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Associated Students of the University of
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Montana Kaimin, October 4, 2000

Associated Students of the University of Montana

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M O N T A N A

KAIMIN

Kaimin is a Salish word for paper

www.kaimin.org

October 4, 2000 — Issue 18

National DUI law becomes tougher

Erik Olson
Montana Kaimin

Montana drivers may have to get used to having a few less drinks before hitting the road.

Congress passed legislation Tuesday to lower the drunken-driving standard nationwide to .08 blood alcohol content. States that do not comply with the law by 2004 will begin to lose a percentage of federal highway funding.

Montana and 30 other states define drunken driving at 0.10 BAC.

Albert Goke, chief of the Montana traffic safety bureau, said he doesn't believe Montana will adopt the new law that many people may see as blackmail.

"I would not expect dropping to .08 as likely to make a big difference," Goke said. He said the average driver arrested for a DUI in Montana has a 0.17 BAC.

However, he said he didn't think the .08 level is unreasonable, because drivers can still be impaired driving with a .04 BAC.

Karen Oakland, spokeswoman for the Mothers Against Drunk Driving chapter in Yellowstone County, agreed that the law probably won't be passed in Montana.

"We're 10 years behind on drinking and driving issues," she said, adding the new measure could save 500 lives per year if every state passed the law.

Citing a study done by the National Highway Safety Administration, Oakland said the risk of a driver with a .10 BAC being killed in a crash is 18 times greater than a driver with a .04 BAC.

"I'd like to see it go farther, but I think this is a start," she said.

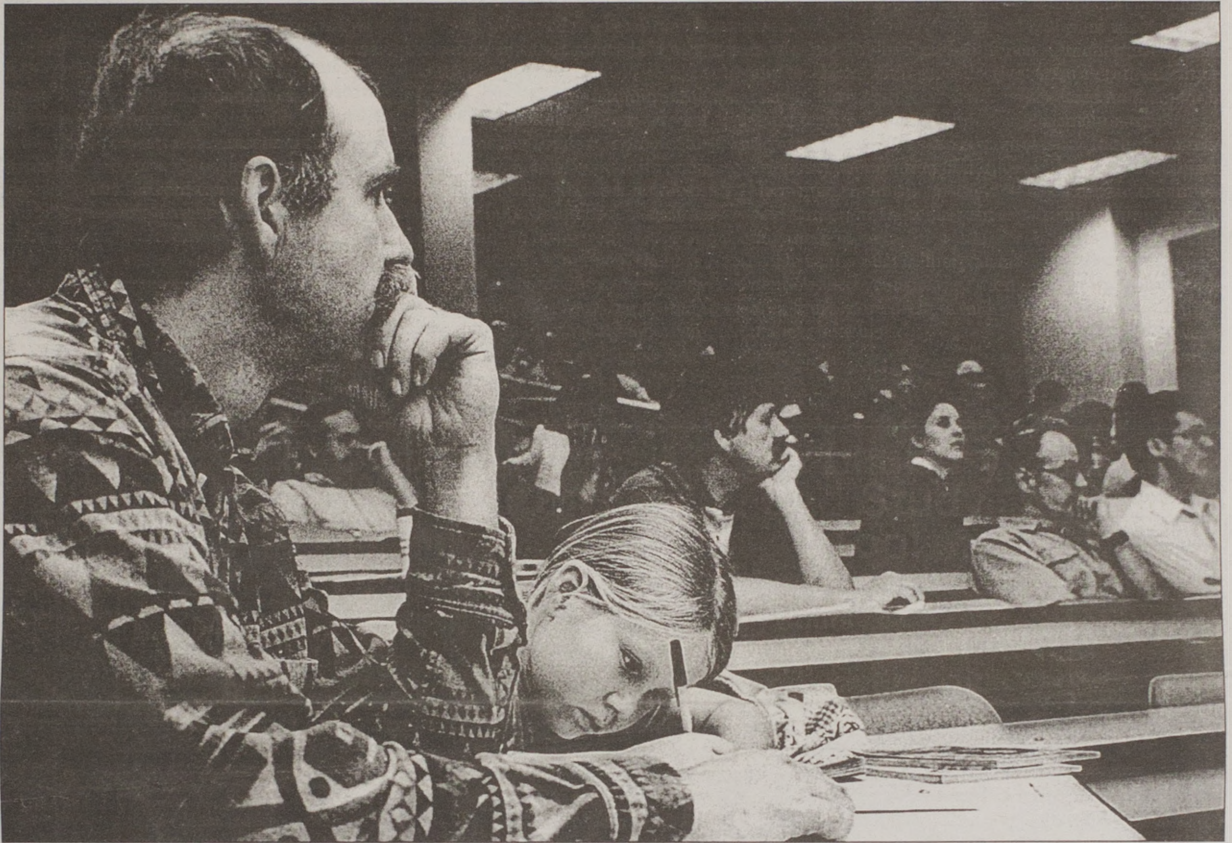
The bill would require states to adopt a .08 standard as the legal level for drunken driving by 2004. States that don't comply would lose 2 percent of their federal highway funds, with the penalty increasing to 8 percent by 2007. States that adopt the standard by 2007 would be reimbursed.

