upset that the Week of Belonging was happening and really did not want any of it to go on," Roccisano said.

However, after the resources fair last Monday, more positive feedback started to come through, she said. "We heard it was exactly what people were looking for."

Positive feedback about the events included that they provided an opportunity for students to give feedback to the university, encouraged people on campus to come together and drew attention to the issue of campus safety.

"After a long week, working hard and studying, you need some fun," said mathematics Ph. D. student Tannaz Goodarzi at the concert. "I love the atmosphere."

"I just wanted to get the feel and vibe of what's going on," said photography sophomore Amber Campbell. "I think there's a need to collaborate with one another outside of our majors, I hope that everybody feels that they can branch out."

El Shaddai Bantu-Jacobs, a freshman majoring in sociology, said the Week of Belonging events allowed students to express their opinions through chalk, for example, and did make a difference by having entire events designed to help people feel like they belong.

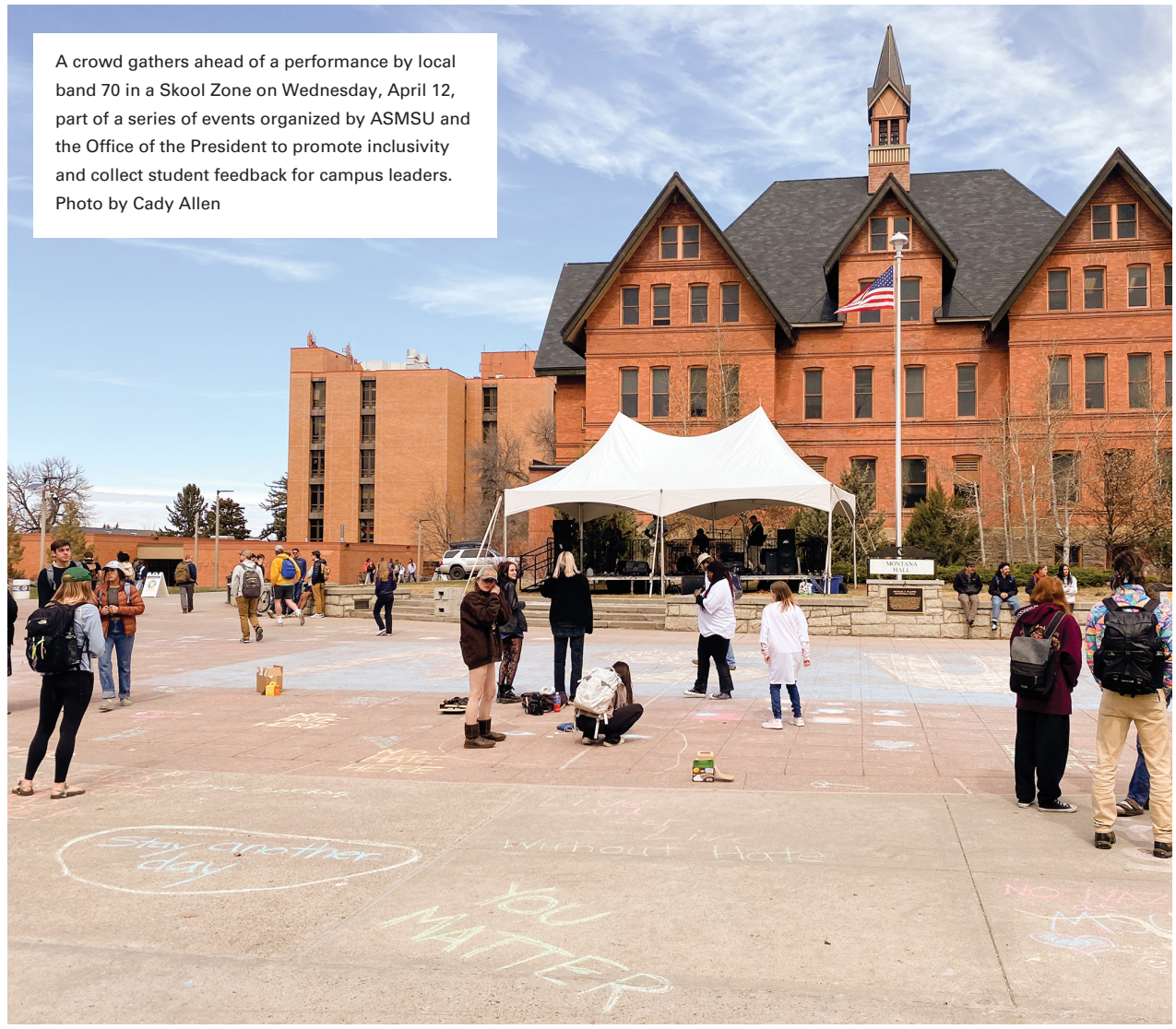
However, members of the QSA said that the Week of Belonging failed to address the safety concerns of LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC students, said Vesper Remiel, QSA's social media coordinator, in a statement to the Exponent. The group felt as if the week served as a university publicity stunt rather than strengthening connections among students.

"Walking by a giant blue and gold MSU chalk flag on campus provides no indication of support from the university of BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ students who were and continue to be threatened," the statement said. "Rather, it puts the spotlight on MSU and those not in the loop and pushing the university to respond likely don't see any connection between that and marginalized students on campus."

Some students who attended the events said they were only a surface level attempt to address the larger issue of student safety concerns.

"I decided to come to the event today because I am a queer student on campus and I wanted to make sure that there was support shown for my community and other community and minority groups here," said sophomore environmental engineering student Cora Hannigan at the concert on Wednesday, April 12.

Hannigan said that the Week of Belonging might hold more weight if there was structural change happening within the school that backed up the affirmations that they're trying to give their students this week, such as more open communication between



A crowd gathers ahead of a performance by local band 70 in a Skool Zone on Wednesday, April 12, part of a series of events organized by ASMSU and the Office of the President to promote inclusivity and collect student feedback for campus leaders. Photo by Cady Allen

university administration and students, she said.

Civil engineering major Ben Meyer, who attended the concert, said it seemed like the university was trying to solve the problem with good vibes. “While I think stuff like this is really nice, it came off as very reactionary,” Meyer said.

One student who attended the resource fair and chalking events on Monday and Tuesday, respectively, and asked to be anonymous because of the death threats, said that the week slapped band-aid over students’ safety concerns. The university should take a stand instead of being neutral, they said.

The week came to a close with a teach-in hosted in Inspiration Hall, which took the form of facilitated conversations and offered a space for individual students to voice their concerns if they were comfortable.

Candance Goodman, a speaker at the teach-in, explained that friction can be rerouted in a respectful and positive manner to create traction. She explained that it can all be a springboard, as long as we harness our energy in the right direction, be respectful, and focus on being productive and communicating. If we do that, she said, we’re off to a great start.

However, a counter teach-in also occurred later that day in Romney Hall. During this event, students and faculty gathered to discuss various issues and personal experiences. Speakers discussed the timeline of the QSA death threats, frustration surrounding the university’s response, resources available to students, and other issues such as student housing.

One speaker, Stephanie McCalla, the faculty advisor for the QSA, was also present at the counter teach-in. She provided background on what occurred during the first few days of the QSA threats and explained that the QSA has not stopped its efforts. “They are still working on their board meetings, they are still making plans, they’re still making connections. They’re still making safe loving spaces for queer students and students of color to come together and feel loved and a part of the community,” she said.

“If it’s a week of belonging, does that mean we don’t belong the rest of the year?” asked linguistics major and global and multicultural studies minor Seth Fairuz at the counter teach-in Friday April 14. “The fact that none of these emails have addressed directly the fact that students were threatened, or said ‘Here is what we’re doing to look into this’ is genuinely insulting,” referring to emails Cruzado and Oelkers sent to the MSU community each morning about the Week of Belonging.

“I know that for legal purposes, you cannot necessarily always tell us what is going on behind the scenes,” Fairuz said. “But it would mean a lot to a lot of people to hear that we are investigating this.”

“We explicitly acknowledged the threat to QSA and Young Americans for Liberty as well as how they were investigated in the president's letter on March 26,” said Vice President of Communications Tracy Ellig in a statement to the Exponent on April 19. “To be clear, the email to QSA and the incident with the YAL tabling are the only threats to student groups that have been reported to the university.”

“We continue to seek leads as to who sent the QSA threat and the author will be prosecuted to the fullest extent possible,” Ellig said.

Quentin Lucas, a physics Ph.D. candidate who was present at the counter teach-in, said he didn’t think the Week of Belonging addressed the root issue of the distress. “That’s not going to change the fact that [students] have been afraid for their lives every day since they’ve received these threats,” he said.

“It’s a bandaid on a systemic issue,” said former ASMSU Director of Diversity and Inclusion Marquayvion Hughes.

QSA’s statement said more concrete actions need to be taken by university administration to strengthen campus resources and denounce hate speech, rather than leaving the work to already exhausted and scared students.

“All of us in leadership, because of the threats and the fact that resources and support for ourselves is being left in our hands, are struggling in numerous ways: in passing classes, in taking care of our physical and mental health and more,” Remiel wrote in the statement.

To make campus support more consistently visible, ASMSU and university administration are discussing the idea of hosting resource fairs more often throughout the fall and spring semesters, Cruzado said. Although Catapalooza occurs right before the start of the fall semester, Cruzado said that it might be a good idea to advertise campus resources roughly four weeks into the fall semester, and again in the spring.

