Montana Kaimin, 1898-present

Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

4-24-2019

Montana Kaimin, April 24, 2019

Students of the University of Montana, Missoula

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MONTANA KAIMIN

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RIP Aber Hall window screen. Stop shooting your shot, literally.

If you're looking to take up arms for target practice, maybe shooting your weapon through a dorm room window isn't the ideal way to go about it.

On April 18, a student decided to do exactly that in Aber Hall, prompting an investigation by UMPD. This raises the question, how enforceable are UM's policies on gun ownership among students living on campus?

Trick question. They're not. Concealing a Glock 19 9 mm compact semi-automatic pistol in your waistband is probably more inconspicuous than smuggling in booze with your giggling roommate. Especially since routine room checks conducted by Resident Assistants are largely superficial and don't illegally invade students' personal belongings, which may contain items more hazardous than just a few grams of weed. And while University residents living in the dorms are required to register and store their firearms with UMPD offices, this now seems more like a suggestion, with rules enforced after the fact, than a tight regulation designed to preempt incidents like the one in Aber that could have resulted in events more grave than just property damage. If it were the other way around, perhaps this story wouldn't have made it to the desk of one of our reporters.

Enforceability aside, how many students are even aware of these UM gun policies? While students are obligated to complete courses addressing sexual violence and alcohol abuse on campus, courses on UM gun safety and ownership, or physical safety in general, are entirely MIA from the curriculum. Common sense doesn't suffice to define student firearm rules — universities must make expectations and requirements clear and known before students set foot on campus. Otherwise, the door is left open for confusion and excuses on behalf of students who choose to violate these "unclear" policies, creating consequences other students and staff shouldn't have to suffer.

UMPD's response to the shooting in Aber Hall comes more as a finger-wag of a warning to students about what to not do with their guns. It should serve, instead, as an urgent reminder to students that the University's policies are in place for a reason. And although they remain relatively easy to circumvent, it's imperative to adhere to them. The well-being of our campus and the people who use it is at stake.

LIKE IT? HATE IT? WISH WE WERE DEAD?
Email us your opinions at editor@montanakaimin.com

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What?

Big Ups & Backhands

Backhands to the slow, inexorable passage of time. Let's speed up this death march, baby.

Big Ups to Missoula's cyclists who are somehow both vehicles and pedestrians at the same time.

Backhands to people who are still telling themselves Game of Thrones is good.

Big Ups to 4/20 and Easter for being on the same weekend. Hallelujah, Jesus is resin.

Backhands to Instagram ads trying to sell us $2 bikinis. Can't wait to wear them to the next Fyre Festival.
UM students learn to provide emergency treatment

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Dozens of University of Montana students received hands-on training to learn to control bleeding in emergency situations from police officers and military veterans on April 19.

UMPD Sgt. Brad Giffin used a recent surplus in funds to purchase bleeding control kits that will be distributed to every building on campus. Giffin also arranged for “Stop the Bleeding” classes to ensure those who have to treat a traumatic injury will be able to use the kits competently.

Each kit will come with a tourniquet, compression bandages and a seal for closing chest wounds. According to Giffin and the two other instructors, all three can be vital for saving lives before emergency personnel arrive.

“Before any paramedics or firemen arrive, there’s you guys,” Giffin said to the class.

Although the course comes to UM at about the same time as the 20th anniversary of the shooting at Columbine High School, Giffin said the course isn’t specifically for an active shooter scenario. In his experience, most traumatic injuries come from either car accidents or, especially in Montana, hiking or hunting incidents.

During his presentation, he showed one person who accidentally put an arrow through his leg while bow hunting. He also recalled receiving a call on campus once for a student who suffered deep lacerations across his back after a soda machine tipped and fell on him.

Other instructors included Tony Higuera, Air Force retiree and paramedic, and Kolter Benetone, who served as an Army Ranger and has taught “Stop The Bleeding” classes for over a year.

Giffin divided the students into three groups, which rotated around three stations following a PowerPoint presentation. The attendees had the chance to work with props provided by St. Patrick Hospital.

At one station, Higuera taught students how to pack and press bandages into a puncture wound. In the past, emergency response courses taught first-responders to address breathing during an emergency. Now, the same courses emphasize stopping the bleeding, Higuera said.

According to the Journal of Emergency Medical Services, one-third of all deaths from trauma occurred due to blood loss. The average human body carries 5 to 6 liters of blood, and a loss of just 1.5 liters can be fatal.