Goke said Montana should adopt the .08 standard because the loss of the federal funds would hurt the economy.

The loss of funding would prevent roads from being fixed and also make Montana highways less safe, Goke added.

Tim Monzen, a patrol officer with the Montana Highway Patrol, said that people with a BAC of around .08 often have a "false sense of security," thinking they can drive safely, when their driving skills are impaired.

Teetering on the edge



Adrienne Gump/Kaimin

David Beck of the Native American Studies department listens, while his daughter Abaki colors, to Provost Lois Muir discuss the issue of adjuncts. "All of you are the reason students are here," she said during a Faculty Senate meeting Tuesday in the Gallagher Business building.

Provost Muir: No guarantee adjuncts will have jobs

Melanthia Mitchell
Montana Kaimin

Tensions are running high after a special meeting of the Faculty Senate Tuesday.

UM administrators fielded written and heated questions from faculty members intent on finding solutions to UM's adjunct crisis. President George Dennison was out of town and unable to attend the meeting.

Questions submitted to university higher-ups ranged from asking how committed UM administrators are to the university to voicing a lack of confidence in Main Hall's ability to

manage budgets and finances.

A letter from the math department simply stated that there is no way math classes can be taught without adjuncts. The letter reads: "For a department that serves the entire university, have you thought about how this will affect students?"

Many of those incensed wanted to know how long UM administrators knew about the imminent non-hiring of adjuncts, and if they refused to give any warning until less than a semester in advance.

Provost Lois Muir said she knew about funding problems this summer but many adminis-

trators had anticipated extra money that, in the past, funded non-tenure faculty.

"It's not the intention to be insensitive," Muir said. "It would have traumatized the community too much in the summer (to find out). We have had at least a semester in advance, knowing the situation."

This year, because the Strategic Budget and Planning Committee projected an enrollment equal to previous semesters, no room exists to make the usual budget sacrifices that could make up the difference and save adjunct jobs.

Committee chair Perry Brown

said even with a flat enrollment there was still a projected deficit of \$2.3 million. Brown said a half million dollar enrollment reserve, which usually acts as a backup when enrollment falls short, was used in an attempt to minimize total base cuts. However, the deficit was reduced to only \$1.8 million after the reserve was used.

Muir said deans and department chairs have been working together to ensure proper instruction is provided for the students, but she admitted that it hasn't been an easy job.

"We need to meet student

See **ADJUNCTS**, page 8

Fish thrower denied bail; friends start defense fund

Tracy Whitehair
For the Kaimin

The 20-year-old activist facing federal charges for throwing a salmon pie at an Idaho congresswoman at UM in September was not granted bail and will remain in custody until his trial date, Magistrate Leif Ericson ruled Tuesday.

Ericson said that until further proceedings are scheduled or the trial begins, Randall Mark will be detained in Missoula. Friends and supporters looked on in U.S. District

Court as Mark confirmed his plea of not guilty to two misdemeanor charges of assaulting a member of Congress.

During the House Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health on Sept. 16, on campus, Mark tossed a "pie" of canned salmon and whipped cream at Rep. Helen Chenoweth-Hage. The two federal assault charges reflect a threat to both her and Rep. Rick Hill, who was seated next to her. The charges carry a possible penalty of a \$100,000 fine and up to one year in prison.

John Rhodes, assistant federal defender and Mark's court-appointed attorney, is attempting to get Mark released from jail despite the judge's ruling. Rhodes told Ericson that he is trying to locate a "third-party custodian" for Mark — a person who will be responsible for making sure Mark does not flee the area if he is released from jail. Once he finds a custodian, Rhodes said he will request another detention hearing asking for Mark's release into that person's custody.

However, it is unlikely that Mark will be free to move about anytime soon. There is also an Idaho warrant for his arrest. In January, Mark was sentenced to 60 days in jail for the federal charge of blocking a Forest Service road in Idaho. He served 15 days in jail and was put on probation for one year. The federal assault charges in Montana violate the terms of Mark's probation.