“[The week’s] a direct response to what students ask for,” Oelkers said. “We need to talk to each other.” Oelkers said that this series of events was not the final step in resolving student alienation or fear on campus, but the first in a series to create new traditions for support.

Oelkers said that although backlash was heard in the planning of the events, it’s worse if we don’t swing the bat. “We’re going to do the week and if we fail, then we say what do we need to do next week?”

“Some emotions such as anger and fear, while born out of a justified event, can have a paralyzing effect,” Cruzado said. This week was to serve as a tool for students to get unstuck, she said.

During the counter teach-in, Quentin Lucas said that clear, timely and complete denouncement of any threats and hate speech on campus would be what he would like to see from the university. “This is a university for everyone, this is not a place for hate,” he said.



Kaylee Stremcha, a freshman majoring in studio art, and Cora Hannigan, a sophomore environmental engineering major, sit on the Malone Centennial Mall during the 70 in a Skool Zone concert on Wednesday, April 12. Photo by Gabe Barnard

Lyman Creek water rights dispute continues between landowners and City of Bozeman

BY CHRISTINA GIBBS

Concern over water use and wildlife habitat has sparked an ongoing disagreement between the city of Bozeman and a local landowning couple. The location of concern is Lyman Creek — a tributary to Bridger Creek and one of Bozeman's oldest water sources.

The couple that currently lives on the property in which the creek flows, Siri and Lance Gilliland, say that a potential increase in water by the city to use more water within its rights could pose detrimental impacts to trout species that use the creek for spawning and the ecosystem that surrounds them. According to a spokesperson from the city, Bozeman has no plans to increase its water use beyond what it has a right to.

The Gillilands bought the property in 2014, which came with water rights junior to the city of Bozeman — since the city claimed rights to the water before the property was designated. Lyman Creek flows for approximately 1.75 miles long before joining Bridger Creek. The Gillilands' property resides on approximately 1 mile of the creek which contains a maximum flow rate of 426 gallons that they use for irrigation, which is what their water right includes.

Lyman Creek has been a source of Bozeman's water since 1899, and provides approximately 20% of the city's water.



The couple wanted to understand what they needed to do to protect and continue using their water rights appropriately and legally when they first moved onto the property, Lance Gilliland said. In talking to a water consultant to assess their responsibilities, they found that Bozeman was looking to expand its usage, considering measures like upgrading diversion pipelines to pull more water from the creek. "We were concerned about their continual expansion," Lance Gilliland said.

The Gillilands claim that the City plans to use more than its historic allowed use of water, diverting it illegally, and expanding the place of use.

The City's statements of claim are for 5.95 cubic feet per second, said Takami Clark, Bozeman's communications and engagement manager. The existing system has the physical capacity to divert and convey 5.95 cubic feet per second (CFS), Clark said. The City has no plans to augment its existing infrastructure to increase the amount of water it can divert from the stream, but is asking the water court to correct its claim to 5.95 CFS so that it can draw the full amount from the creek "The City is not asking to use more water, it is asking to correct its existing water rights," Clark said.

The Gillilands alleged that Bozeman abandoned its legal rights in whole or in part, Clark said. "In defending against those allegations, the City asked the water court to correct the City's water rights based on the district court decree issued in 1896."

Lyman Creek has been a source of Bozeman's water since 1899, and provides approximately 20% of the city's water, Clark said. "The city's water rights are the measure of the amount of water it can legally use from the source. For planning purposes, we account for the reliable amount of water the source is predicted to produce during a 1 in 50-year drought," she said. "The frequency of such drought events may increase because of climate change."

Lyman Creek is considered a small spring creek, in which only about 1 CFS of water flows through at any given time, said fisheries biologist and lawyer for Trout Unlimited, Patrick Byorth. Despite its small size, the creek's biological importance is often overlooked, because it provides prime nursery habitat for rainbow and brown trout, he said.

"Sacrificing tributaries will lead to a collapse of our watersheds," Byorth said. Biologically, high-quality, cold, clean water that is stable during all months is perfect for trout spawning, he said. As a wild trout fishery, tributary streams like Lyman are critical to keeping the population healthy.

The Gillilands said that "even if [the city] took every drop of water, it's not going to solve what they're hoping to solve, which is a city that just keeps expanding and expanding," Siri Gilliland said. "Once you dry it up and make it a seasonal creek, those fish go somewhere else — it affects everything downstream."

In 1991, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) authorized the city's change application to use spring collectors to divert surface water from Lyman Creek, which was done to comply with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, Clark said. Now, 30 years after the deadline for challenging that decision, the Gillilands claim that a change application should have been filed for a change in source from ground to surface water.

However, "the task of the Water Court is to determine the city's

rights as they existed prior to July 1, 1973; as a rule, the Water Court does not concern itself with changes made after that date," Clark said.

According to Clark, To entertain the Gillilands' claim would be an exception to water court rule. Although each of the Western states has its own version of water rights, Montana, Colorado and Idaho are the only three states with water courts, according to the Montana Courts website.

The Montana Water Court, created by the 1979 state legislature, is responsible for expediting and facilitating over 219,000 state law-based water rights, according to the court's website. The Water Court has exclusive jurisdiction over water rights claims.

When a change in water rights takes place, a change application must be completed through the Montana Department of Natural Resources. The party seeking to change their right has to establish where they would change their points of diversion and prove that those points would effectively yield water, Byorth said.

In 2008, when the city added another underground spring, they didn't complete a change application, Lance Gilliland said, which he said is illegal under Montana Water Law.

The Gillilands made this claim unsuccessfully in their 2018 district court case, Clark said. "The city does not believe a change application was required," she said.

The legal problem is twofold, Byorth said. "Under Montana Water law, if you have an old water right for 100 cubic feet per second, but you've only used 7 cubic feet of that, you don't get to keep expanding because you never used that water."

Essentially, Bozeman only used to divert about 3.5-4.5 cubic feet per second including surface and groundwater, but "they've now decided that they're going to take all 5.95," he said.

However, the City of Bozeman has no plans to increase how much water it diverts from Lyman Creek, Clark said. In completing the Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) in 2013, which prioritized optimizing any unused portion of Bozeman's Lyman Creek water rights to meet growing demand, "Trout Unlimited participated actively as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in that public process and specifically endorsed the city's plan to optimize the use of Lyman Creek water," she said.

Clark also said there was an extensive opportunity for public involvement from 2012-2017 during the preparation of the city's water facility plan, as well as its integrated water resource plan that called for optimization of the city's Lyman Creek water rights. Recently, public input has been quiet, but residents may reach out to the commissioners at any time with questions or may attend public meetings for comment, she said.

The Gillilands initially tried to come to a settlement with the City of Bozeman under the Montana Water Use Act in early 2016 to express their concerns about wildlife. "We have water rights and that gives us a reason to have a view and be able to challenge what they're doing, but we wanted to protect the habitat," Lance Gilliland said.

After the first meetings with the city, on advice from counsel, the Gillilands then sued the City of Bozeman in district court under the Montana Water Use Act in 2018. The district court ruled that, under the Montana Water Use Act, private parties do not have a right to sue under Montana Water Law, Gilliland said. "It didn't rule on the merits that we raised, it ruled that technically we couldn't raise the issue."

When the couple went to the Montana Supreme Court, a similar ruling resulted. "At no time has the City intentionally relinquished its legal ability to utilize the full amount of water under its historic water rights," Clark said.

The Gilliands have started a public media campaign, "Save Lyman Creek," to keep up public awareness about the issue, they said. The campaign consists of a website and social media accounts under the same name.

"The fundamental point we have is to hold [the city] to their historic use, and not allow them to expand because we don't think it's legal for them to expand, and we don't think it's in the best interest of the community for them to expand," Lance Gilliland said.

The city of Bozeman intends to continue to use Lyman Creek as a water source, striving to protect it from collateral attacks to ensure it has adequate supply to serve its current and future population, Clark said.



Water flows down Lyman Creek on Wednesday, March 22. Photos by Cady Allen

Take Back the Night event empowers sexual assault survivors

BY AMELIA DIGIANO



Take Back the Night advocates march through sharing their message on Wednesday, April 12. Photo by Riley Sabo

Last week, the MSU VOICE Center hosted its annual Take Back the Night event to celebrate and support survivors of sexual assault. The VOICE Center is an on-campus resource for anyone, including faculty, who has experienced, survived, or supported a survivor of interpersonal violence.

Take Back the Night, which took place on April 11 and 12, included an open exhibition about the impact of violence in the Bozeman community, several guest speakers, a vigil, a march and a talking circle, which is a new event this year.

On Wednesday night, students gathered for the talking circle, a confidential space for students to speak and listen to one another. The event coincided with a period of high tension on campus due to the recent death threats to MSU's Queer-Straight Alliance (QSA). Organizers were initially unsure if holding the event would be beneficial on campus.

"There was a moment of, alright, well, do we cancel this event and keep space for everything that's going on?" said Hope McWilliams, who is part of the student staff at the VOICE Center. "But that quickly turned into creating a healing space, a space for people to connect. I think that's what a lot of people need right now."

At the talking circle, VOICE Center leaders passed out play dough to ease tensions in the room, then turned the conversation over to participants. "A big part of what we do at the VOICE Center is just listening," McWilliams said.

The talking circle lasted for over an hour. Participants sipped iced tea and shared frustrations and stories with one another. "I feel a little bit lighter," Rebeca Montano, a VOICE Center volunteer, said after the circle. "I feel happy to know that I'm not alone and that there's people who also care and people that are angry. I feel happy to be part of a community that listens to other people and makes them feel heard. That fills me up with a lot of joy."