“Every red blood cell counts,” Higuera said.

At another station, the students learned to control a ruptured and exposed artery. Fake blood squirted from a plastic tube while Kolter Benetone walked them through stopping the bleeding and sealing the wound.

Benetone said that in both the April 2013 Boston bombing and the October 2018 shooting in Las Vegas, bystanders tried to intervene and help victims with belts and shirts. However, improvised tourniquets almost never work.

At Sgt. Giffin’s station, students partnered up and practiced applying medical-grade tourniquets on a live subject, and, with some of the more enthusiastic students, a kicking and screaming person. Giffin said to avoid putting tourniquets on any joints, and to tighten them just a few inches above the injury.

Students from the UM School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science made up the entire class. Kelsie Taylor, president of the Physical Therapy Student Association on campus, coordinated with Providence’s Trauma Program Manager Michelle Cole to host the program.

“Since we’re all studying for our doctorate in a medical field, courses like this can only make us more well-rounded and better at what we do,” Taylor said.

According to Sgt. Giffin, the emergency safety team in each building will be given a kit and receive training. He hopes to hold “Stop The Bleeding” courses on a quarterly basis by next year. Starting this summer, every RA on campus will also receive the training.

“The point of this course isn’t to make anyone paranoid about an end-of-the-world scenario,” Giffin said. “The point is to make them prepared.”
The new College of the Arts and Media will include a bachelor's program next fall in sonic arts, focusing on coding sound in abstract patterns to create and accompany artwork.

Michael Musick, an assistant professor in the School of Media Arts, is leading the creation of the program. With his own Ph.D. in music technology, he has taught creative coding classes for three years. Musick is excited to create a program he deems necessary in a time when technology is all-encompassing, he said.

“I think the computer is such a natural extension of the human body at this point,” Musick said. “And to me it's a natural instrument everyone is growing up with.”

Coding as an art form is no different than painting or drawing, it's just art on a different plane of observation, Musick said. He said he's seen sonic art projects across campus already, with students coding chatbots for theater projects or using an Xbox Connect to track a person's movement, mixing music based on their actions.

Anne Yoncha, a graduate student at the School of Media Arts, started working with sound as a medium last fall as part of her thesis work. She wanted to explore plant physiology, learning about the processes happening inside a given plant in an ecosystem. Yoncha decided to communicate her work through sound since it can be hard to perceive minute changes within an ecosystem.

Yoncha started by visiting a ponderosa forest at a site in Lincoln, Montana. She attached a series of sensors to the trees and used the collected data to code a sonic piece.

"It was this really eye-opening moment of realizing that the data is objective," Yoncha said. "It looks almost like a language that you can read but then anytime that you wanna hear that, you're arbitrarily assigning some sound to this data. The same data can sound a lot of different ways."

Yoncha's work demonstrates the potential in the new sonic arts program, and hopefully, Musick said, once the program takes off, it will be able to accompany different programs throughout the University.

"It's a way to support a culture or language of really high-quality sound in everything that the college does," Musick said.

The School of Media Arts will be joining a list of other schools to be merged into one cohesive College of the Arts and Media next fall. Other schools merging include the School of Art, the School of Music, the School of Journalism and the School of Theatre & Dance. The Sonic Arts degree will become available to students next fall as well.
Sharing aloha: Pacific Islanders Club hosts first annual Luau

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Backstage at the Missoula Children’s Theater, Ka’aumoana Ahina sings a traditional Hawaiian prayer surrounded by Pacific Islander dancers. More likely than not, holding hands in a circle will become a pre-show tradition.

“I wish you folks a wonderful show,” Ahina says when he finishes singing. “Mahalo for everyone, for being a part of this ohana and this circle, and for your hard work and your time spent to make this possible.” He looks around the room. “Now, it’s time for us to share our aloha and share our culture, each and every one of us.”

It’s the night of the University of Montana Pacific Islanders Club’s first annual Luau, April 14. “A Journey to the Pacific” is an event members of the club have been planning all year. The Luau features traditional dance from the Pacific Islands, performed by members of the club, as well as guests from Halau Ka Waikahe Lani Mālie, a hula school based in Kalispell, Montana.

The Pacific Islanders Club is still relatively new at the University of Montana, but it is a powerhouse. The club meets every Sunday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. to practice hula dance and performs at the UC International Festival. Pacific Islanders partnered up with the Black Student Union, the Native American Center and the Mansfield Library for a number of events. It was voted ASUM Student Group of the Year in 2017, its first semester as a recognized student group. Ahina is the man behind it all.