Rhodes requested that Mark be allowed to deal with the Idaho charges before he begins

See **ACTIVIST**, page 5

OPINION

www.kaimin.org/news.html

Voting

Education before registration

With everyone from the League of Women Voters to ASUM to MTV encouraging people to get out and vote, several people still manage to not participate. And it may be a good thing.

Why? Because there are many people who don't deserve to vote in any of those elections.

These people have no concept of who or what they are voting on. They might know who the candidates are but they have no idea what they stand for.

They have no business stepping into a voting booth and casting a vote. By not educating themselves about what was being voted on, people fail to earn the privilege to vote.

Regardless of what any public service announcement says, voting is not a right, it is a privilege. And a privilege must be earned. There is a responsibility that should be associated with voting. That responsibility is to have a fair amount of knowledge of what you're actually voting on. If you don't possess this knowledge, then you should take it upon yourself to not vote.

What is worse: casting a vote on a race or initiative you know absolutely nothing about, or not voting at all?

Since this year is a presidential election year, even greater emphasis will be placed on people getting out and voting. But why should we encourage people to vote? Obviously, the people who actually care about the election and follow the issues probably won't need to be reminded to vote. So instead, we're encouraging people who don't have a clue — people who might vote for George W. Bush because one of his commercials flashes across the screen while they are in their T.V.-induced coma, or people who may cast their vote for Al Gore because their friend from the office is voting that way.

Instead of encouraging people to vote, we should be educating people on why they should vote and preparing them to do so. That should be the emphasis: Offer unbiased information to the willing, rather than registering the unwilling.

With the amount of news coverage given to elections at both the local and national level, certainly an election-educated populace is not a pipe dream.

But becoming "electionally educated" isn't easy.

Television isn't the answer. Political advertisements have no credibility and are usually just mudslinging sound bites. Newspapers have a wealth of information, but I don't have time to sift through the New York Times, the Washington Post or the Missoulian to find information.

The Internet is a definite hope for voters. Online newspapers and links to political party home pages and nonprofit groups are all filled with information at the click of a mouse. According to Adelaide Elm, communications director for Project Vote Smart, most college students receive the majority of their information online and Vote Smart's site (www.vote-smart.org) offers one of the most extensive links for election information at the national and state level around the country. "We provide independent, factual, useful information about candidates and elected officials," said Elm.

By finally understanding what the candidates stand for, people can gain a general interest in the upcoming elections. With a month left till Election Day, we must continue to educate ourselves on the issues.

And on that chilly November day, citizens can't walk into that booth and responsibly exercise their privilege to vote.

—Ryan Divish

Guest Column

Burns ignorant of health-care problems

Column by

MaryJane Barrett

As a longtime registered nurse involved in the management of complex medical cases in

Montana, I was amazed by recent outlandish remarks by Sen. Conrad Burns about Montanans' access to affordable health care. When he says, "I don't know of anybody in this state that's denied access to medical care," I immediately think of dozens of cases that contradict him. When he says that most people who lack health insurance "choose" to be uninsured, or that the elderly often go to the doctor because they're lonely, I am embarrassed by his gross insensitivity and poor understanding of health issues. One must logically ask, does Burns truly represent most Montanans?

In just the past five years, the number of Montanans without health insurance has increased 36 percent. The reasons are many and complex, but this growing problem can be devastating for the uninsured. My own story illustrates what can happen when government policies favor corporate profits over healthy citizens.

I started my own consulting business a couple of years ago.

Upon leaving my previous employer, with whom I had full medical coverage, I legally had 63 days to switch from one group insurance program to another without a consequent loss of coverage. In other words, an individual cannot be penalized by a new insurance company for a pre-existing medical condition.

I applied for group coverage through a professional association to which I belong. The insurance underwriter, as standard policy, reviewed my medical records which showed that I require an expensive prescription medication. The company delayed pro-

cessing my application beyond the 63-day grace period. Consequently, I was denied the same level of insurance coverage.

I am in the process of filing a formal complaint with Montana Insurance Commissioner Mark O'Keefe. Meanwhile, my family was forced to pay a staggering \$500 per month for my medicine.

Often, the solution to our thorniest problems is close at hand, and I credit Senate candidate Brian Schweitzer for helping me find a solution through his "Run for the Border" bus trips to Canada.

In short, I am now able to obtain my prescription medicine in Canada for just \$171 per month, one-third of the U.S. cost for identical medication manufactured by the same company. If Schweitzer's campaign

to allow wholesale importation of medicine succeeds, I will again be able to purchase through my local pharmacist. Schweitzer's proposal for a strong patient's bill of rights would prevent the kind of insurance runaround I'm currently fighting.

