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Montana Kaimin, 1898-present

Associated Students of the University of
Montana (ASUM)

10-28-1998

Montana Kaimin, October 28, 1998

Associated Students of the University of Montana

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Moondance



James V. Shipley/Kaimin

Nicole Wilcott demonstrates aerial dance moves Monday evening in the P.A.R.T.V. building.

ASUM and mayor oppose CI-75

Nate Schweber
Kaimin Reporter

At a press conference Tuesday afternoon, Missoula Mayor Mike Kadas and ASUM stood unified in their support of funding for higher education in Montana. They supported the six-mill levy and opposed CI-75.

"It's simply a vote of confidence in the university system," Kadas said.

The conference was called in conjunction with ASUM's release of a report on the negative impacts that could come if CI-75 was passed. CI-75 is the initiative requiring all tax increases to be voted on. ASUM's report, entitled "The Right Choice for Education," was written by ASUM Legislative Director Ben Darrow.

Darrow said that more than a decade ago CI-66, which, like CI-75, called for all tax increases in Montana to be put to a vote, was turned down by Montanans.

"CI-75 is an attempt to pass a law Montanans already rejected," Darrow said.

Kadas said he's opposed to CI-75 because it will flood each yearly ballot with proposed tax increases. Kadas said these will range from building fees to office requests to spend more money on copying documents.

"With 40 or 50 issues on the ballot, people won't have the time or desire to study every issue," Kadas said.

Kadas added, "This is also a basic affront to the notion of representative democracy."

Kadas said that CI-75 is also opposed by the Montana Taxpayers Association, Missoula Chamber of Commerce, League of Cities and Towns, Senior Citizen's Association, PTA Board of Directors and Education Association.

Kadas said that even if the six-mill levy passes, CI-75 must still be voted down. The levy will not be heard by the legislature until January and if CI-75 goes into immediate affect, the six-mill levy will have to be put to another vote after January. This would leave Montana colleges without the \$14 million in revenues the levy raises for at least a year.

"It's just an unfair burden to the university," Kadas said.

Begun in the 1920s as a less-than-two-percent property tax, the six-mill levy has been voted on and approved in its current rate since the 1940s. It comes up for re-election every 10 years.

Kadas said that in his eight years serving on the education subcommittee of the state legislature's appropriations committee, almost 100 percent of all monetary shortfalls were compensated by raising tuition.

ASUM President Barrett Kaiser said that if the levy fails it could mean a tuition hike of up to 25 percent, cut programs and the loss of an educational opportunity for many UM students.

Is Montana ready for citizen vote on taxation?

BALLOT: CI-75 would put taxation in the hands of the voters; foes claim it would reduce the effectiveness of representatives

Editor's note: This is the SIXTH in a series of articles analyzing the seven statewide ballot issues. The stories are produced by students at The University of Montana's School of Journalism, and are meant to provide a balanced look at each issue before the Nov. 3 ballot.

Eric Romstad
for the Kaimin

Americans forged a revolution with the phrase "no taxation without representation," but a group of Montanans hopes to take that idea — itself a radical notion in 1776 — a step further come Nov. 3.

"No taxation without a public vote" is the essence of Constitutional Initiative 75, a measure on the statewide ballot this year.

"It's a matter of simple fairness," says Joe Balyeat, chairman of Montanans for Better Government, the organization

that collected enough signatures to put CI-75 on the ballot. "Taxpayers who pay the tab ought to have a real voice on how much."

Critics, however, say CI-75 could mean the end of representative government as we know it.

"We elect representatives to make these decisions and if they're not doing the job you elected them for then we have an established way to get rid of them," says Alec Hansen, director of the Montana League of Cities and Towns, one of a

number of government-related organizations fighting the measure. "CI-75 is contrary to the way we've been doing business

for over 200 years."

In a nutshell, CI-75 would require that all new or increased taxes passed by the Legislature, local governments or school districts be approved by the voters in an annual tax election.

What's more, the measure defines tax as any "financial charge," which means it would

See "CI-75" page 5



Pearl Jam or bust? Concerts more costly than profitable

CONCERTS: Expensive wiring systems, arena renovations pull UM Productions closer to red

Nate Schweber
Kaimin Reporter

Pearl Jam shattered all records for concert attendance in Montana last June when they hurricane-rocked Washington-Grizzly Stadium. Unfortunately, they also broke UM Production's budget.

"We knew it would be painful when we did that," UM Productions director John McCall said. "We're in a difficult

situation this year."

In order to host the Pearl Jam concert, UM Productions needed \$25,000 worth of wiring to give the band's amps their juice and stage its lights. Unfortunately, UM Productions didn't have the budget for this.

Amazingly, Pearl Jam's producer, Beaver Productions, offered to pay for half the wiring and then let UM Productions keep it. McCall said this donation by Beaver Productions not only enabled UM Productions to do the Pearl Jam show, but the wiring will be essential for all the stadium shows planned for the future.

McCall said UM Productions could easily regain the costs of the wiring, except for the fact that Adams Field House, the

venue where smaller concerts are usually held, is out of commission until November 1999, and the UC ballroom will be closed for renovations come spring semester. He said these are the venues where UM Productions makes the bulk of its money by holding concerts.