Ahina is a non-traditional student at UM. When he first moved to Montana, he realized he missed the diversity of his home in Hawaii. One day, at the Adams Center gym, Ahina approached Jolyn Tausa and asked her if she was from the Pacific Islands (Tau
sa is Samoan, but was raised in Hawaii), and suggested the two of them start a group for friends to meet and share their Pacific culture. That was almost two years ago.

“At first, it just started as a thing to find commonalities with each other and find others just like us on campus. And it was just to hang out and eat,” Tausa, a junior and the vice president of the club, said. “That’s what we do in our culture, we have fellowship around food.”

Tausa and Ahina started to gather a group of people together, meeting for meals at the Food Zoo. But it quickly became more.

Ahina suggested cooking meals they missed most from home and inviting friends to be a part not only of their meals but of their style of living, too.

“We became more interested in creating this circle of family,” Ahina said. “And it just overwhelmingly blew up.”

“I started to realize, do I get homesick?” he asked. “Or do I start to create a family here?”

The progression from gathering for meals to practicing hula was pretty fast. Ahina and another member of the group, Na Kuma ‘Au-kai La’a, are Kuma Hula, or hula masters.

Tausa says Ahina and La’a offered to start teaching classes every Sunday for free. She says the classes are open to everyone, not just students. Classes are held in the ballroom on the third floor of the University Center.

Before he moved to Missoula, Ahina taught at his own hula school in Hawaii for 12 years as a Kuma Hula. Not just anyone can be a Kuma Hula, according to Ahina.

“You need to be selected. You need to be asked,” Ahina said. “You need to be chosen to be a Kuma Hula and to teach the sacred dance and the sacred language of the Hawaiian people. I had that blessing of many people to be able to put together a style, a teaching. It was definitely a blessing.”

The group planned to have an authentic islander meal before the dance performances to continue the tradition of gathering around food. Some of the club’s family members flew all the way up from Hawaii to help prepare the event. The club calls them the “Dream Team.”

April-Sue Kuhu is a member of the Dream Team and a mother of one of the club members. She’s the woman in charge of desserts. She points some of them out: there are tea cookies, banana bread and a coconut pudding called Haupia.

“I did this in my hotel room,” she says, gesturing to the table full of desserts.

The Dream Team is just another example of a phrase repeated throughout the entire night: sharing aloha.

Some members explain that it’s genuine kindness, it’s genuine love; it’s making sure everyone is part of a home. Ahina explains the actual translation of the word; “Alo” means life, “Ha” means breath.

“So together, you’re giving someone that breath of life,” Ahina said. “Those two elements put together means more to an individual when you can give them your breath of life. And so ‘aloha’ truly is not just a greeting, it’s a way of life. And when we bring people into our circle, and we draw people into what we’re doing, what we’re doing is we’re bringing people into our life.”
Abigail Belcher, a junior, and Ethan Hanley, a sophomore, were elected as student government president and vice president positions by 73 percent of the vote.

The Associated Students of the University of Montana elections closed April 18 at 8 p.m. with a 13.5 percent voter turnout, a total of 1,437 student voters.

During their campaign, Belcher and Hanley focused on increasing student input via Google Form, creating a plan to publicly track all campus actions related to sexual assault and increasing retention of ASUM senators.

Belcher and Hanley have both served as ASUM senators and chaired multiple committees.

Daniel Parsons was elected ASUM business manager by 94 percent of the vote. Parsons was the only business manager on the ballot, but a handful of other write-in candidates received 75 votes.

Parsons campaigned on purchasing student group software and a printer for ASUM, working individually with student groups and adjusting ASUM’s fiscal policy to make it more accessible for student groups to understand the budgeting process.

All 21 students who officially ran for Senate seats were elected. The remaining five seats will be filled by write-in candidates, pending submission of necessary paperwork. Graduate students are set to have one re-elected senator, Cierra Anderson, representing them. There were no Missoula College students elected. A full list of elected students, including write-ins, is published on the Montana Kaimin website.

The new ASUM senate is set to be sworn in on Wednesday at the regularly scheduled ASUM meeting.

The Montana Public Interest Research Group optional fee referendum passed by 82 percent of the vote. This means students will continue to have the option to pay a $5 fee sponsoring MontanaPIRG on their tuition statements for two more years.