Through my work as a nurse, I know many heart-wrenching stories about people in need of health care that they can't afford. I've seen how laws have been crafted with undue influence from drug industry lobbyists. I've seen how the pharmaceutical and health insurance industries have taken advantage of this country's disjointed health care policies to drive up medical costs and corporate profits.

Nearly 200,000 Montanans — one quarter of the population — lack health insurance, and the number continues to rise. Solutions will require creative and cooperative efforts between health care providers and government at all levels. However, such innovative solutions will not happen as long as elected officials are in deep denial about the very existence of the problem.

Mary Jane Barrett is a registered nurse and a medical legal consultant

Through my work as a nurse, I know many heart-wrenching stories about people in need of health care that they can't afford. I've seen how laws have been crafted with undue influence from drug industry lobbyists. I've seen how the pharmaceutical and health insurance industries have taken advantage of this country's disjointed health care policies to drive up medical costs and corporate profits.



Montana Kaimin

Our 103rd Year

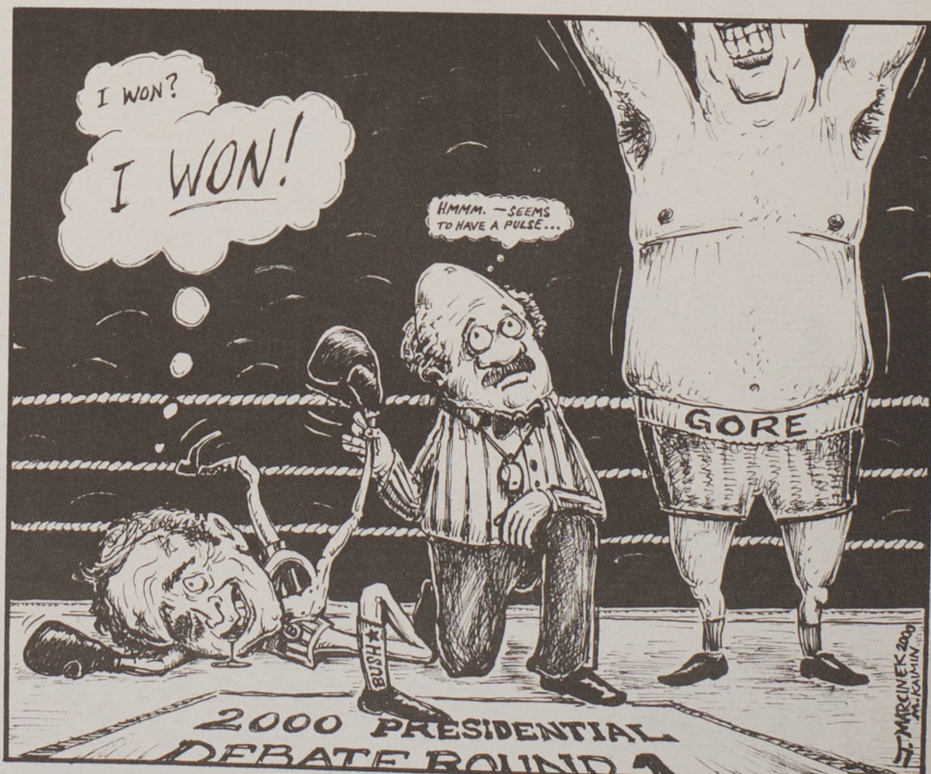
The Montana Kaimin, in its 103rd year, is published by the students of The University of Montana, Missoula. The UM School of Journalism uses the Montana Kaimin for practice courses but assumes no control over policy or content.

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Flu symptoms are here, but epidemic is far away

Nate Schweber
Montana Kaimin

Although three UM students were transported to the Curry Health Center late Monday with flu-like symptoms, doctors say the nasty virus is nowhere in the state.

"To my knowledge there's none in the state and we haven't seen any here," Laela Shimer, assistant director at Curry Health Center, said.

Still, flu vaccinations will be offered in the UC on Nov. 1 and 2 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Shimer said this year's shots will be later than in years past, but there will be enough serum for everyone.

"There is some projected shortage of vaccine," Shimer said. "But ours will be here by the end of October."

Shots will cost \$4 for students, half of what they cost the general public.

Shimer said she hasn't heard how soon influenza may strike UM.

"We're all watching for it," Shimer said. "We all check with each other."

She said two years ago the Health Center was loaded with flu patients. Last year, Shimer said, there were hundreds less because more students got flu shots last

year. Also, Shimer said the virulence of the virus can vary from year to year.

Shimer said she hasn't heard any reports of how bad this year's strain of influenza might be.