"With everything going on on campus right now, there's a lot of anger, and sometimes it can feel really frustrating to feel like you're the only one talking about it," McWilliams said. "I wouldn't say that any anger is necessarily relieved, I wouldn't say that I feel safer on campus than I did before. But I think there's strength in numbers and there's also something very powerful about knowing that you're not alone in it."

Madi Herman, the VOICE Center's educational specialist, felt that the talking circle was successful. "No matter what people ultimately talked about, the whole point was to come together, feel heard and be seen, and that's exactly what happened," Herman said.

After the talking circle, participants gathered in the Sunrise Plaza outside of the American Indian Hall to hold a vigil, led by Anna Slown, director of the VOICE Center. "The work we've done today is challenging," Slown reminded participants. "Take some time and space to think about your own history and experiences of any sort of violence, and also those of our community. Hold some grace and kindness towards your body for all that it's doing in such a hard time," she said.

After a moment of silence, participants began their march across campus bearing signs and chanting messages supporting survivors and condemning sexual assault. The march ended near the MSU Duck Pond, where participants chalked rainbows and supportive messages on the ground, reminding viewers "you are loved."

Suzanne Loviska, a VOICE Center volunteer, felt that the timing of Take Back the Night was ultimately successful. "I think it's good that this event did kind of land at the time that it did land at because I think the queer community experiences a lot of sexual violence as well as violence in general," Loviska said.

She also noted that Take Back the Night coincided with the ASMSU Week of Belonging. "I feel like the two events tied together with a common underlying theme of unity and support for one another," Loviska said.

Take Back the Night was the first of two events that the VOICE Center will host throughout April, which is International Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The Bozeman Monologues will be the next event on April 27, where community members will share stories about survivorship, identity and other impactful life experiences.

The Bozeman Monologues will take place at the Emerson Center for the Arts and Cultures. Tickets are $5 for students and $10 for community members. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

To access the VOICE Center for support or updates on future events, check out: *https://www.montana.edu/voice/*



Students organize climate week to educate campus

BY KELLY COYNE

A group of MSU students organized the 2023 Climate Week for an independent study class from April 17 to April 21, to spread awareness about climate change to their fellow students, faculty members and the Bozeman community.

"The biggest reason I wanted to start climate week was to spread awareness, but really to facilitate the conversation around climate change and show students and faculty members that this problem is not above us," said environmental science sophomore Jackson Mundell, a member of the independent study class.

Paul Lachapelle, a professor in the department of political science, and Tony Hartshorn, an associate professor of land resources and environmental sciences, taught independent study class.

"It was inaugural Climate Week, and we hit it out of the park," Lachapelle said. He said he wants to bring more conversations regarding climate change to campus, and this week is just the start of a series of more regular events regarding this topic. He was also part of starting the Climate Solutions Group, he said, which is a faculty-led initiative working to engage students, staff and students in climate discussion every two weeks during the semester.

"In terms of climate change, which many of us feel is the most critical issue facing all of us but particularly young adults, we need to have very focused conversations and actions around that," Lachapelle said. Lachapelle and Hartshorn supervised their students as they built workshops so students and faculty could learn and start having these conversations with each other.

Mundell said the event gave students and faculty a safe space to have a conversation. "Giving students a safe space to talk about these issues and get a thorough understanding of what's going on and how they can get involved," Mundell said, referring to the goal of Climate Week.

"It's very surprising how little some students are aware of more basic facts surrounding climate change and it's something that our education system doesn't really address currently," said freshman Frannie Kocemba, another member of the class regarding the preliminary results of a survey sent to students.

Not only did these events serve the purpose of spreading awareness, but they also aimed to change negative perceptions some have about confronting challenging conversations.

"It almost seems taboo in a way to talk about climate change as a campus culture, which is what we're trying to change," Mundell said.

Maya Krapf, a senior studying political science and philosophy and another class member, was pleased with the turnout and involvement from students and staff at the events. "I thought that our climate talks went really well, and we were able to get a lot of people up and talking," she said."It was super interesting to hear everyone's experiences and how climate change has affected them."

If you couldn't make any of the events or you're looking for one last one to attend, then you're in luck. As they say, save the best for last. This Friday, April 21, from 5-9 p.m. is the NextGen Eco Fest, an Earth Day celebration with live music, a sustainable clothing swap, climate talks and other hands-on stations that teach sustainability.

"We're going to have Orange — a rock band — playing, Ryan from Happy Trash is going to DJ, we're going to have a sustainability fashion swap as well as a textile bin that will recycle your clothes and a zero-emissions refill station," Nicole Bondurant, a senior at MSU an member of the class, said.

"It's been really cool to see both the MSU's community of environmentalists here as well as Bozeman at large environmentalists collaborate on this awesome event," Bondurant said in regards to the help of the students' partners and sponsors who helped make this event possible.

Bondurant recommended getting involved with climate change initiatives on campus. "Being surrounded by others who have the same passion inspires me," she said.

You can also make small changes in your life that contribute to a bigger change, Mundell said. "Even the smallest things students do in their day-to-day routine, like when they leave a classroom and turn the lights off or they're biking to school instead of driving to school, have a big impact if they start being done on a widespread scale," he said. "Just go at it with an open mind and a passion for change and try to be the change that so many of us want to see but so few of us act on."

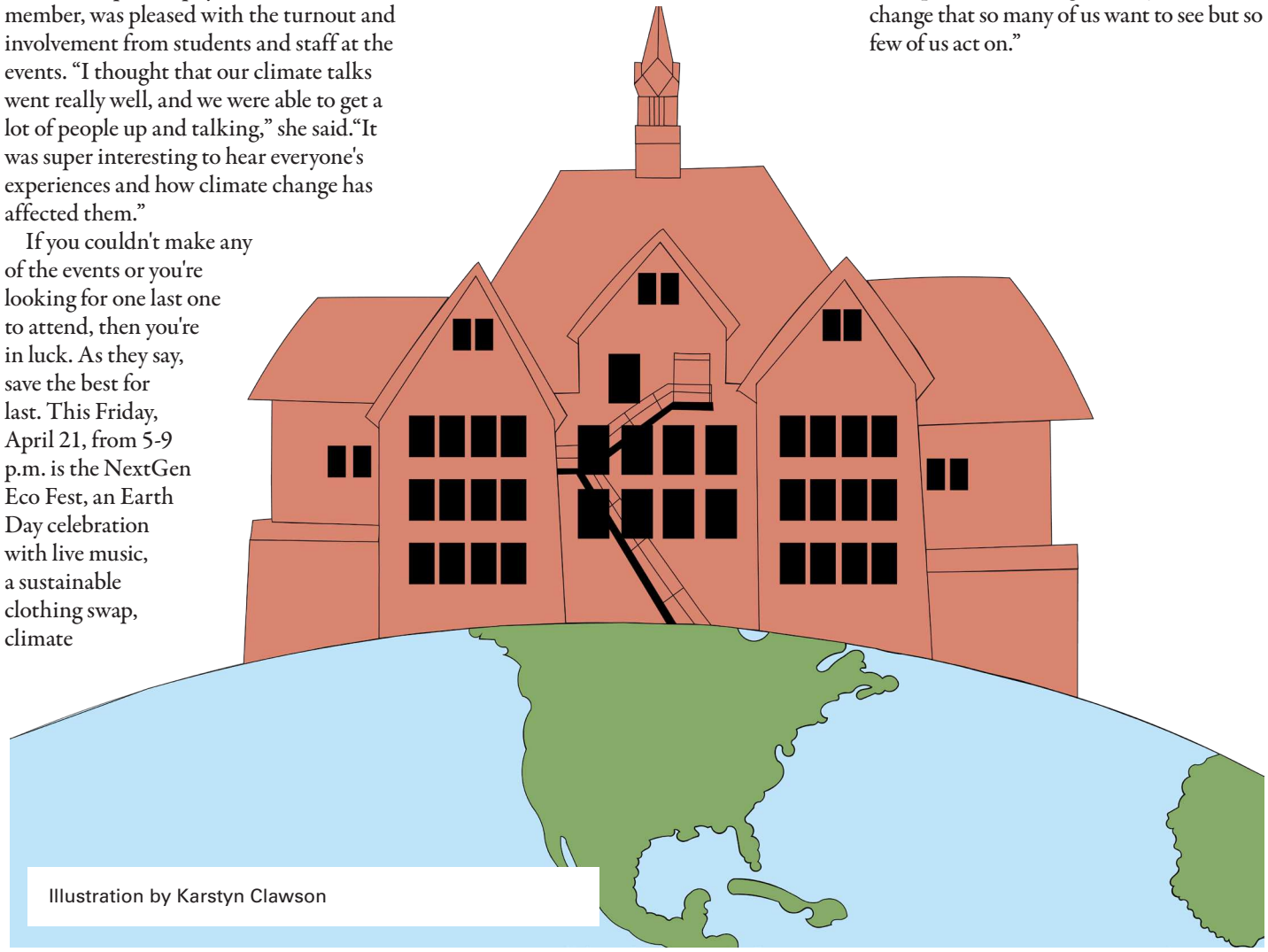
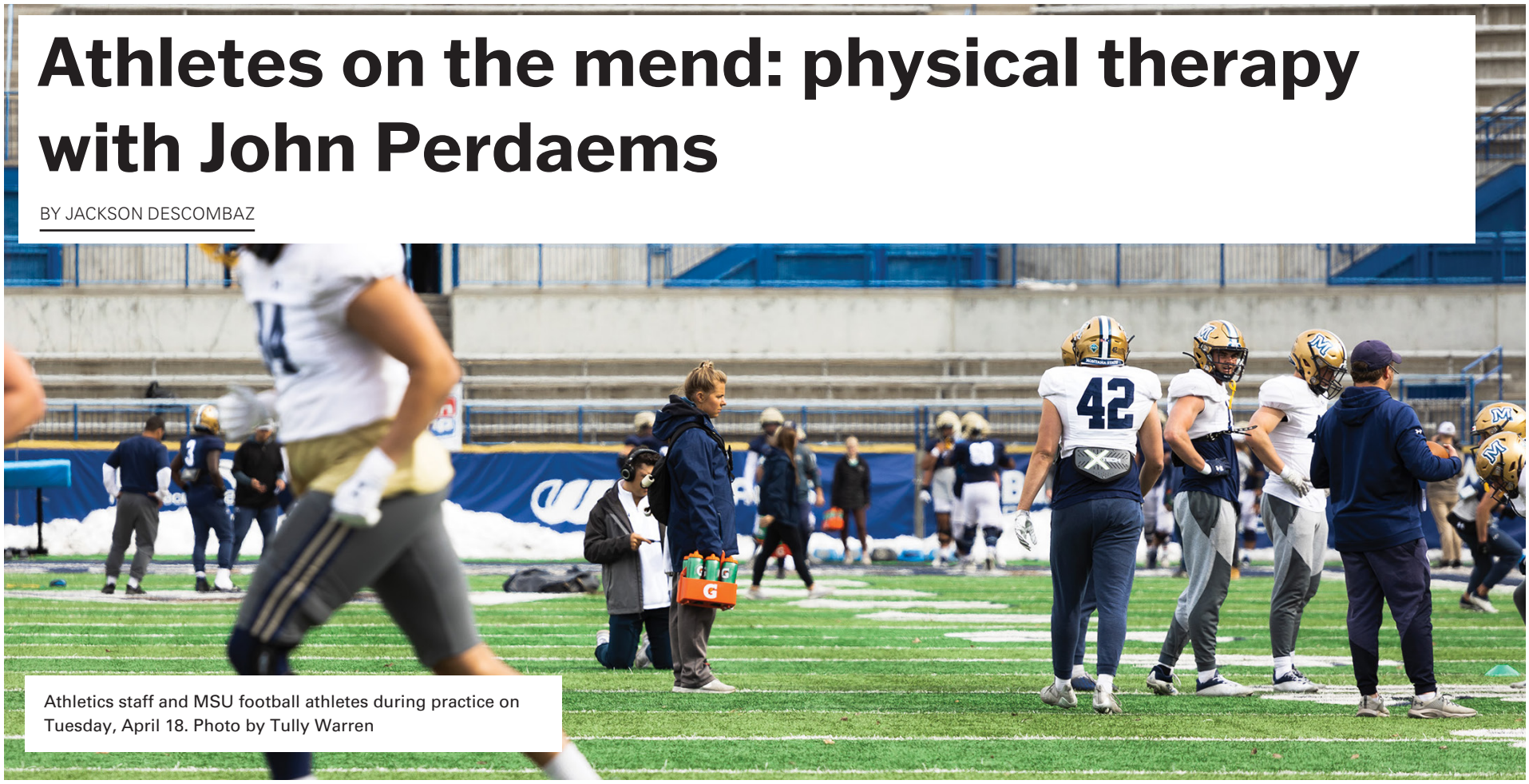