To recoup their losses, UM productions received \$12,586.13 from ASUM. ASUM business manager Brad McCall said the funds came from ASUM's STIP account, which mainly consists of the interest from student fees and ticket sales from UM Productions shows. For example, the half-million in ticket sales from the Pearl Jam concert sat in the STIP account for more than two months, earning \$5,000 in interest. Last year

UM Productions contributed more than \$12,000 to the fund.

McCall said UM productions had not tapped into the fund in eight years and before the donation to UM Productions, the STIP fund totaled about \$50,000.

"I see no reason why UM Productions should not get these funds," he told the senate before they unanimously voted to give it to them.

UM Productions' McCall said that under normal circumstances, UM Productions is a self-sustaining operation that recoups its costs through concert sales.

"It's just that this year we have none of the tools we need to be self-sufficient," he said. "Next year we'll be right back on track."

OPINION

editor@selway.unt.edu

Now playing: 'Fear and Lotion in Missoula'

COLUMN: A Gonzo journalist's look at male bonding and birthdays

I should have seen the warning signs. They were as blatant as a \$50 hooker in front of the passenger terminal at Chicago O'Hare on a muggy August night.

He stood poised in front of Rockin' Rudy's, languishing, with a small paper sack in his hand. I recognized him immediately as a comrade-in-arms, a member of the Fourth Estate. Another budding journalist. He was Nate Schweber.

As I guided the Blue Beast into the nearest parking slot, I noticed he was rather unsettled - fidgeting about, and fondling the bag in his hand, as if it were some type of obtuse Christian prayer symbol. I dismissed his jitters as a manifestation of the half-gallon of Columbian roast coffee that I had consumed earlier at breakfast.

As I made my way toward the front door with my female companion/attorney, I cheerily acknowledged him. A fatal error in judgment, as I now ponder that day.

"John A. Reed," Nate exclaimed, gesturing at me in his usual Mick Jagger-ish fashion. That was nothing unusual, in and of itself. Nate always addressed me as though I was being called for jury duty downtown.

I returned his greeting and asked, innocently enough, what he was doing there on this crystal-clear October day.

"It's Cielle's birthday," he replied, "and I got her this purse."

Nate proudly displayed his purchase; a multi-colored fabric number, usually seen in the possession of young women of standing. Especially one's girlfriend.

"But, I want to get her something else," he lamented. "Got any ideas?"

That should have been the signal to run for high ground, batten down the hatches or abandon ship - whatever means necessary to get me out of there before I became

the unwitting good birthday samaritan.

But it was too late. I was lost. Nate sunk his hooks into me like a side of fresh beef at the local packing

plant. There I stood - a man about town, worldly in the ways of wooing women, and certainly a veteran shopper for such amenities.

My always-helpful companion/attorney broke the ice; "How about some body lotion from Body Basics?" She added that no self-respecting woman could resist the temptations of liquid gold. She should know. I've tempted her before.

I had to agree that a nice \$4 sampling of body lotion would make the ideal complement to the purse. Why, one could even hide the stuff inside the purse for a more daring approach.

But that would have been too simple. Oh, no. You can't

just walk into Rockin' Rudy's, stroll back to Body Basics' counter and order up some aloe vera lotion with "China Rain" scent.

My God, man. Are you daft? That's certainly not the type of thing any virile, college-aged male would be caught doing. Sweet Jesus! Think of the ramifications if you were seen by friends or co-workers.

No, Nate was sure that I must be the purveyor of potions on this day. I must accompany him in his holy quest. One would have thought we were buying condoms at Rexall. At this point, there was no turning back. I felt like Teddy Roosevelt storming San Juan Hill. Charge!

We ducked through the CD racks, around the posters of Elvis and dashed headlong toward the lotion counter. Christ, there it was!

After a few minutes of foot shuffling and clearing his throat, Nate finally capitulated. He made peace with the urge to bolt for the exit, screaming that no mortal man should have to endure such agony.

He opted for the handy-dandy, 4-ounce bottle of medium-weight aloe lotion. A fine choice, I might add, after wafting the aroma of "China Rain" across my nostrils.

As we walked gingerly from the confines of the store out into the sunlight, Nate and I breathed a collective sigh of relief.

We had met the beast...and beaten it. Nate was sure to become a legend.

As for me, I was sure that some vestige of manhood had been redeemed on this day - even if it wasn't mine.



John Reed



the UC. For more info call Josh Grenz at 549-5237.

Free presentation - on Gerontology, the study of aging and the aged, 4 p.m., in Gallagher 382.

Thursday, Oct. 29

Lecture and Slide Show - "Across the White Plains: 1600 Miles Across Antarctica" with Sunniva Sorby, 7 p.m., in Urey Lecture Hall, \$5 general/\$3 with Griz Card.

Workshops - Center for Leadership Development: Time Management for Women, 3-4:30 p.m., UC MT rooms; Living in a Diverse Community Workshop, 6-7:30 p.m., UC MT rooms; Communication Skills, 7-8:30 p.m., UC MT rooms.

Concerts - Jay's Upstairs 119 West Main, featuring Everyday Sinners, Okra Pickles, Hiperlopro, 10 p.m.

Documentary Showing and Guest Speakers - of "Wild Night" by Alliance for the Wild Rockies and the Environmental Action Community, will show documentary "Beyond Borders, Wildlands of the Northern Rockies." Guest speakers include Howie Wolke and Bryony Schwan. At the Union Hall 208 E. Main, 2nd floor, 7 p.m.