"There is some projected shortage of vaccine."

—Laela Shimer,
assistant director at Curry
Health Center

"We usually vaccinate in the fall because flu season usually hits in late November, December and January," Shimer said.

Shimer said that this year many students who've come to the Health Center with flu-like symptoms and colds.

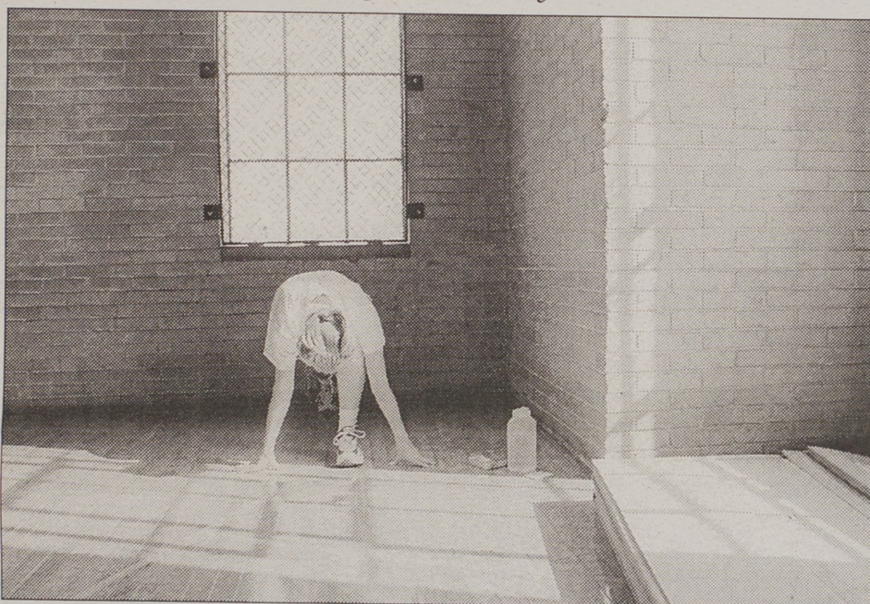
Shimer advises students to watch out for flu symptoms. Shimer said an influenza infection is marked by high temperature and lots of aching in a short period of time.

"The temperature and aching is much more severe with the flu," Shimer said. "Those are the key symptoms that differ from other respiratory things at this time of year."

Shimer said the Curry Health Center has a cold and cough clinic for students to monitor their own symptoms.

For more information about influenza, call the Curry Health Center at 243-2122.

Stretching out the day



Finished with her classes for the day, Amy Ryan, a pharmacy student, stretches out before a work-out in Schreiber gym Tuesday.

Adrienne Gump/Kaimin

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ASUM
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NEWS

www.kaimin.org/news.html

ASUM Senator: Vote because 'the youth is being ignored'

Erik Olson
Montana Kaimin

At the Honor the Earth concert Wednesday night in the Adams Center you can listen to good music and register to vote.

The U-Vote coalition is sending 10 red-shirted volunteers to the concert to register students to vote, said Sen. Erin Thompson, chair of the ASUM student political action com-

mittee.

ASUM initially wanted to send 40 volunteers, but the show's producers have their own volunteers registering concert-goers, Thompson said.

The deadline to register is Oct. 10. The coalition has registered about 1,500 students so far, she said.

Chris Zeeck, MontPIRG board director, said the coalition expects to surpass its goal

of registering 2,000 students.

ASUM President Molly Moon Neitzel said she hopes students understand how important their votes are.

"(The committee is) trying to send the message to everyone who isn't registered or isn't planning to get registered that their vote, especially in the community of Missoula, really will matter," she said.

Students can affect local

elections, Neitzel said, which is imperative to students because local legislators control university tuition and scholarships.

Thompson agrees.

"I think people should get out and vote because I feel the youth is being ignored," Thompson said. "Students care, and I think politicians should know."

Zeeck said MontPIRG and the coalition plan on educating

students about the elections after the registration deadline. The coalition is helping sponsor the gubernatorial debate in the Montana Theatre this Friday, and students can submit questions for the candidates to the ASUM office by Thursday.

Students can register at UC 114, the voter registration table in the UC or the Missoula County Elections Office in the county courthouse.

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ASUM meeting heads to College of Technology

Vote on committee to review retake fee postponed

Erik Olson
Montana Kairmin

ASUM will move its venue to the College of Technology Wednesday night will still discuss the \$100 fee to retake classes.

A resolution to form a task force to study the fee was set to be voted on Wednesday night, but the bill will go back to the affairs committee for minor revisions, Sen. Sean Pumphrey said.