Illustration by Karstyn Clawson

Athletes on the mend: physical therapy with John Perdaems

BY JACKSON DESCOMBAZ



Athletics staff and MSU football athletes during practice on Tuesday, April 18. Photo by Tully Warren

With 15 varsity sports at MSU, injuries are a pretty common occurrence. The sports range everywhere from Rodeo to Skiing, but the most injuries come from football. In the 2022 calendar year alone, the football team had over 20 surgeries. The rehab for these injuries start with the MSU physical therapists and athletic trainers, a team of people who work behind the scenes to keep Bobcat athletes healthy.

John Perdaems, an MSU physical therapist, is one of the professionals involved in this effort, a partnership between Bozeman Health and MSU. He doesn't have a ton of work to do before a surgery or injury, but as the athletes begin their rehab process, his expertise is called into action.

"My role here is simply doing rehab. Everybody is motivated, you have to more or less slow people down in their rehab. Put on the brakes so they don't do too much too soon," Perdaems said. "It's always fun visiting with young people because they're all optimistic about their sports and future."

Although many can recover quickly,Perdaems said, a lot of injuries require a certain amount of time before players can get back out competing at 100%.

"I don't really have any dislikes; it's fun to work with everybody young because they're college-aged," Perdaems said.

The athletes get all sorts of injuries while competing and training. While some might think ACL and MCL injuries are the most common, it's not actually the case, Perdaems said. Back and neck injuries happen frequently from lifting. While track athletes don't have the same sort of dangerous contact that football players do, each sport regularly lifts weights and practices conditioning, Perdaems said.

"All kinds of back injuries, and neck too, but definitely more back. I would say that's our number one injury," Perdaems said.

While many athletes put a focus on getting back to competing as fast as possible, part of Perdaems' role is to keep an open mind looking ahead at the future. It's common to see athletes push themselves to the max whilst playing a sport in college and suffer the consequences later on.

"Assisting the athletics training staff in getting our varsity players back to full health, but also with an eye to the long-term. Hopefully catching injuries early, get them out of the inflammatory stage, rehab them back to playing shape and give them enough time and assistance to heal and hopefully avoid surgery," Perdaems said.

No matter the injury, MSU's student athletes are sure to be in good hands with Perdaems and the rest of the training staff.

"Assisting the athletics training staff in getting our varsity players back to full health, but also with an eye to the long-term. Hopefully catching injuries early, get them out of the inflammatory stage, rehab them back to playing shape and give them enough time and assistance to heal and hopefully avoid surgery." - John Perdaems, MSU physical therapist.

ASMSU Election Questionnaires 2023

Hey Bobcats! As the semester is inching closer to the end and classes are beginning to wrap up, it's time to think about something that is important for all MSU students: Elections for the Associated Students of Montana State University student government (ASMSU). Every year, ASMSU holds elections for the student body president and vice president, as well as for senators representing each college of the university and students as a whole.

These elections provide students the opportunity to make their voices heard and to have a say in student government. These are some big decisions to make, and you don't want to pass up voting in this election. We've asked candidates in these races to respond to questions about their policies in a series of questionnaires designed to make these decisions easier for you.

On the next print pages, you'll find information on the teams of candidates running for ASMSU president and vice president and what they wish to accomplish in their positions if elected.

Questionnaires for candidates running for ASMSU senate can be found online at *msuexponent.com*, or by scanning the QR code below. The senate positions going up for a vote include two seats to represent the College of Agriculture, one seat to represent the College of Arts and Architecture, two seats to represent the Jake Jabs College of Business, two seats to represent the College of Education Health and Human Development, four seats to represent the College of Engineering, four seats to represent the College of Letters and Science, one seat to represent the College of Nursing, one seat to represent University Studies and four at-large senate seats. You'll find the senate questionnaires separated into categories based on the colleges students are running for.

The senate questionnaires don't include every single candidate running for election to the ASMSU senate. The Exponent began reaching out to candidates on a rolling basis starting on April 10 as they filed for candidacy, through campaign information provided by the ASMSU elections director. Due to the tight turnaround between campaign announcements and the date of publication, some candidates who filed for election within the last week are not yet featured. Some candidates also haven't responded. Responses will be continually updated online as they are received.

Interested in hearing from these candidates first hand? On Monday, April 24, from noon to 1 p.m. on Malone Centennial Mall, there will be a general election debate where the teams running for ASMSU president and vice president will debate their policies, according to the ASMSU election timeline. The next day, April 25, students can join the candidates running for election for a barbecue on the Mall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Those are the last steps before general elections open for students to cast their ballots on April 25 and 26 at physical voting booths on the Mall, in the ASMSU office and in the Strand Union Building's Union Market.