Concert - with singer/songwriter Richard Thompson, 8 p.m., the University Theatre. Tickets \$15 advance or \$17 the day of the show.

Meeting - People for Peace, 7 p.m., UC 215.

Wednesday, Oct. 28

Workshops - Center for Leadership Development: Living in a Diverse Community, 1-2:30 p.m., UC MT rooms; Balanced Life/Time Management, 3-4:30 p.m., UC MT rooms; History of Women Leaders Workshop, 6-7:30 p.m., UC room 207; Teamwork/Problem Solving workshop, 7-8:30 p.m., UC MT rooms.

Concerts - Jay's Upstairs 119 West Main, featuring Wallow, From Beyond, The Cleaners, and 88 Fingers Louie, 10 p.m., \$2-\$4 for those 21 and over and \$5-\$6 for those 18 and up.

Workshop - Career Resources on the Internet, 4 p.m. in the Career Services office in the Lodge basement; Call and sign up at x2022

Interview - for Computer Science /CIS/MIS/IS/ Business /Biology/Chemistry/Health Sciences/English/Math/Psychology majors, with a minimum 3.0 GPA. Job title: Systems Analyst & Application Specialist, in the Office of Career Services, Lodge 148.

Poetry Reading - by the Buttered Toast Society, 6:30 p.m., on the second floor of

Montana Kaimin

Our 101st Year

The Montana Kaimin, in its 101st year, is published by the students of The University of Montana, Missoula. The UM School of Journalism uses the Montana Kaimin for practice courses but assumes no control over policy or content.

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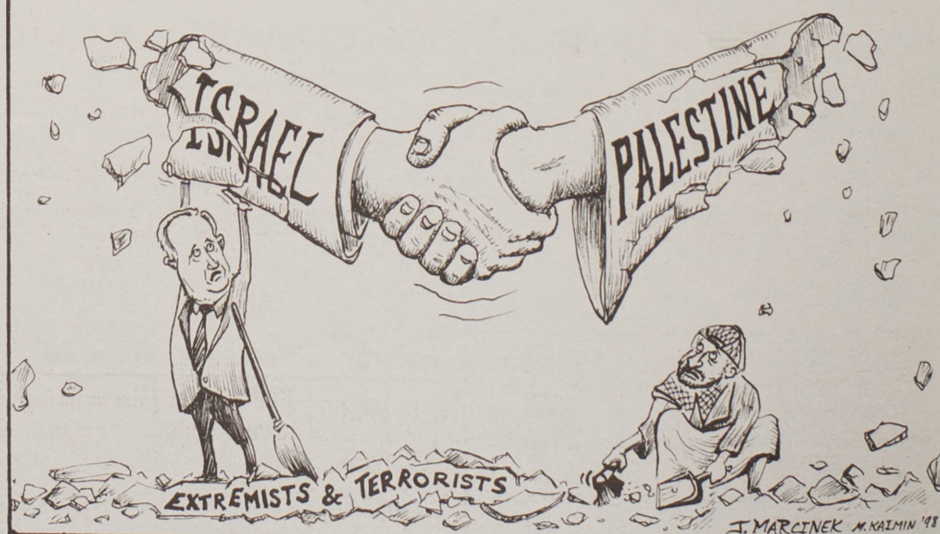
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THE MIDEAST PIECE PROCESS



J. MARCINEK M. KAIMIN '98

OPINION

editor@selway.umd.edu

Letters to the Editor

Zero cut legislation long overdue

As many of you know, last year when I was running for ASUM president, I was heavily criticized for supporting Zero Cut legislation that would end commercial logging on public lands. Much of this criticism came from the Society of American Foresters and their politicos in "Another View." I would like to explain why support for Zero Cut legislation is both rational and long overdue.

Each year, in a case of corporate welfare, the American taxpayers spend nearly \$1 billion to log their national forests. This, despite the fact that the American people are overwhelmingly opposed to commercial logging on their national forests. A recent

poll (conducted by the same polling agency that works for Newt and Bob Dole) shows that 69 percent of the American public wants an end to logging of national forests.

We can clearly see the results of excessive logging on our national forests. 95 percent of our native forests have been cut. Our national forests are fragmented with 440,000 miles of roads, our trout streams are choked with silt, and much of our wildlife is inching toward extinction. Is this the rational result of our technology? Should we continue down the same old path as we approach the next century?

Last fall, Representative Cynthia McKinney (D-Ga.) and Jim Leach (R-Iowa) introduced the National Forests Protection and Restoration Act. This bipar-

tisan bill would bring an end to commercial logging on federal lands and redirect the Forest Service timber budget to ecological restoration, worker retraining, deficit reduction, non-wood fiber research and community assistance.

Don't believe the myth that we need to log National Forests to provide wood products. Less than four percent of our wood supply comes from our National Forests. Also, don't believe the myth that our economy is somehow dependent upon commercial logging on national forests. Even in the timbered counties of western Montana, logging on national forests provides less than one percent of total employment. According to the Forest Service, by the year 2000, recreation, fishing and hunting will provide 31 times more income and 38

times more jobs than logging on national forests. If anything, the economy of western Montana depends on healthy, intact ecosystems. The timber industry's plot of pitting timber workers against environmentalists has been exposed. Clearly, it is not "jobs versus the environment." Rather, it is "jobs and environment."