The money from the optional student fee goes toward the organization’s travel expenses for lobbying days, printing petitions and voter registration forms and planning events.

### Police Blotter: Bike blunders, joints at Jesse and claustrophobic canines

**APRIL 9: THE TROUBLE WITH CABLES**

A cable lock demonstrated its uselessness after a thief easily clipped it and made off with a Neko 3 bike parked outside Knowles Hall. The student had a serial number handy, so if the thief ever gets tired of riding the bike and tries to pawn it, campus police will know, UMPD Sgt. Brad Giffin said.

**MESSE AT JESSE**

Officers rushed to the scene when UMPD received a call about five men hanging around Jesse Hall shouting, listening to loud rock music and smokin’, smokin’ and feeling alright mamma, they weren’t jokin’. The group moved on, however, before police could pick them up and take them away.

**WHAT DREAMS MAY COME**

A homeless man decided a couch at the Davidson Honors College was as good as any to catch up on some much-needed rest. Officers arrived to see him out of the building, hoping he’d find somewhere less intrusive to sleep. He only made it as far as the next blotter entry.

**APRIL 10: SLEEP IS FOR THE WEAK**

UMPD had to rouse the same transient from another nap, this time in the Gallagher Business Building. After telling him he had no business sleeping there or anywhere else on campus, he quietly left the grounds and the blotter for good.

**UNS M O O T H C R I M I N A L**

Campus police may have made a breakthrough in their ongoing struggle against bike thieves after catching a man trying to pry a bike from a rack in front of the Lommasson Center. Although police didn’t issue any criminal charges, the would-be thief did receive a temporary ban from campus.

**APRIL 11: WHO’S A BAD OWNER?**

After somebody left their dog in their car a little too long for one bystander’s comfort, UMPD came to Lot F to investigate the negligence. The owner arrived soon after and apologized for the misstep.

**APRIL 14: SICK AND TIRED**

A decent lock did nothing to save a bike parked outside of the Fine Arts building. A student reported to UMPD that, although the bike remained, it was missing some parts, including the rear tire. According to Sgt. Giffin, bike parts make for ideal targets since they’re still valuable and can’t be registered into a database like the entire bike.
Students aim to reduce city waste

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Two University of Montana students are helping Missoula businesses become waste-free as part of a sustainability pitch competition.

On April 11, the Davidson Honors College QUEST (Questions for Undergrads Exploring Special Topics) program held its second annual pitch night. The winner’s of this year’s competition were announced April 17.

Student founded the program in the fall of 2018 as a way to positively impact the Missoula community by letting students apply their research skills. Each year, the program centers around a different theme or question and students work in teams to develop a solution.

This year’s theme revolved around Missoula’s recently adopted Zero by Fifty plan, an initiative aimed at reducing 90 percent of Zoo Town waste by 2050.

Seniors Casey Brandon, 22, and Sierra Diemling, 21, partnered to create their winning project: The Zero by Fifty Pledge Program.

“I have never worked so hard on anything in my life,” Deimling said. “Casey and I have been working on this for eight months and poured our hearts and souls into the project. We just really believe in it.”

Their project is centered around Missoula businesses, and will involve an annual waste audit from Energy Corps members working for the city. Energy Corps AmeriCorps is a national initiative to promote sustainable energy practices.

A report will then be created to provide each business with unique analysis and three “sustainability goals” to accomplish. When the business does this, it will receive a pledge program window decal. The process will repeat each year, with the end goal of cultivating a zero-waste organization.

The inspiration for the project was a desire to find an all-encompassing solution, according to Deimling.

“We wanted to do something that could get going right away,” Deimling said. “Something that could show Missourians what Zero by Fifty even is, because a lot of people haven’t even heard of the plan.”

Deimling said there is a big incentive for businesses in Missoula to join the program because their participation will lead to more business and support from the community. Missoula is a great place to jumpstart the program because the people care deeply about sustainability, she added.

Noah Hill, who co-founded the QUEST program with UM alumni Reid Hensen, said he’s glad the program is gaining attention.

“I’ve been blown away both by the interest we’ve had within the DHC and within the community,” Hill said. “We had to modify our whole pitch right to be able to fit all the presenters into one event.”

He said it’s important for students to have access to resources that allow them to make change within their community, and he’s happy to showcase the skills UM students bring to the table.

“To be able to say, ‘Our students are helping our community; they’re filling a need in the city government,’ I think that’s amazing,” he said. “It develops awareness for the talent and energy that lives in the DHC and at UM.”