SENATE CANDIDATES

As of the evening of April 19

Chase McCulloch: College of Letters and Science

William Swenson: College of Engineering

Zane Horst: At-Large

Wyatt Clark: College of Letters and Science

Madisen Dunne: College of Letters and Science

Taylor Bookwalter: College of Education/ HHD

Kyra Herronen: College of Engineering

Annika Lawrence: College of Nursing

Walter Scheldoef: College of Agriculture

Taryn Van Steeland: At Large

Paige LePard: College of Business

Strandvold Knudsen: At-Large

Marguerite Kibodeaux: College of Letters and Science

Kiala Hirsch: College of Letters and Science

Malcolm Wogoman: College of Engineering

Joel Kunzelmen: College of Letters and Science

Oliver Cole: College of Agriculture

Lorelei Michael-Owens: College of Letters and Science

Chase McCulloch: College of Letters and Science

William Swenson: College of Engineering

Lucy Hanacek: Letters and Science

Miller Rijfkogel: At-Large

Siera Harrison: College of Agriculture

Dylan Richards: College of Engineering

Rex Wu: College of Engineering

Wyatt Clark: College of Letters and Science

Madisen Dunne: College of Letters and Science

Josie Kaufman: At-Large

Lenny Triem: College of Arts and Architecture

Katie Delker: At-Large

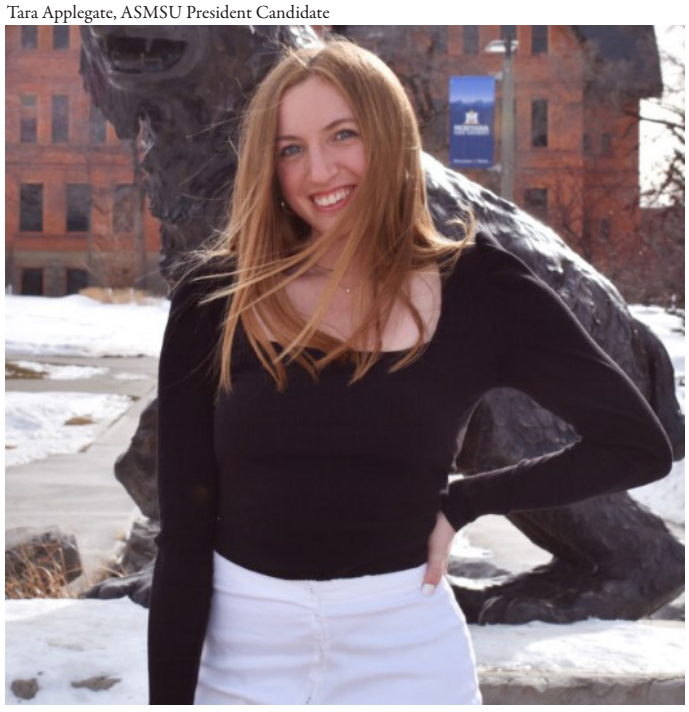
Scan here for the most up-to-date list of candidates and their answers

ASMSU

Executive Candidates Questionnaire

Tara Applegate and Jack Cambria

Tara Applegate, ASMSU President Candidate



Why are you running to be ASMSU executive team?

MSU has provided endless opportunities for personal growth, career development and the creation of community. We cherish the memories we've made so far here, and have been inspired by countless student leaders. We will enrich the student experience through student-centered engagement and service based collaboration across Our University. Amplifying Your Voice, we will better the already outstanding MSU Bozeman community.

What relevant experience equips you to be a part of the executive team?

We both have worked in multiple positions across campus the past three years. Jack has served as a Director on the ASMSU Events Team, member of the One O'Clock Jazz Band, Dr. Mary Cloninger's research group, an Ambassador for the Honors College, phlebotomist at Bozeman Deaconess Health, a student assistant in the MSU Cadaver Labs and the President and Founder of the Pre-healthcare Inclusiveness Project at MSU. Tara has served as the Public Relations Director for ASMSU, Vice President of Panhellenic, Marketing Director for RHA, a JAM mentor in JABS, a marketing intern for Bobcat athletics and has served on Pi Beta Phi's leadership team. Our diverse experience has provided us with leadership skills and relationships that will transfer into the executive positions.

What are your highest priorities as president and vice president?

We hope to strengthen areas of:
1. Health and Wellness- specifically mental health advocacy and access —o recreation
2. Safety— campus lighting, parties, and sexual violence prevention
3. Student Fee Allocation—collaboration, transparency, and allocation to service—centered programs

What ideas do you have to address these priorities?

Health and Wellness: We hope to increase health and wellness on campus through greater accessibility, promotion, and programming towards mental and physical health opportunities. We will address mental health and wellness through promotional campaigns for CPS, Listening Sessions with peer mentors, re-framing Let's Talk, and Mental Health Awareness programming. We will address physical health and wellness through engaging student athletic clubs on campus, working to provide graduate use of the gym and health services, and providing greater access to recreation on and off campus.

Safety: Safety is the top priority for us. It is key to students' success on campus and in the community. To address on campus safety we will increase campus lighting specifically with Blue lights that have been proven to decrease violence on campus. We will center our efforts to the prevention of sexual violence through programming and collaboration with the Voice Center, SASA, OIE, and OHA. Working with current ASMSU senator Katie Delker we hope to update the current sexual violence prevention education on campus. Our aim is to integrate the education into the seminar courses all students must take. In light of recent threats, we recognize the importance of timely and effective communication. We hope to continue to foster relationships with organizations on campus so we can best support them in their times of need.

Transparent Student Fee Allocation: We plan to organize fees into 3 categories: health, maintenance and activities. We want students to understand the resources they have access to, and pay for via student fees. In addition we hope to make club funding more accessible by implementing a service based funding model. Our goal is to reward students and clubs that already do community service by removing the red tape and automatically rewarding money based off of reported service hours. Transparent fees lead to increased confidence in our university.

On your campaign social media, you wrote that one of the areas you'd like to change is student fee transparency. Why do you think this is important and what plans do you have to make that happen?

As students we pay large sums of money to attend college.

Jack Cambria, ASMSU Vice President Candidate



Students are able to go into MyInfo and view the fees, but currently the way it's organized is hard to understand. We plan to organize fees into 3 categories: health, maintenance, and activities. We want students to understand the resources they have access to, and pay for via student fees. Student clubs and organizations should feel like ASMSU is advocating for their success and the success of all students. We hope to make club funding more accessible by implementing a service based funding model. Our goal is to reward students and clubs that already do community service by removing the red tape and automatically rewarding money based off of reported service hours. We want our clubs and organizations to feel empowered to continue to engage fellow students. Transparent fees lead to increased confidence and engagement at our university.

In a tweet (280 characters), why should MSU students vote for you?

We are Jack and Tara. Transforming OUR University through YOUR voice. Our involvement and experiences at MSU motivate us to promote a campus of health, wellness, and safety through informed student fee allocation. Make MSU better for you, Vote JT!

Jacob Zink and Melissa Ramirez

Jacob Zink, ASMSU President Candidate



Why are you running to be ASMSU executive team?

Zink: Bobcat Nation is built on integrity, care and compassion. Over the last year, we have lost touch with our roots, and our mission is to bring about tangible change today that fosters healthy growth tomorrow!

Ramirez: Running for a student body executive team is not a resume booster but instead allows individuals to actively participate in shaping the student community and advocating for student's needs and interests. Being a part of the executive team should not be a job taken lightly, as they are students representing other students that have put their trust in those positions. Moreover, serving as a student body executive team member also provides the chance to work closely with other student leaders, faculty and administrators, to help foster a community for ALL Bobcats!

What relevant experience equips you to be a part of the executive team?

Zink: My whole life, I have dedicated myself to serving others. In high school, I spent my weekends volunteering through my involvement in scouting which eventually led to my achieving the rank of Eagle. At MSU, I have involved myself in several organizations, including the Residence Hall Association (RHA) as a senator, Sigma Nu Fraternity as Community Service & Philanthropy Chair and Risk Reduction Chair, the Interfraternal Council (IFC) as Vice President of Communication and ASMSU as a current senator representing the College of Business. Through these experiences and others, I plan to continue to serve my community!

Ramirez: Being a leader in my community was a lesson I learned from a very young age, within my own experiences as a first-generation American, advocating for my people in Latin communities was a skill instilled in me. I took that a step further by joining organizations such as the FFA and 4H in high school which gave me lessons on community focus and leadership through the lens of accessible agricultural education. This led me to MSU organizations in which I have found a home in; First Generation Students Association, Office of Admissions Orientation Program, Fuerza Latinx, Political Science Society and ASMSU. Every Bobcat deserves to have the opportunity to establish their home and community at MSU. Having seen so many different parts of leadership has taught me the needed skills of leadership; compassion, action, and grace. Community experience equips me for this position of ASMSU VP partnered with my passion for service leadership, which includes empathy and a dedication to supporting others.

What are your highest priorities as president and vice president?

Zink and Ramirez: Over the next year, our mission is to improve the Bobcat experience through a culture of care. In the classroom, we will advocate for inclusive and equitable access textbook materials that mean cheaper textbooks for ALL students for students by the first day of class. Outside of the classroom, we will kick-off a student-run SafeRide Home program that gives students an Uber-like, no-questions-asked safe ride home from anywhere near campus to the student's home free of cost! Additionally, we will provide support to our student clubs and organizations by ensuring equitable funding opportunities and club support that puts students in the driver's seat for tackling critical issues facing our campus.

What ideas do you have to address these priorities?

Zink: Promises are easy, action is measurable! Through our work as senators, we have had the opportunity to break ground on every issue and project we aim to tackle. We plan to continue that momentum of action into the new year and give the Bobcat community tangible results.

Ramirez: It is very easy to promise things, we believe that action speaks way louder than words. The moment that Zink and I decided to run for ASMSU Execs was the day we took action. The priorities we hold are already being worked on with credible action items being produced every day. Something we have learned from our at-large student body is that action gets it done, as representative leaders, we must reflect this behavior in our own lives of leadership. Zink and I have passed ASMSU legislation, are working with school-wide groups, and have been a part of the allocation of funds to new student programs, clubs, and organizations. All this to institutionalize the Culture of Care. Community needs action and action should start now.

On your campaign social media, you wrote that you want to help students explore, engage and become active parts of ASMSU. Why do you think this is important and what plans do you have to make that happen?

Zink: ASMSU exists to amplify the student voice on campus, offer important programs and services, and engage students in a way that improves their collegiate experience! This mission can only be made possible through students like you! ASMSU offers so many opportunities to get involved from our art gallery to student political action, there is a place for every Bobcat to get involved and make our campus a better place. We plan to make this happen by regularly engaging with our clubs and organizations personally as our clubs are the backbone of our campus and hold so many unique and innovative ideas, perspectives and opportunities that are all important to tackling the challenges of tomorrow!