Zero Cut would not end all logging in Montana. In fact, over 80 percent of the timber cut in our state comes from lands other than national forests. Perhaps we as students could convince President Dennison to use his pull on the Plum Creek board of directors for the benefit of Montana workers. Maybe he could convince Plum Creek to stop exporting Montana timber and Montana jobs out of state. Perhaps President Dennison could stand up for

Montana and tell Plum Creek not to "cut and run," leave us with clearcuts and subdivisions.

It is time we as Americans take back our lands that have been raped and abused by the timber industry, Forest Service and Congress. The American people do not want their national forests logged, and neither do I.

Bryce Smedley
senior, anthropology



♪ Let it be... ♪
no longer than
300 words.
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your letters.

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eye spy

the MONTANA KAIMIN Arts and Entertainment Section



by
Kevin Van Valkenburg
Kaimin sporty-artsy guy

Missoula Children's Theatre director Jim Caron will always be a man close to my heart.

To the audience Sunday night, he was simply "Tevye" in the play "Fiddler on the Roof." "Fiddler" tells the story of a poor Jewish family, caught up in the sweeping politics of Russia in 1905, who together strive to continue the rich tradition of faith and love in the small town of Anatevka.

For me, the imposing white-bearded man who played Tevye was the first

director to usher my short, but very-eventful stage career, when he cast me as Hanzel in the musical version of "Hanzel and Gretel." I was 12 years old.

Times have changed since my pimply-faced wonder years, and MCT has survived and even prospered without me. Caron and company have raised \$5 million over the years and built a spacious and majestic theater that Caron proudly debuted this weekend, in true dramatic thespian style with "Fiddler."

"Fiddler's" opening scene starts with the famous song "Tradition." Caron's booming voice, I learned, still catches me in awe like it did when I was 12. As a child, my mother had my sister and I watch the movie version of the play starring Chaim Topol over and over again, until we knew the songs by heart. That's why throughout the performance, I found it hard not to sing or hum along with the catchy tunes of "If I Were a Rich Man" and "Matchmaker."

But since I'm older and wiser, I found that understanding the play's themes like family values, religion and love are the most valuable part of "Fiddler."

The main character, Tevye, a father of five daughters, is a thespian's dream role, because it involves so much of everything: Singing, dancing, humor,

and raw emotion. Even as a child I could see that no one did it more brilliantly than Topol, whose deep baritone hymns I can still hear in my head.

Caron may not be a Topol, but his heartfelt performance is still wonderful. I could tell by the roaring applause from the crowd that he had mastered what few performers ever have—nailing a dream role on a dream-like opening night.

The story centers around Tevye's reluctance to give away his daughters for marriage. His three oldest fall in love with men who defy traditional Jewish matchmaking.

Tzeitel (Crista Cady), the oldest, marries a man who she has known since she was a child, but who has little wealth and is only a poor tailor. Tevye accepts this as true love—two people finding each other—even though finding one's own love is forbidden in the faith.

Tevye's middle daughter Hodel, played by Liz Jacobson, falls for a man who is a political radical looking to change tradition and challenge the way Jews are being herded like cattle across the country. After her lover is arrested and sent to Siberia, Tevye allows his daughter to go after her lover, even though it means leaving the family.

Perhaps the most powerful part of the play is when the youngest daughter, Chava (UM student Karen Garfein), falls for a Russian soldier, and Tevye swears he will never speak to her again.

Caron singing good-bye to his daughter's love in "Chava Sequence" is a part that brought tears to many an eye in the last act.

In the end, as the crowd roared with laughter, and they cheered for an impressive orchestra I realized MCT has come a long way since the days of actors cramming in back stage areas, and packing rooms with far too many costumes.

And there was Caron, creator of it all, basking in the perfection of 28 years of hard work. The man who let me sing in front of hundreds, was belching out the final lyrics, putting the perfect touch on his first stage performance in ten years. I had to smile, and wish I was up there with him. Smiling and singing like I was 12 years old again.

The show runs Oct. 28-Nov. 1 and again, Nov. 4-8. All seats must be reserved. Call 728-PLAY for tickets. Evening performances start at 8 p.m. and cost \$18. \$11 matinees are sold out.

Are you down with Dub Narcotic? Find out now! Simply read the following article to learn the truth

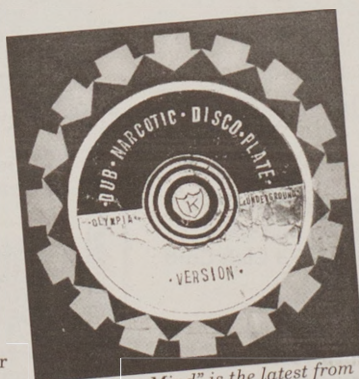
by
Troy Byker
for the Kaimin

When the battle of cool is being waged, the most widely used gun is the "Name Dropper 4K," and the ammo of choice these days is usually the specially formulated "Are you down with Dub Narcotic?" This ammo is special in many ways including its highly evolved "cool-seeking" technology. You see, each bullet will fatally brush-off any opponent that even hesitates or responds with some remark like "Do I dig Doug Narco whatsy?" And if the battle opponent says something like "Well, I've heard Dub Narcotic but I am not, as you say, 'down' with them," the bullet simply marks them (permanently) as cool, but not sentient enough to get down. And if your foe says "I dig deeply this band of which you speak", then that foe becomes a friend and you two can groove.