With their first-place finish, Deimling and Brandon each won a $1,000 scholarship and an internship to implement the project next fall.

“Change happens on a small scale, and we think that this program is going to start opening up people’s eyes to how doable it is to make small changes in your own life,” Deimling said.

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UM grounds crews racing to clean campus for graduation

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As clouds of dust and gravel plumed around the sidewalks of the University of Montana campus, grounds maintenance crews used noisy leaf blowers to push gravel off of the lawn of the Oval. Large rotary brooms and trucks moved dust and dirt around while students dodged between them.

University grounds crews have been racing to clean up campus in time for commencement on May 4. They were tasked with the difficult job of cleaning up the gravel that was put on campus sidewalks during the winter to create traction. But now that graduation is approaching, that gravel needs to be removed.

Ben Carson, grounds maintenance manager, said while the majority of the gravel has been taken care of, the winter put major complications into the gravel removal.

“This was the worst year in the eight years I've been here,” Carson said.

Missoula's winter was prolonged with record snowfalls and low temperatures in February and March, according to the Missoulian. The National Weather Service reports this year’s temperatures for February and March were about 40 percent lower than those of previous years. The extended winter halted plans to clean the gravel, putting it off until now.

Currently, workers are using leaf blowers to blow the gravel out of the grass so trucks and rotary brooms can move the gravel away. William Zimmermann is one of the people trying to clean up the gravel without creating too much dust.

“It's hard to get out when, you know, the grass is starting to grow and it just kind of sticks in there,” Zimmermann said.

Carson said typically, the large UTV rotary broom can deal with the gravel. But snowmelt and possible turf damage forced the grounds crews to shift to cruder instruments like the leaf blowers, he said. While leaf blowers are noisier and less efficient, it’s the only option for the grounds crews' timeline, according to Carson.

In past years, UM commencement has been held on the second Saturday of May until it was bumped up to the first Saturday of May this year. Carson said the earlier date isn’t the real issue as much as the winter, which has left much of spring activities like turf aeration and fertilization undetermined.

While he understands the concerns that graduation day could look worse for wear if the weather doesn’t let up, Carson said the situation is, frankly, out of his control.

"Mother Nature is the one thing we have no power over," Carson said. "We'll make it look good, regardless of what the weather looks like. If we have to put pots out the morning of, then that will be the case.”

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‘The Aftermath’ is emotionally painful to the point of discomfort

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★★★★★

On Friday night, I walked into the Roxy to see “The Aftermath” and left thanking myself that I was alone because I needed space to process (and cry) after such an intense film.

“The Aftermath” begins with Rachel Morgan’s (played by Keira Knightley) arrival in post-World War II Germany in 1946. Her husband and British colonel, Lewis Morgan (played by Jason Clarke), has been tasked to help rebuild the city. Together, the two enter their new house, a stately manor they will share with a German widow, Stefan, and his daughter.

For the first hour of the movie, it’s difficult not to take Rachel’s cold-hearted nature personally. She appears unmoved by the remains of the city and past lives. Rachel is completely unsympathetic to the family whose home she’d taken over, almost discriminating against them for being German.

Short flashbacks throughout the film, however, build up to the most beautiful scene of the movie. Rachel sits down to the piano that once belonged to Stefan’s wife. As “Clair De Lune” plays through the scene, Stefan’s daughter watches Rachel and gradually walks over to the piano to complete the duet. Tears fill Rachel’s eyes (and mine).

A flashback indicates Rachel and her husband had a son who died in an attack by the Germans at age 11. This was the first time she played piano since the death of her son, who she’d taught to play the instrument. Rachel’s previous disdain for the family begins to make more sense.

This scene was disturbing, gut-wrenching, and produced exactly the intended response in me. As someone who has dealt with a fair share of loss and grief, it left me feeling like someone had reopened my own wounds.

I loved “The Aftermath,” but this is not a movie for everyone; I don’t even plan on watching it again. The depth of pain and grief portrayed was sincerely uncomfortable to witness, and there were very few moments of relief. If, however, you enjoy crying or simply seeing the ugly reality of death and the grief it instills in loved ones, on both a personal and grand scale, go watch this film.

“The Aftermath” is showing at the Roxy until April 25. Student tickets are $7.

A movie date for the brainy

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★★★★★

Before you invite a cute STEM dork to a movie date, check how hot their nerd radar runs. If they study cognitive neuroscience, they might be interested in “The Creative Brain.” It explores the creative processes in our brains and how you can access them.