Melissa Ramirez, ASMSU Vice President Candidate



Ramirez: ASMSU is a student organization built by students for students. It is a part of our tradition, and we have to hold that as a priority. For that to happen, ASMSU must open the doors to ALL student input and put into action items. Students need to trust that their student representatives are doing what best serves all members of the Bobcat community. That means making ASMSU itself more accessible, open to growth and transparent with all constituents. Zink and I were able to co-sponsor a Bill that got passed for a project we had been working on with Senator Taryn Van Steeland, this bill made publishing our budget to the student body in more accessible and transparent manners for ASMSU funds. That way students know what they are paying for and why! We are excited to see this continue into the long-term action for ASMSU

In a tweet (280 characters), why should MSU students vote for you?

Zink: Ready for real action on campus? Vote Zink and Mel for ASMSU Exec! We are committed to fostering a culture of care through action, community and love! Vote for a brighter future and make your voices heard! #ZinkAndMel

Ramirez: Community is the foundation of Bobcat Nation. Together we can make a difference, a better tomorrow starts today, Bobcats! Join us for a brighter future with Zink and Mel! It'll be a guaranteed slay. Vote April 25 & 26! #ZinkandMel

*Each candidate for President and Vice President was given the opportunity to respond individually.

Designed by Briana Virella

The Rasmussen Bobcat rodeo dynasty

By Austin Swartzenberger



A packed stadium sings along to the national anthem as the flag is presented in the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse on Friday, April 14. Photo by Cady Allen

Just a few hours before the start of the MSU Spring Rodeo and his daughter's last rodeo in front of the home crowd, one of rodeo's greatest entertainers, Flint Rasmussmen, sat down in Brick Breeden Fieldhouse and reflected on his family's relationship with MSU.

"You look at these banners up here, there's a strong tradition of rodeo at this university and that is not forgotten at all with boosters and alums and President Cruzado and Leon Costello," Flint Ramussen said. "They are all in. It makes me proud that my girls are here."

Flint Rasmussen is best known for being the exclusive entertainer for the Professional Bull Riders (PBR) since 2005. Some people know him for his eight consecutive Clown of the Year awards while working for the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, as well as 'Coors Man in the Can' seven times.

Others may know him from his inductions in three separate rodeo hall of fames, including Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon Hall of Fame in 2011, the Saint Paul Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2014 and the Ellensburg Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2019. One thing people may be less likely to know is the Rasmussen family's deep connection with MSU.

"My parents are Bobcats. The girls' mom, my former wife, was a rodeo team member here. I come from a family of Bobcats." Flint Rasmussen said. "I did not go to Montana State, I went to Western Montana, but the whole time we were still Bobcats." The family became even more of a Bobcat household when his daughters, Shelby and Paige, both joined the rodeo team.

From a young age, Shelby and Paige were exposed to the rodeo lifestyle through Flint Rasmussen's job, though he credits their mother, Katie Grasky, for nurturing their skills in the arena.

"As early as junior high, Shelby, she really could ride a horse nice," Flint Rasmussen said. "We could see her climbing and growing to where she could go rodeo somewhere in college."

The younger daughter, Paige, also began to show an interest in rodeo. "Paige, she committed to it a little later and she's got a different skill set. She's really fast. They each have their own thing they are really great at," Flint Rasmussen said. "Early in high school we knew they would be somewhere doing this, and this [MSU] was, of course, part of the conversation."

Shelby and Paige both committed to rodeo for MSU and have played key roles for the organization. In 2021, they helped the women's rodeo team to a national title. Shelby has since graduated and has joined Head Coach Kyle Whitaker's staff as an assistant coach, and Paige is a senior graduating in the spring with a bachelor's degree in psychology.

"Shelby is so amazing for this program. She has transformed our women's team. She's transformed our practices and the culture on our team," Paige Rasmussen said. "To be able to see her step from my teammate to my coach, she just has grown so much and I'm so excited to see what she does next."

One strong aspect of team culture that has been on display is the way the rodeo community has rallied around Caleb Berquist. Berquist, a recent grad and rodeo star at MSU, was in an accident while working on his ranch in eastern Washington that left him with serious injuries to his knee and spine.

A GoFundMe set up for Berquist quickly surpassed the $50,000 goal and is now at over $86,000, and he continues to make progress in his recovery.

The team held a benefit before and during the

"I'm so proud to be a Bobcat, always. I love the energy in this building and being able to put on this vest. To be able to accomplish my goal of winning all-around, especially since it's my last one, makes it that much more special."

- Paige Rasmussen

rodeos, and profits went toward his recovery.

As for Paige, her dad speculates she may take a step back from rodeo after graduation. “She’s got a two month internship at MIT this summer. She’ll probably put rodeo on hold for a while, it’ll be fun to see where she goes,” he said.

However, Paige has a few more collegiate rodeos before its time to look towards the future. Before the rodeo began, Flint Rasmussen said “I kind of want her to come out for four days and kick everybody’s ass. That’s what I want her to do.” As the rodeo slowed down at the end of the championship events on Sunday, it became clear that Flint got his wish and that the rest of the MSU Rodeo team had followed suit.

MSU’s recent home rodeo was actually two rodeos, with the first one on Thursday and Friday and the second following on Saturday and Sunday. UM Western, MSU Northern, Miles Community College, UM, and Dawson Community College all came to Bozeman for the competition.

Both the men’s and the women’s teams came out on top and captured their respective team titles after rodeo number one. The women’s team had a sweep of the three individual events. Jessica Stevens won the goat tying, Haven Wolstein won the breakaway roping and Shai McDonald won the barrel racing.

Those strong finishes, along with good performances in the long go of goat tying and barrel racing from Paige Rasmussen and Molly Salmond, respectively, propelled the women’s team to the team title. Salmond and Wolstein shared the title of all-around cowgirl.

For the men’s team, Caleb Meeks won the long go of the saddle bronc riding and the duo of Jaden Whitman and Bode Spring finished first in the long go of the team roping event. Top three performances from Jace Bustad and Levi Delamarter in tie down roping, Cody Faulkner and Caleb Meeks in saddle bronc riding and a first place finish for Hayden Taylor in team roping helped the men’s team edge out UM Western for the team title.

Rodeo number two began with long go events on Saturday, and then was followed with a short go of each event on Championship Sunday. The women’s team captured the team title for the second time in 48 hours, while the men’s team finished second behind University of Montana Western.

For the men’s team, an injury to Cody Faulkner on Saturday derailed their attempt to capture the team title in the second rodeo. However, strong showings from Mike Nannini, Bode Spring, and Jace Bustad, coupled with Caleb Meeks winning the saddle bronc riding, allowed the men’s team to finish second.

After winning the saddle bronc event, Meeks said “It’s great to be able to come out in front of a packed crowd in the field house. We put on a good show and had a good rodeo.”

On the women’s side, they once again won each individual event. Meghan McGinley won breakaway roping, Alexis McDonald the barrel racing, and Paige Ramussen the goat tying. These performances secured the team title for the women, and Rasmussen won the all-around cowgirl honors.



An athlete from MSU Northern holds on tight during the bareback bronc riding event. Photo by Cady Allen

“I’m so proud to be a Bobcat, always. I love the energy in this building and being able to put on this vest,” Paige Rassmussen said. “To be able to accomplish my goal of winning all-around, especially since it's my last one, makes it that much more special.”

Designed by Briana Virella

MSU club baseball team shoots for spot in Regionals

BY WILLIAM MALIZIA

Only a few high stakes games this weekend stand between the MSU club baseball team and a chance to compete in the regional tournament for the National Club Baseball Association (NCBA).

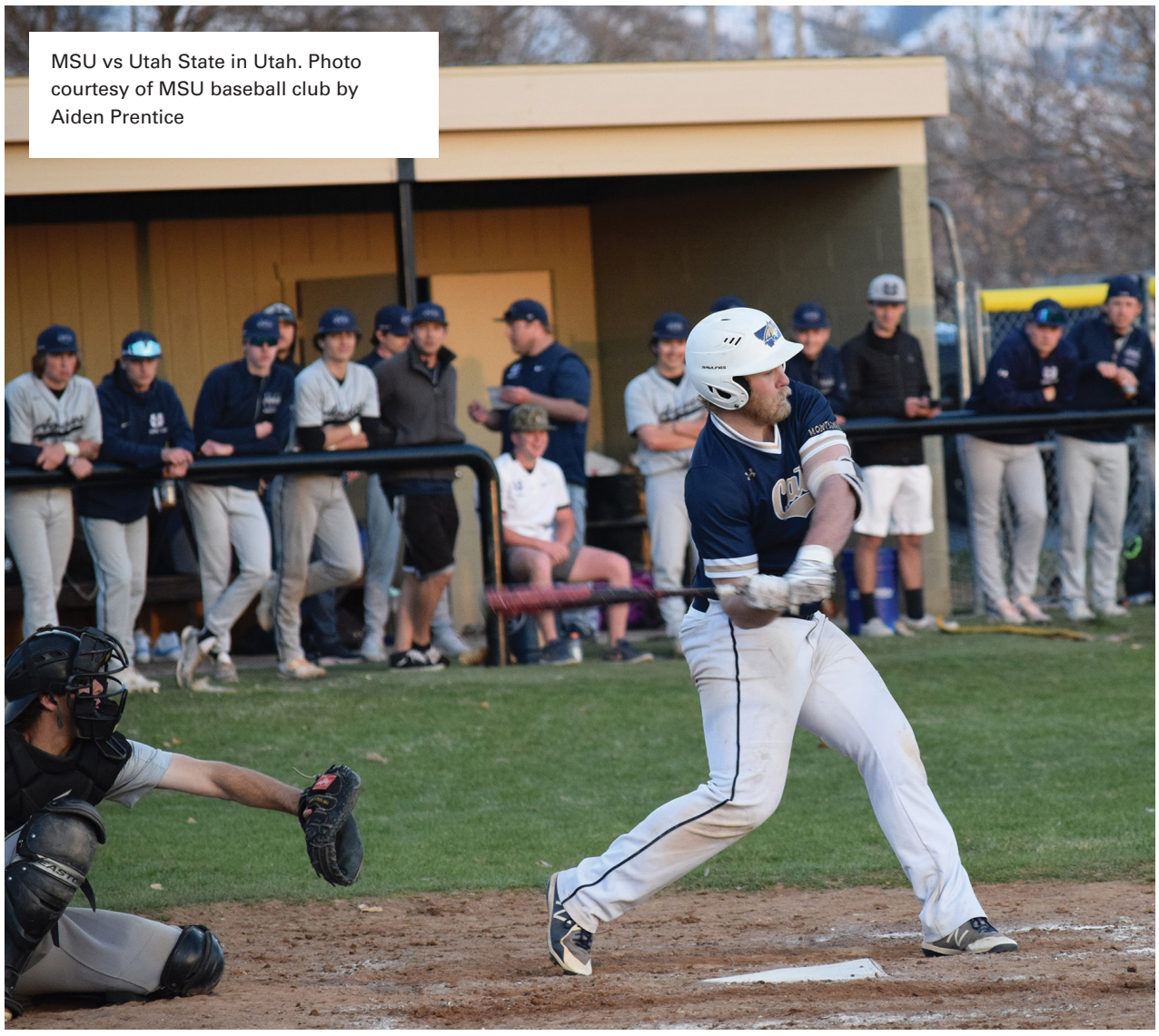
The team is approaching regionals at the same time as club sports across MSU, like the women's lacrosse and round net teams, who are staking their claim in other regional and national competitions.