What makes the Dub Narcotic Sound System's sounds so tantalizing to my being cannot be summed up with ink and paper, but for you I will attempt to (de)scribe this rare sound. For one, the music is raw, it does not depend on special effects. Don't get me wrong; I like special musical effects, but musicians that

are able to make my rump shake in that analog fashion hold a special place in my special place. For two, the music is funky and punky all at once. It has the bass to make the place behind your face shut down long enough to let your heiny get up enough to get back down—a task rarely accomplished by any o.g. punk rockers.

Of their actual recordings, I have only heard two of D.N.S.S.'s LP's and maybe 3 singles, so I am not the best judge. But by talking to the experts, I have found that the new album, "Out of Your Mind," is a distinct departure from some of their older stuff. So how about this platter (this is supposed to be a record review)... From the slightly discordant/jangly/a-bit-twisted opening cut "Wicked Bad," pretty much all the way through to the last after after-hours sounding "Papa's Got a Brand New Burn Bag," the album has the ability to



"Out of Your Mind" is the latest from Dub Narcotic Sound System. They play tonight at the Union Hall.

make a booty move. On top of that, the lyrics are above-averagely clever sounding. Take the song "Teenage Time Bomb." It goes, "If the dead can rise up then so can we/ If you don't understand the youth then let them be." The track right after that has a nice mid-

afternoon-spent-in-a-hammock listening-to-reggae feel, what with the melodica and all. Another favorite song for me is the title track. It has a nice banter between the singer, Calvin Johnson and a mysterious lady known only as Miranda July. It sounds loungey and has a cool hip hop type rap toward the end. Neet-O! There are plenty more reasons why I like Dub Narcotic Sound System, but why not come up with some for your bad self at the show tonight?

The show's at the Union Hall. Tickets are \$6 at the door and \$5 in advance from Ear Candy. PWT will be one of the opening bands.

Richard Thompson keeps on returning

by
Nate Schweber
Kaimin reporter

It seems as though Missoula has earned itself an avant-garde, artistic and frequent visitor.

British folk-rockers extraordinaire Richard Thompson is blessing the University Theatre with his second concert there in almost exactly a year. His return will be a joy for anyone who has heard him before in Missoula—either at the UT or the Elk's club.

Thompson, whose virtuoso wizardry on the guitar is eclipsed only by his soul-touching lyricism, is one of rock's most respected artists to never receive much critical acclaim. He's a treasure secret to those who have been entranced by his pseudo-celtic rocking and balladeering. His dark, deep baritone voice haunts his songs of romances gone wrong and provides narrative quirk to his more wisecracking numbers.

Thompson is touring with a bassist and his son Telly in support of his latest album "You? Me? Us?"

Fans will recall Thompson's phenomenal performance last year. In the course of his set, he drew tears with songs like "1952 Black Vincent Lightning" and rocked them to jubilation with his hit "I Feel So Good."

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$17 on Thursday. They're available at all Tic-it-E-Z locations or by calling 243-4051.

Check out an Evening With Richard Thompson because even though he seems to be a regular in Missoula, you never know when you're going to hear a singer/songwriter this good again.

continued from page 1

CI-75

apply not only to taxes, but also to most fees governments charge for such things as business licenses and admission to the fair.

In an emergency situation, the initiative would allow the Legislature to enact a tax without voter approval, but it would require a three-fourths vote.

Foes of CI-75 marshal a number of arguments to make their point, but a principal theme is that voters ought to have some faith in the people they elect to represent them. Otherwise, they say, public officials will simply pass the buck back to the voters.

"CI-75 divests elected officials of responsibility and accountability for how Montanans should be taxed," says Eric Feaver, president of the Montana Education Association, which represents public school teachers.

But citizens already vote on some tax issues, such as local school mill levies, says Rob Natelson, a University of Montana law school professor and tax-reform activist who helped write the measure. CI-75, he says, broadens that right to include all proposed tax increases.

Balyeat notes that lawmakers will still have the power to write tax laws, but the people will have the power to approve or reject any increases in the rate of taxation proposed by legislators.

But there's such a thing as too much democracy, say the measure's opponents, who predict that passage of CI-75 would make the day-to-day operations of government unmanageable.

"People will be required to vote on hundreds of miscellaneous fee increases, anything from dog license fees to birth certificate fees," says Hansen.

The resulting delays caused by indecision and the need to hold an election would cripple the ability of the government to budget for the future, he adds, because planners would have no idea of how much money they have to work with.

Not at all, say CI-75 backers, who note that Colorado, Oklahoma and Washington all have passed similar measures and the result has not been governmental paralysis but a more efficient government and booming economies stimulated by leaner taxes.

"Today in Colorado, state and local governments have such a surplus of revenue that they just passed a \$563 million tax rebate back to the citizens," Balyeat says.

Proponents of CI-75 say the measure would provide the fiscal stimulus and stable tax base to turn what they describe as Montana's "over-taxed, stagnant economy" around.

But is Colorado's experience a reasonable indicator of what would happen in Montana under CI-75?

Hardly, says Hansen, whose organization represents the interests of Montana's city and town governments. Colorado's legislation allows officials to increase taxes without a vote if it's done to keep pace with inflation or the population growth. CI-75, he adds, is an absolute freeze.

"If the Colorado initiative were on the ballot, it would be a different story," Hansen says.