"The goal of the task force is to do research considering the \$100 fee," Pumphrey said.

Sen. Hal Lewis, who would chair the committee, said he hopes to get rid of the fee because it's unfair to UM students.

"We're trying to put UM students on a level playing field with other students in the Montana University System," he said.

Still, Pumphrey doesn't expect

to eliminate the fee without any kind of compensation. He said the administration is unlikely to just cut a source of revenue.

"It's unrealistic to think we're going to erase the \$100 fee and leave nothing in its wake," he said.

The task force would consist of Senators Kris Monson, Cat Maxwell, Ashley Mercer, Pumphrey and two students and two faculty members at-large. The task force will dissolve in May when the Board of Regents meets.

ASUM is holding its meeting at the College of Technology to facilitate more involvement between the two campuses, ASUM Vice President James Billington said. There was also a scheduling conflict with the normal location, he said.

The meeting will be held in room AD04 in the administration building.

ASUM will hold one other meeting in November at the same location.

continued from page 1

Activist

his trial in November.

"He wants to go (to Idaho) and resolve that situation first," Rhodes said.

Ericson did not rule on that request, saying that Rhodes himself would have to work on the logistics of settling the Idaho charges prior to Mark's Missoula trial.

"It's on your broad shoulders to figure out how to do it," Ericson said.

Mark's trial date is set for Nov. 13 at 9:30 a.m.

Craig Shannon, reported last week as Mark's attorney, said in a phone interview from Michigan that the public defender is handling Mark's case until

Shannon returns to Montana on Friday. Shannon has not yet appeared in federal court as Mark's attorney, but said he intends to sign on to the case once he is back in town.

Erika Larsen, a friend of Mark's who was at the hearing Tuesday, said that friends have started a defense fund for Mark's legal expenses.

"We're trying to get good legal defense for him," she said. "Someone who'd have time to do more for him."

Larsen said anyone interested in contributing can write to the Legal Defense Fund for Randall Mark, P.O. Box 8452, Moscow, ID, 83843.

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Wednesday, October 4

Information Table: Big Sky Career Fair, UC Ballroom, 3rd Floor, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
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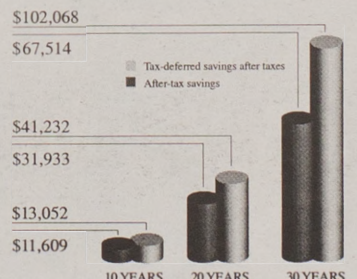
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Information Table

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SPORTS

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Healthy Miller, injured offense, envious Eagles

Jason Mohr
Montana Kaimin

He's posting big, fat stats again in 2000, but how does UM quarterback Drew Miller view his performance?

"I never think of the numbers," says the senior from Tacoma, Wash.

For the record, Miller has completed 101 of 156 passes for 1,406 yards; he has tossed 12 touchdown passes and only two interceptions. He is the fourth-rated passer in the 122-team NCAA Division I-AA.

But none of this impresses Miller much.

"I think more of the intangibles," he says, "like taking a hit and getting back up."

Plus, Miller says, he is healthy.

Last season, the story wasn't the same. The BYU transfer suffered a shoulder injury in UM's season opener against South Dakota. And, Miller wasn't the finishing play-caller in the Grizzlies' next game, a 41-38 extra-time triumph over Sacramento State.

So while he continues to pile up the numbers and accolades, Miller is content to fulfill his role and run the offense.

Winning, he says, is what matters.

While Miller is showing no signs of wear and tear, the same cannot be said for other members of the Griz offense.

UM lost two starting linemen and two running backs Saturday in their 41-31 victory over Eastern Washington.

Tackles Brian Pelc and Kamakana Kaimulua were forced out of the game in the first half. Kaimulua, who injured

his troubled knee, should be ready for Saturday's Homecoming battle against Sacramento State, Grizzly officials say. It is uncertain whether Pelc, who went down with a concussion, will also return.

Starting running back Yohance Humphery injured his hamstring in Saturday's contest. It is unknown if he will be active for this weekend.

It is, however, certain that Humphery's back up, Ben Drinkwater, will be out for two to three weeks.

The senior from Great Falls injured his collarbone.

If you don't have a seat already for the Homecoming game, it might be impossible to find one.

Tickets for UM students ran out Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m., said Donny Herbert of the UC Box Office. There were massive lines for the 3,300 tickets throughout most of Monday morning, he said.

The 300 student guest tickets lasted a mere 40 minutes, Hebert said.

Besides the student tickets, reports say the game is completely sold out.

Sacramento State features their own stat-buster in the form of running back Charles Roberts.