Last year, the baseball team became a part of the NCBA, the governing body that oversees collegiate club baseball, for the first time.

It was also the first year the club reached regionals for the NCBA Northern Pacific East Conference.

According to Justin Cervi, club president and first baseman, "regionals is the top two teams from our conference, and it used to be a far out goal, or just something that maybe could have happened and this year we had over 50 kids try out for the team and we have a really good group of kids, enough to where regionals has become an expectation for us, essentially."

"There's a ton of players that can hit really well. And when we're on, I feel like the players feed off each other's energy."
- Justin Cervi, club president



MSU vs Utah State in Utah. Photo courtesy of MSU baseball club by Aiden Prentice

Cervi has high hopes for the team. "There's a ton of players that can hit really well. And when we're on, I feel like the players feed off each other's energy where one person gets a hit, another person gets a hit and then it's hard to get us out after that part," Cervi said.

According to volunteer Head Coach Joe Hoy, the club also provides an excellent outlet for students looking to build a community around an activity they love.

"I mean, they're 21 guys, and the camaraderie and the fun that these guys have together, I don't want to say their own fraternity, but they're kind of their own fraternity," Hoy said.

The club hosts tryouts every fall, usually beginning about a week after school starts, and their season began in October with a two game win over Weber State in a three game series.

Once the weather cleared up in the spring, the Bobcats played a series against the Gonzaga University Bulldogs at the end of March. They managed a remarkable comeback in the first game, where they were down seven in the final inning but ended up scoring eight runs, ultimately winning 9-8. The Bobcats came up short in the next two games, but it was still an impressive series.

Recently, the team had an electrifying weekend in Missoula, where they dominated the Montana Grizzlies in a series victory. After winning the first game 12-4 early on Saturday, April 8, they came up short later in the day, losing 1-7. Coming back on Sunday, April 9, the team managed a decisive 21-8 victory to win the series.

Last weekend, after these exciting victories, the Bobcats played Utah State, the number one team in their conference, and unfortunately lost the series. However, hopes for regionals are still high.

According to Hoy, whether MSU gets a spot at regionals will be decided during the team's upcoming series against Boise State and Idaho State.

"Basically we've got to win two out of three against Boise to keep our regional hopes alive. And then the next weekend we need to beat Idaho State three times," Hoy said.

The series against Boise State will occur this weekend on Saturday, April 22, and Sunday, April 23, at Kiwanis park in Belgrade. It will be the Bobcat's home opener and students are encouraged to attend.

"It should be fun, a fun atmosphere, and we'd love to see the student body turnout," Hoy said.

OPINION

Choose to Major in Humanities. The World Needs More of You.

BY TAY STRADIOTTO

On a campus that is primarily dominated by STEM majors, the humanities are discarded and overlooked. The humanities are our greatest hope and greatest strength as a society. We need creativity, emotion, literature and media more than ever in order to create a more well rounded society. Majoring in art, English, language or cultural studies makes you an asset in a world that has forgotten the beauty of life.

The idea that curiosity, creativity and empathy are unruly traits that must be reined in to ensure success is false. The human touch has never been more essential in the workplace than it is today. With jobs in the humanities, you don't have to mask your true identity to get paid for your strengths. You don't need to apologize for the supposedly impractical classes you took in college or the so-called soft skills you have acquired.

The study of the humanities inevitably deepens and fundamentally alters our often-narrow concepts of life. As the humanities range over cultures and genres, from ancient texts to modern films and popular cultures, they expand the boundaries of our minds.

The humanities help us understand others through their languages, histories and cultures. They teach and foster social justice and equality. The humanities offer solutions and skills in order to tackle the world's issues.

History: Studying the past helps us understand where we've come from. We learn from past success and past mistakes in order to help us deal with the future.

English: Explore the great themes of human interaction and better understand each other. English majors provide highly transferable skills. Leaders with excellent communication skills are needed in the field of change management. Marketers who can write clear branding content can help companies thrive.

Sociology: Understand human behavior, culture and the workings of society. Sociology majors learn reasons for social differences, including differences in social behavior, reasons for the differentials in group opportunities and outcomes and the relevance of social hierarchies and social power in everyday life.

Philosophy: Think well, clearly, ethically and logically. Teaches rhetorical concepts that develop your critical thinking skills, including your ability to understand issues from multiple perspectives and envision creative solutions to problems. These skills are valuable in any job. Being able to think in abstract terms helps you think about concrete ones.

Politics: Learning about political processes and their impacts will help us understand how social and political change occurs. Both locally and globally, we can make informed decisions on a wide range of topics - including international relations, public policy, legal systems, human rights and economic development.

Indigenous studies: If we're trying to create a world worth living in, a fuller understanding of the perspective of our Indigenous population is essential.

The humanities are essential to the success of society. They enrich the human experience and teach us how to live fully and passionately. A humanities degree will not only fulfill much needed careers in our world, but a fulfilling career for you as well.

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Community packs in for the first Asian Multicultural Night

BY ALYSSA STARR

Last weekend, the Asian Interracial Student Association (A.S.I.A) hosted its first-ever Asian Multicultural Night. The event represented 12 Asian countries through A.S.I.A's partnerships with other student associations and even larger non-profits representing Asian Americans.

Doors for the event opened at 4 p.m., guests slowly trickled in, plated up some traditional foods, and gathered around round tables near the back of the Strand Union Building (SUB) ballrooms.

Many different dishes were served at the event, including chicken kabsa, a Middle Eastern cuisine and a Korean meal called japchae. There was also sel roti, a Nepali dish and a Filipino dessert called turon. Among these were a few other types of food that represented Indian, Nepali and Chinese cultures.

Attendees then had time to socialize, sample food and circulate to see a few booths which displayed symbolic plants and customary toys and games. Notably, A.S.I.A partnered with a group called the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office of Seattle (TECO-Seattle), which brought traditional Taiwanese toys to share with the younger members of our community.

Unfortunately, they ran out of food very quickly at the event, and the group noted that ordering more food for future events was a high priority.

"I could just hear my grandma, my Lola, in the back of my head being like, 'I can't believe you ran out of food.' That's a big no-no, especially when a lot of our events and cultures are centered around food. So, next year, twice as much," said President of A.S.I.A., Olivia Gervacio Jakabosky.

About half an hour after I arrived, Siddat Nesar, one of the emcees, hopped on stage and announced that the event was about to begin and to take a seat. Seconds later, a Bollywood song played over the speakers, and Nesar declared that he was still waiting for his partner, Gloria Baldevia. Simultaneously, the people sitting in the first few rows on either side of the stage rushed up to join Neasar on stage.

The song started slowly, and the people on stage looked slightly confused as they gradually organized themselves into a line. However, as the tempo picked up, it became clear to the audience and myself that the people who mysteriously stormed the stage had meticulously practiced the choreography routine they were performing.

After the Bollywood dance, the president and vice president of A.S.I.A hopped on stage to thank their sponsors for the event, which included a special message from Senator Jon Tester.

A.S.I.A then presented a fashion show which included a catwalk addition to the stage that allowed the models to show off their best vogue, smize and spin, up close and personal with the audience. Over 25 students represented eight counties as they strutted down the runway to showcase traditional attire.



Flags of Asian countries represented at the event were carried onto stage at the Asia Student Alliance Night on April 16th, 2023. Photo by Sam Negen

The rest of the night presented more traditional dances and music performances from various countries in Asia. The night concluded with a final dance, which included all the A.S.I.A. officers. Overall, it was a lively night full of celebration and energy in the SUB ballrooms and a very successful event for the team of over eight people who helped plan the event.