What's more, he adds,

Colorado's economy is much more diverse than Montana's, which relies primarily on agriculture, forestry and mining. Montana's stagnant economy reflects rock-bottom prices for these products, not state tax policy, he says.

"Looking to taxation as some magic bullet to solve our economic problems is wrong," says Hansen. "If you're looking to solve our economic problems, find a way to raise wheat and beef prices."

Would CI-75 make tax policy more responsive to the public or would it merely freeze existing tax policy in place?

"If you vote for CI-75, you better think that the existing tax system is perfect because it will freeze the existing tax structure in place," Feaver argues.

Legislators won't reduce taxes or change deductions because it would require voter approval if taxes had to be raised in the future, he says.

Hansen says that CI-75 would bring all current proposals to amend the tax structure to a dead stop.

"This initiative will stall the entire process," he says. "It will postpone what we really need, which is tax reform."

But Natelson says those arguments don't hold water. Under CI-75, he says, legislators would still be responsible for drafting tax legislation and, in an emergency, they could enact taxes without voter approval, so long as they can muster a three-fourths majority vote.

"If you look at Colorado, Washington and South Dakota, you'll see that legislators in these states have all passed tax cuts since adopting voter tax-approval laws," says Natelson.

And Balyeat argues that, under CI-75, tax laws would more truly reflect the public's interests, rather than those of special interest groups who lobby legislators to write tax legislation favoring this or that industry.

"CI-75 will make backroom tax deals less likely to happen," he says.

But critics fear the measure's passage would result in "targeted" taxes aimed at unpopular industries such as tobacco, liquor and gambling. These "sin taxes" are more likely to be approved at public elections and would hurt many Montana businesses. This fear has led such organizations as the Montana Tavern Association to oppose CI-75.

According to Feaver, CI-75 will result in "cafeteria" ballots, in which voters pick and choose popular and unpopular taxes from a host of offers. Smaller or more unpopular industries would bear the brunt of most new taxes.

And though he represents urban interests, Hansen questions whether rural areas would be fairly represented if tax issues were decided strictly by majority rule.

"Seven counties represent the majority of the population of Montana," says Hansen, "and (those voters) live mostly in urban areas. If the majority can impose taxes on the minority, what happens to taxes on agricultural land? Who is going to represent the farmers and the rural counties?"

Natelson says minorities or unpopular industries have nothing to fear.

"There is no evidence in any of the other states with similar legislation of targeted taxation

against unpopular industries or minority groups," he says.

Voters are no more likely to pass punitive taxes than legislators are under the current system, he says.

Balyeat adds that CI-75 would result in fairer taxation for everyone because industries that have used their lobbying muscle in the Legislature to avoid taxes would no longer be able to under CI-75.

Just how Montanans will vote on the issue is anyone's guess, but a poll conducted by Montana's Lee Newspapers in September showed that about two-thirds of respondents favored CI-75. However, most associations representing local govern-

ments or public employees have opposed the measure. So has the Montana Chamber of Commerce. The measure also failed a straw vote among members of the Montana Taxpayers Association.

But not all government officials oppose the idea of a public

vote on tax increases. State Budget Director Dave Lewis says the CI-75 could result in fairer taxation for all Montanans. However, his boss, Gov. Marc Racicot, says it would be expensive and hinder efforts at tax reform.

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SPORTS



Forward Sara Overgaag
leads her team with humor
and talent

Matt Gouras
Kaimin Sports Reporter

Senior Griz soccer forward Sara Overgaag has earned a bit of a reputation with her team as a comedian off the field, but come game time she is nothing but serious.

When she first arrived on the Montana soccer scene in 1995 after transferring from the University of Pacific in Stockton, Calif., Overgaag said that the team was a bit intimidated by head coach Betsy Duerksen's serious approach. At the time, she thought a few jokes were in order to lighten things up.

But the jokes stop when the team's second-leading scorer steps onto the field.

"I'm easy going when the time is right," Overgaag said. "But I get serious when I need to, it's all about winning. I guess it's just that feeling of winning that brings the seriousness out of me."

Duerksen said that Overgaag's intense and competitive approach to the game are attributes that make her so valuable to the team. Another is her ability to help teammates find the back of the net.

Overgaag is tied for the team lead in assists, just four points behind senior forward Karen Hardy for the team scoring lead. She had an all-conference season in 1997 that saw her hit 31 points for third place on UM's all-time list as well. Duerksen said Overgaag can use any number of offensive weapons



Heather Miller/Kaimin

Sarah Overgaag, originally a transfer from University of Pacific in 1995, has helped lead Montana soccer to national prominence.



Matt Gouras/Kaimin

Sara Overgaag crosses the ball to a teammate in a 4-0 win over Idaho State at UM's South Campus Soccer Field earlier this year. Overgaag recorded one of her seven assists in the victory.

to get by opposing defenses.

"She's a really creative player on the ball," Duerksen said. "She has some unique moves and sees the field really well. She's also great on the dribble and can thread through a bunch of defenders."

At the top of Overgaag's list is a move defined by - would you guess - a bit of trickery. It's a move known as the "The Dummy." To pull it off, she positions to receive the pass, only to let it go between the legs to a teammate, leaving the defender guessing.

Besides goal scorer, Overgaag has been asked to fill another roll this year after the team lost eight seniors from last year's Big Sky title team: team leader.

"I know that the younger players are looking up to me, to what I do," Overgaag said. "So I try to be a good role model, and I'm probably a little more serious this year than I have been in the past."