The consensus All-America player is cruising up the all-time, all-division rushing yards list. After accounting for 154 yards in Saturday's 35-7 win over Weber State, Roberts stands at 15th in career rushing yards with 5,829.

Roberts, third in the voting for the 1999 Walter Payton Award for best Division I-AA player, already has 900 yards this season. He needs 1,131 more yards to surpass Emporia State's Brian Shay for the record.

While the Griz running game might be a little off kilter this week after losing two linemen and two backs, it won't necessarily disturb the overall attack.

Miller had high praise for the offensive line's replacements, freshmen Dylan McFarland and Jon Skinner.

"They did their job preparing," Miller said of the twosome. "You could look in their eyes and know they did."

Miller also lauded the efforts of Griz third-string running back Derryl Williams. The transfer from the University of Miami ground out only 39 yards rushing, but played his role well, Miller said.

And in a close game where turnovers might decide the game, Williams didn't cough up the football, his quarterback added.

It is unclear how much of a threat Sacramento State's vaunted transfer Santi Hall might be this weekend.

After boasting to the California press about how he wanted to become the best-ever Division I-AA linebacker, the former UCLA starter has only one sack and seven total tackles this season.

Eastern Washington might have mixed feelings about their "home record" crowd at Saturday's game. It appeared that roughly half of those 15,678 in attendance at Joe Albi Stadium in Spokane were cheering for a Grizzly win.

Eastern Washington's previous record was 10,213 in 1984, also at Albi Stadium. The Eagles of Eastern Washington play home games in Spokane and at a smaller venue on campus in Cheney.

Lights at Washington-Grizzly stadium remain doubtful

Erin Everett
For the Kaimin

Why doesn't the university shed a little light on the subject of nighttime football games?

"It's a money thing," said Athletics Director Wayne Hogan.

Lights allowing the Grizzlies to play home games at night would cost somewhere in the ballpark of \$100,000, he said.

The football stadium won't be illuminated anytime soon, but it is a possibility for the future.

"If we ever expand the stadium, it would probably be something we'd have to get done," he said.

With that in mind, the question becomes, what would it be like for the team, fans and local businesses if the Grizzlies played their home games at night?

The answers are as varied as night and day.

"I think it'd be great to play a night game every now and then," Hogan said.

Leah Meier, a senior and football fan, agrees with Hogan.

"It'd be cool to go to the game at night and then go out," she said.

Hogan said with the cooler night weather, the Grizzlies probably could not play night games past the middle of October.

But Meier said she doesn't think chilly nights would keep people away.

"With the fan support around here everyone would still go," she said.

But while the fans may enjoy the coziness of a night game, the players might miss the warmer afternoon temperatures and suffer from a buildup of anxiety if they had to wait until nighttime to play, Hogan said.

"The majority of schools play in the afternoon rather than at night," he said.

"Players and coaches don't like night games. It's almost universal."

While some local businesses also lean toward having the football games at night, others say it would upset their game day profits.

Kimberly Roth, marketing director at Southgate Mall, agrees that the mall's businesses would benefit from night games.

"It would be better business wise, absolutely," Roth said. "More people would be able to go. It would draw more families."

Brent Olson, general manager at C'mon Inn, said even though fewer out-of-town fans would stay overnight the night before the game, he wouldn't expect to lose business.

"I don't think it would matter," he said. "People who come from out of town are going to stay overnight anyway."

Lara Lipinski, manager at Holiday Inn Express, agreed with Olson, and said while less people would stay on Friday nights, more people would sleep over Saturdays after the games.

But some restaurants wouldn't feel so neutral if the games were switched to nighttime.

Doug Collier, general manager of Jaker's, which many fans frequent after games, said holding the games at night would devastate the restaurant.

"It would kill our business on game days," he said. "If they play at seven at night, we have 20,000 people in the stadium. That's 20,000 people you can scratch from coming here."

For now, Collier can rest easy.

"It hasn't been seen as a necessity," Hogan said. "It's a very complicated deal to light a football stadium, especially on the college level."

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Administrators begin the search for budget leader

Melanthia Mitchell
Montana Kairin

UM administrators began interviewing candidates Monday to lead the Budget Planning and Analysis Office. The position will combine two existing posts into one.

Administration and Finance Director Scott Cole, said that the new Budget Planning and Analysis director will consolidate research and budget information and provide the provost with the information needed to make better administrative decisions.

Forestry Dean Perry Brown, who chairs the director search committee, said that UM is looking for someone, "that would bring a degree of integration between the institutional research and budget offices."

Brown said this person will hopefully have the vision and innovative skills to help UM work through and make decisions regarding budget analysis.