"After putting in a lot of effort over the past few months, it feels very fulfilling to have someone come up to you and say that we really enjoyed the event," said A.S.I.A Vice President Aishik Biswas.

If you want to get involved with A.S.I.A, you can find them at Catapalooza in the fall. But if that's too long of a wait, you can contact them via Instagram *@asia_montanastate* or email them at *asia.montanastate@gmail.com*.



DAR CALEN

APRIL 20 - 26

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

THU 20

CLIMATE WEEK: PUBLIC HEALTH, CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITY
LEON JOHNSON HALL, 339 @ 10:50 A.M. - 12:05 P.M.
Scientists Rob and Lori Byron will discuss climate change through the lens of health and equity. The event is free to attend, and there will be free popcorn.

BOBCAT SHOWCASE: HEADWATERS BRASS QUINTET
CENTENNIAL MALL PLAZA @ 11:45 A.M. - 12:15 P.M.
The Headwater Brass Quintet will perform for about 30 minutes as part of the week of belonging.

FRI 21

CLIMATE WEEK: FACULTY AND STUDENT SEMINAR AND NEXTGEN ECO FEST
WILSON HALL 1-132 @ 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
EMERSON CENTER FOR THE ARTS @ 5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Panelists Mary Stein and Tony Hartshorn will discuss the climate changes in agriculture and biodiversity. Later in the day, there will be live music, drinks and speeches on climate change at the Emerson. These events are free and open to the public.

MUSIC POP-UP PERFORMANCE
NORM ASBJORNSON HALL @ 12:50 - 1:10 P.M.
The MSU cello, bass studio, and Professor Julia Slovarp will perform a small ensemble between morning and afternoon classes.

SAT 22

SPRING FOOTBALL GAME AND YARD SALE
BOBCAT STADIUM @ 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Have you been missing football? Well, you are in luck, because the 2023 Bobcat Football team will kick off at 1 p.m. Before the game, a yard sale will occur from 9-12p.m.

EARTH DAY ART UNVEILING
CITY HALL PARKING LOT @ 5 P.M.
An art exhibit by Revitalise Relatives by artists Ben Pease and Jim Madden will be revealed, which has been three years in the making.

SUN 23

SENIOR VOICE RECITAL
HOWARD HALL, 108 @ 3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Faith Himmel and Hannah Fischer will showcase the songs they have worked on throughout their studies.

BIG SKY CLOSING DAY
BIG SKY SKI RESORT @ 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Get some final turns in this ski season at Big Sky's closing day.

MON 24

GRADCAT SPRING SUMMIT
STRAND UNION BALLROOMS @ 8:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.
This conference-style event will consist of several presentations and workshops for graduate students.

DESTRESS FEST: YOGA
NORTH DOME @ 12:15 AND 4:30 P.M.
Come center yourself and release stress with a free yoga class. Mats will be provided, or you can bring your own.

PAWS TO DE-STRESS
FIRST FLOOR OF THE LIBRARY @ 9:00 - 11:00 A.M.
As the semester comes to an end, take a moment for yourself to join the dogs of Intermountain Therapy Animals to help de-stress.

TUE 25

HONORS PRESENTS: REFUGEES AND FORCED MIGRATIONS IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD
WILSON 1-132 @ 1:00 - 2:00 P.M.
Join Dr. Elizabeth Nelson in exploring how the recent influx of Ukrainian refugees has influenced European citizens and policymakers.

MUSIC POP-UP PERFORMANCE
JAKE JABS HALL @ 12:50- 1:10 P.M.
The Tuba Euphonium Ensemble will be performed between morning and afternoon classes.

WED 26

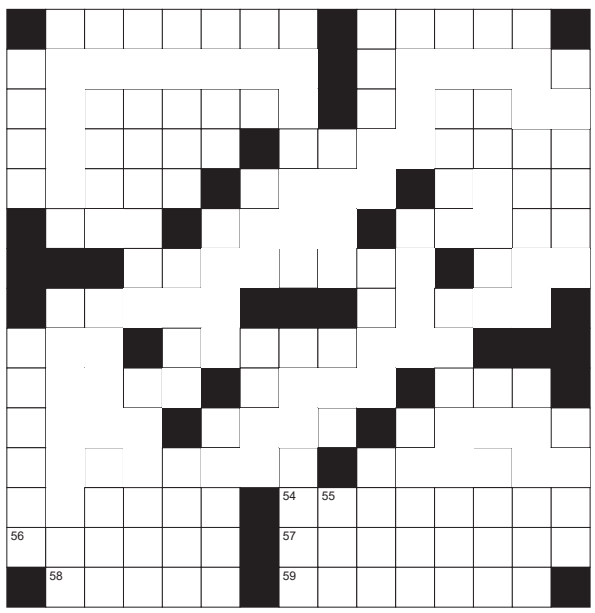
BAM SACRED ROOTS EXHIBIT
BOZEMAN ART MUSEUM @ 11 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Spend your day exploring how this exhibit explores the symbolic representation of flora in art.

PUZZLES

Brought to you by the MSU exponent

Love the Exponent? Follow us @MSUExponent!
For solutions, visit Printable-Puzzles.com and enter puzzle code.

CODE: PZ6P37G6



Across

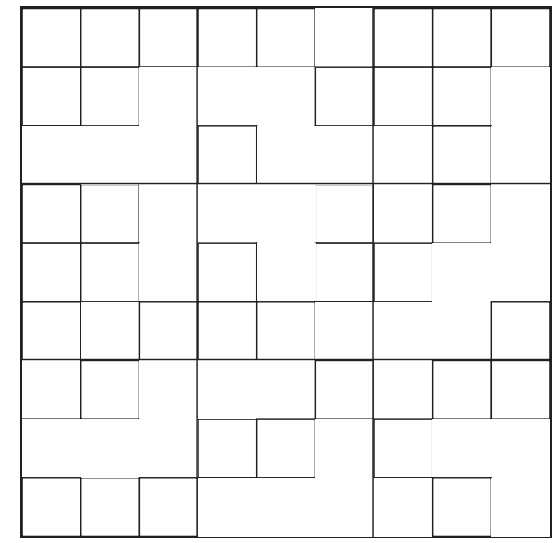
1. Thieves
8. Union meeting spot
13. Have soup and a sandwich, perhaps
14. Like some rye bread
16. Pithy person
17. Patty topper
18. Seen
19. Ancestor of the modern horse
21. Bankrupt energy giant
22. The Beatles' "Let ____"
23. Other, in Oaxaca
24. With "J," start of a Bach cantata
25. "____ have to do"
26. "That's ___your head!"
27. Genesis tune
30. Winning symbol
31. "___ Buddies": Tom Hanks sitcom
33. ___ up (relented)
35. Admiral's org.
36. Liquid measure or small person, in slang
40. "You ___ Beautiful": Joe Cocker hit
42. Riff-____
43. FAA concern
46. Wave for hair
47. Informed
48. "I don't believe you!"
50. Tutu and Mandela
52. Composer Strauss
53. Hang around
54. Inscrutable
56. Tin Lizzie
57. Flamboyant pianist
58. Midterms and finals
59. "I'm game!"

Down

1. Plunder
2. Additional ones
3. One-sided wins
4. Martin Van ___
5. Bagnold or Blyton
6. Some colas
7. Jewish villages
8. Old ___ hills
9. Sainted fifth-century pope
10. Musical beats
11. Able to conform
12. Came back
13. Gutter location
15. Single shot, perhaps
20. Beatles nonsense syllables
22. Cousin on "The Addams Family"
25. Words before camera or rock
26. ____ Bator, Mongolian capital
28. Jolly laugh
29. 1970s teen idol Garrett
31. Simon's "___ in the Park"
32. Nullify
34. "Don't go out!"
35. Fire bomb substance
37. Author Hubbard
38. In error
39. Lifejacket (abbr.)
41. Strikes hard
44. Claw
45. Gloomy ones
47. Fruit pies
48. Roadside stopover
49. Confer suffix
51. Boston NBAer, briefly
52. Steve of Apple
55. Du, politely

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	6					8		
			5	1			6	
	7		6	3		1		
2					1			
				5		9		3
4	1		9			7		
	3	2				6		
		5	7	8			4	

CODE: U788HI



CODE: L8210W

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T	H	E	R	E	V	E	R	Y	D	A	Y	U	M	O
S	R	E	S	I	S	T	C	E	J	N	I	N	I	B
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CODE: R991TT

Areas
Balls
Bookshops
Browbeat
Burst
Clasp
Courage
Crusted
Curios
Differential
Eminently
Evasions
Everyday
Final
Getaway
Hashes
Hobbles
Idled
Incur
Inject
Jingle
Migrants
Misunderstands
Omnipotent
Paved
Peacemakers
Pewter
Rayon
Resist
Richer
Short
Sighs
Skein
Spire
Stunk
Taper

the BOX

Everyday I fight the overwhelming urge to

_____

Pull the cord at the eyewash station

Commit felonies

Descend into darkness

Kiss men

Eat all the new spring snow

Fight

Not go to class

Steal a duck

Eat my weight in nerds clusters

Buy a goose

Shout (not sing) ABBA

Move to Uruguay and pursue acrobatics

Seize the means of production

Kelp

Buy more lotto tickets

Run away to Scotland

Spontaneously combust

Overthrow the hierarchy of ducks that is apparent at the pond

Steal food from Norm

Destroy the patriarchy

Have an urge

Actually use my sticky notes

Tall Tales & TIDBITS

MSU forced me to write this.