The role has been important to the young Grizzly team, and Overgaag has made the switch with the team in mind first and foremost, but also her own future as well.

"I have (enjoyed) it a lot," Overgaag said. "It's really good for me, because I would like to be a coach, when I graduate, at the college level. Being a leader on the team is something I can put on my resume."

All of her offensive skills, leadership abilities and game-time intensity came together for Overgaag earlier this year against Brigham Young University in what Duerksen calls one of the most amazing games she has ever seen by a player - anywhere. And Duerksen has seen a lot of soccer games, both during her coaching career and as an All-American player at Boston College.

The 4-1 win at BYU, with Overgaag taking charge, was a big one for UM at the time, against a big opponent who had beaten them the year before.

"After that game, we were just so pumped up, I couldn't even think of anything else for hours," Overgaag said.

Overgaag's first choice after she finishes her Grizzly career is a position on a semi-pro team. Although none have approached her yet, she has talked with former teammates who have pursued the pro ranks and the consensus is that she has a good shot.

If that falls through, she would like to put her experience helping Duerksen at area soccer camps to good use and begin coaching the game. First stop in climbing the coaching ranks will be this spring with the local Strikers team.

"I definitely want to coach at the college level," Overgaag said.



Heather Miller/Kaimin

When Sarah Overgaag isn't acting as one of Montana's biggest jokesters, she's putting the ball in the net, ranking second on the Griz in scoring.

Playing at UM has afforded her the luxury of learning from Duerksen, who is not only the Big Sky's all-time win leader but one of the most respected women's soccer coaches in the Northwest.

"I'm going to take a lot of what she (Duerksen) has given me and I'm going to build on it from there," Overgaag said. "When I'm a coach hopefully what I've learned from her will make me a better coach."

SPORTS

MTV's wack (not wack?); Loder is a thief

Somebody tell MTV's Kurt Loder I want to fight him.

Yes, I know, it seems like every week I'm offering to fight someone. Perhaps it's my brutish neadrathalian genes boiling over in this petty little column, but I've got a legit sports beef.

Something terrible has happened. Something that requires a call to arms, and will make all Kaimin Sports fans want to run to New York with a billie club in hand.

MTV and Kurt Loder have stolen my 15 Questions.

Now like any pathetic 90s Generation-Y 20-year old, I absorb whatever MTV tosses my way as much as the next guy. I admit, there was a time when I thought Nine Inch Nails was more than just Trent Reznor and a keyboard, and that those mannequins in Smashing Pumpkins actually played their instruments. I'm part of the Puff Daddy problem! I actually believe he ripped off that Sting song because he loved Biggie, not because he wanted to make money! I'm gullible. I'm a product of pop culture just as much as Marcy Playground. I just don't make any money like they do.

But Loder has gone too far.

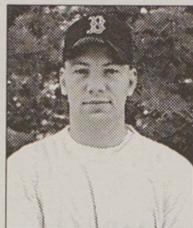
Aside from being the only

respectable journalist at MTV, I expected more than the heinous larceny I saw after dialing up the Music Television channel Saturday morning only to see Loder sitting down with Sean "Puffy" Combs, asking him 15 random questions of music, sports, literature and life. MTV even had the gall to put a little design circle around their "15" and an oval around "Questions," just like the Kaimin!!

Now, I'm no fool. Loder is a better journalist than I am, a better interviewer and probably even better at pretending to Madonna's face that her latest album doesn't totally blow. But I've got to have some pride, and he's gone too far to on this one.

Here is my theory on how the Kaimin Sports Section was made to look like a fool: Some non-bastardly video jockey journalist, like say Tabitha Sorin or Serena Altschul, was probably in Montana on MTV's "Rock the Vote" campaign. I hear they were in town a month or so ago. So just maybe they came across a Kaimin. No big deal, we love for the big corporate pigs to read us every now and then, see what the proletariat has to say. Tabby or Serena was probably laughing away at Props 'n PimpSlaps when they "just happened" to keep one

of the issues with "15 Questions." Loder, like everyone else, loved the biting satirical wit that has swept UM's campus and thought screwing the little guy wouldn't really matter.



Kevin Van Valkenburg

Now "15 Questions" is a pretty liberal thing. Lord knows I'd be lying if I said it wasn't a hybrid of Playboy or Rolling Stone's "20 Questions," spliced with Craig Kilborn's Daily Show "5 Questions," but there are clear differences. Playboy and Rolling Stone mostly use their questions to get the celebrity to yap about some boring album they're putting out, or how they lost their virginity when they were 13. Kilborn's got the creative snip, but his also involves trivia meant to make celebs look stupid, not a

Kaimin "15 Questions" feature.

Loder (the dirty weasel) was asking Puff Daddy questions about "What do you want for Christmas?" and "Who's your favorite NBA player?" and even "Are Biggie and 2pac sipping coco in heaven?" - sorts of random stuff. Almost like he stole it from a hard working, one-trick pony of a Kaimin sports editor. My little gimmick, the one thing I take pride in, and now it's his.

I thought maybe it was a mistake. Maybe he's had this deal forever, and God knows there is probably some Aber Hall resident out there that skips freshman chemistry every morning and thinks I'm a total jackass because it looks like I'm stealing from Kurt Loder.

But I didn't, and now MTV's perfect pretty boy is gonna pay.