Max Kerlin, director of resource management at the University of New Mexico, was the first to be interviewed for the new position.

Kerlin said he has worked in situations similar to UM's at New Mexico.

Asked about what to do with the possibility of a budget shortage, Kerlin said he doesn't favor cannibalizing a department if there is a serious decline in class registration.

"You have to protect the core (of a department) in order to continue to provide for the campus," he said.

UM will actually have one less administrator when a new director is named. According to Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance Rosie Keller, the director will be responsible for a job once held by two people in separate offices.

These offices are the Budget Office, which interim director Peggy Schalk recently left, and the Office of Institutional Research. Former Research Director James Oloman recently retired.

Keller said because these two changes came at similar times, the administration had the opportunity to combine the two offices, something she said schools across the country have already done.

A second interview for the new position will be held on Oct. 9 in Room 204 of the Continuing Education Building.



Max Kerlin, center, is a candidate for head of the Budget Planning and Analysis Office.

Matt McFaden / Kairin

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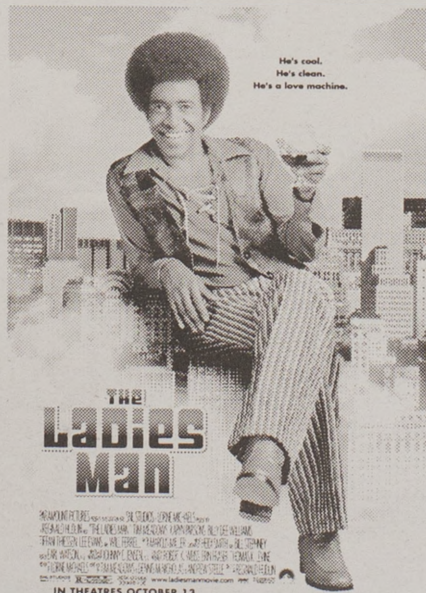
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continued from page 1

Adjuncts

needs for instruction under any circumstances," Muir said. "But we will have to do things differently in the spring to be sure this happens."

Even with additional efforts from faculty, Muir said she could give no guarantee that adjuncts would have jobs next semester.

"We were hoping there would be additional revenue," Muir said. "The disappointment was that it did not materialize."

Vice President of Administration and Finance Scott Cole presented the audience, who was only allowed written questions, with a document confirming that there would be

no extra money for next semester to hire adjuncts.

Although the university saw an increase of 173 full-time equivalent (FTE) students this year, Cole said a 171-student decrease of non-resident FTE's combined with a summer budget shortfall of \$243,534.24 has created a \$582,728.96 budget deficit.

"I hate to be the bearer of ill-tiding, but that's my job," Cole said.

Cole added that administrators are looking at every area of the budget to see if there are any funds to help alleviate the budget shortage. He stressed, however, that there would be few additional funds to draw from.

"Let me assure you, there is not a pot of money someplace," Cole said. "We're trying to find small, small sums of money (to

alleviate this)."

In response to a question asking what went wrong in the spring semester budgeting, Muir said a large amount of resources were used for the fall semester rather than using it over the entire year.

Muir added that fault could not be put on any one specific area.

"It isn't any irresponsibility on any level; rather, it's a collective cause," Muir said.

Associate Provost John Schwaller said UM's current situation is a culmination of decisions made over the past few years and now there just isn't any more money.

He said a \$2.3 million permanent cut last year means "there aren't any more pockets (of money) out there."

Schwaller added that the administration would like to start budget planning for the entire school year rather than the semester. If this were the case, adjuncts would have guaranteed jobs for a whole year rather than just a semester.

Muir said that historically, spring enrollment has been lower than the fall. Combined with higher utility costs and costly faculty retirement benefits, Muir said no room for budget adjustments exists.

Right now, regardless of the means, the focus needs to be on keeping the university in balance, Muir said. There can be no guarantee that adjuncts will be re-hired next year because the resources aren't available.

"If we stabilize ... then we will look at what we have for resources," Muir said.

Schwaller also responded to a question asking how much administrators are willing to sacrifice to straighten out budgeting woes.

Schwaller responded that pay raises have only been enough to keep up with inflation and still lag behind other universities.

"I'm underpaid, we're all underpaid," Schwaller said.

It was clear that some department chairs are not satisfied with the administration's answers.

In a written statement to the faculty senate, liberal studies chair Phil Fandozzi wrote, "The administration is in fact mandating cutbacks, cutbacks which are the direct consequence of the failure to provide necessary funding."

— Jim Wilkison contributed to this article.

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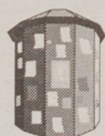
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