After spending an hour on MTV's website instead of writing a football story yesterday, I found no prior evidence of "15 Questions" at MTV. Not a thing. He's scared, afraid of it getting out that he's a hack. Loder is holed up in his high rise Manhattan apartment, listening to the "Material Girl" album, and hoping I don't find out. But I did, and I just can't let him get away with it.

So I'm calling him out. A

bareknuckle match, 10 rounds, during the middle of "House of Style." Let Rebecca Romijn be the guest referee, I don't care. He can have Marilyn Mason and Twiggy Ramirez in his corner as trainers, I'll take John Bon Jovi and Blues Travler's John Popper in mine. We're dueling it out, and I'm not giving up until his weasel-ass admits his theft. If I have to bust him up with a chair, so be it.

So rise up folks and cut out of class. Tell your teachers this can't continue. Come with me to the Big Apple, and we'll knock out Carson Daly while were at it. You don't have to be a jock. You just have to know that the true spirit of "15 Questions" isn't about knowing whether Griz linebacker Adam Boomer can tell us why Holden Caulfield was a model for the rebellious generation. It isn't about whether Lady Griz hooper Krista Redpath will know if Marc Raciocot is the answer to Montana's property tax dilemma. It's about keeping creativity away from money-loving goats like MTV. It's about fighting oppression, and it's about standing up for the little guy. And besides, if you come, I promise to tell you which it good and which is bad - wack or not wack.

CBS, NCAA to give tourney junkies more games

NEW YORK (AP) — In an effort to bring more NCAA tournament games to more fans, CBS and Direct TV will put out-of-market basketball games on satellite television.

The deal, which was announced Tuesday and will be evaluated after a year, is a small step in delivering viewers more choice of which games to watch during the tournament. Direct TV currently is in only 4.1 million homes.

Direct TV will show the 34-36 games in each market that are

not scheduled to be on the local CBS affiliate. The network will continue to cover the 63-game tournament in the same way, offering one game of regional interest in each time slot with limited switching to other games.

CBS and the NCAA — which will share in the undisclosed rights fee paid by Direct TV — decided not to offer pay-per-view games to other satellite systems or local cable operators, as ABC and ESPN do for college football games. Cable pay-per-view could be available in close to 70 million

homes.

CBS Sports President Sean McManus said one of the keys to this deal was the small number of homes in which Direct TV is available, limiting the competition to CBS' affiliates.

"We wanted to give this service to a relatively small group of people who want to see particular games, without damaging the presentation on CBS," McManus said. "We never considered a cable package. That would have damaged the television property."

But if the limited buy rate for

ABC's college football games is an indicator, CBS could more than make up the money lost by affiliates with the increase in people paying to see games.

"Pay-per-view is just a small blip on the radar screen," ABC Sports spokesman Mark Mandel said. "Affiliates understand that pay-per-view has little or no impact on their ratings and they understand it is good for college football fans and good for the networks."

Direct TV will not disclose the pricing system for the games

until early 1999. It could offer fans the ability to purchase the entire tournament or games on an a la carte basis or both.

"We will try to make it as fan friendly and simple as possible," said Eddy Hartenstein, president of Direct TV.

The deal can't guarantee fans that they can see every game in its entirety. If CBS switches an audience to a more competitive game, fans will no longer be able to see the game that was pre-empted.



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HALLOWEEN

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UC searches for perfect Jack-o'-lantern

CONTESTS: Students encouraged to express their pumpkin prowess and costume creativity in UC competition

Chad Dundas
Kaimin Reporter

This Halloween, you don't have to hang around a spooky, moonlit pumpkin patch to catch a glimpse of the great Pumpkin. The best place to look will be the University Center.

These ain't no ordinary squash. The UC will host its seventh annual pumpkin decorating contest today. The contest will be held in the UC's south atrium and will begin at noon.

According to Sage Grendahl of UC Productions, decorators will be provided with paint, glitter, fabric, pipe cleaners, clay and other goodies. Their task: to let their imaginations run amok and to create the most impressive gourd.

"People can just be creative with it and have fun," Grendahl said.

Pumpkins will compete for prizes in several different categories, she added. According to Grendahl, the grand-daddy of them all is the honor of best overall pumpkin, but an award for the best use of the provided materials will also be presented. There will also be two honorable mention prizes for pumpkins that simply can't be left out in the cold.

Prizes for the pumpkin beauty pageant, Grendahl said, are still being finalized. She said that various coupons and gift certificates will prob-

ably be among the prizes handed out to the champion pumpkin artisans.

The free pumpkin decorating contest is open to all students, faculty and staff.

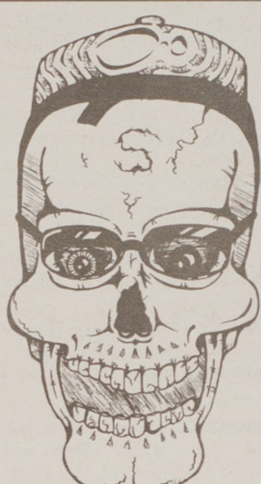
Also on tap for this week's Halloween havoc at the UC is the annual costume contest, held this Friday at 12:20 p.m.

The costume contest is also free of charge, but students and faculty will be asked to complete a short registration

process, Grendahl said. Contestants will be given a number and will be judged in the categories: best individual costume, grooviest group, most creativity and best effort.

Judges for both events will remain anonymous, Grendahl said.

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