David Eagleman is an author and neuroscientist who hosts an hour-long special on ways to “hack” your brain. An architect, a nano-technician and other artists are asked what sparked their minds to create something new out of their lives after hitting a wall in their careers. One woman thought about the toys she used to play with: Shrinky Dinks. She described how that single thought brought her career to new heights.

“The Creative Brain” can create conversation with your watching partner. But other than that, it gets pretty repetitive. Being told about success via new career paths can only be so entertaining. It’s kind of like “The Secret,” but a little less campy.

But it’s not a total bomb. It is pretty inspiring to learn about pushing boundaries and breaking down mental constraints. So if you find the movie is a bust for the date, ditch the Netflix and go downtown. Introduce the science cutie to Big Dipper. Maybe stay on campus and check out the Star Gazing Room. Missoula offers a range of options for the perfect first date for the quiet, thoughtful types in your life, not just some obscure movie.

“The Creative Brain” is available for streaming on Netflix.
Trauma doesn’t happen for a ‘reason’

When I was raped at 15, it wasn’t “God’s plan.” And anyone who said that to me could, to put it lightly, fuck off. This sentiment also goes for anyone who says things such as, “Everything happens for a reason.” You can also fuck off.

The only reason I was raped is a 21-year-old man decided to get me drunk at his parents’ house and rape me. There was no god in that basement. There was no reason.

This might piss some people off, but if you believe in a god that would let a child be abused for a decade and then raped a year after they were removed from their parents’ custody, you might want to keep that to yourself.

People have said things like this to me for many years. They’ll also remind me God wouldn’t give me more than I could handle. To which, I like to point out that I attempted suicide multiple times as a result (in part) of my abuse and rape. So, yeah, it was a bit more than I could handle.

When you say things like this to trauma victims of any kind, you are taking the blame off of the abusers, rapists, predators, etc., and you’re giving them an out. You’re excusing assault, and you’re invalidating a victim’s trauma.

This is not to say you’re in support of rape. I know, for the most part, it’s a well-intentioned sentiment. But please be aware of what it feels like to hear something like that for someone who probably already feels invalid. Victims are commonly ignored by those they tell. They’re told they’re lying or overreacting by people they’re supposed to be able to trust.

There’s no perfect response to someone’s trauma. Apologies always feel kind of (very) weird because the general response I have to an apology is, “It’s okay,” which it isn’t. And I’ve found out how shameful answering the question, “Did they ever catch the guy?” feels, because I never turned in my rapist. So, one piece of advice is to not assume anything. That’s a bad idea, and can make someone feel worse.

The best piece of advice I have to give here is to pay attention. If someone doesn’t seem like they want to talk about it, don’t press them. To state the obvious, that is very invasive and rude. You wouldn’t want someone asking you questions about something so private when you don’t want to answer them.

On the opposite end, if they do want to talk, listen. Compassionately, without judgment. Don’t ask invasive questions (as mentioned above); just hear them. Don’t try to fix it; you can’t. Don’t offer advice unless they ask for it. Believe them; don’t doubt them.

If you have to say anything, tell them they’re valid. That their trauma is valid. Remind them you’re there for them, you care about them and they can trust you. Trauma isn’t easy and really fucks up the way your brain processes things. Support is appreciated through something so difficult. Just be compassionate, and ask your friend what they need from you. Be there for them.

When you have a friend with trauma, or you yourself are dealing with trauma, remember that the only reason someone was raped or abused or assaulted is because someone decided to do it. Someone made the choice to hurt them. No god would want to hurt someone like that.
PSA: Go see your advisor, like, yesterday

If you’ve followed my column this semester, you know that, barring any major fuck-ups, I was set to graduate this May. Well, I have good news for everyone, except the poor souls bankrolling this train wreck: Ya girl is coming back in the fall.

I know what you’re thinking: What did you do this time, Lily? Forget to transfer your AP credits from high school to college? Drop your photoshop class because you couldn’t figure out how to download the software correctly? Yes and yes, but that’s not keeping me from walking. My problem isn’t what I did, but what I didn’t do.

I’ve skipped advising appointments at every opportunity since my freshman year. You see, I have this issue with something known as “avoidance behavior.” At least I think that’s what my therapist called it; I haven’t seen her in a while.

My first experience as an advisee was with some condescending stranger who laughed at me because I told him I failed a class called “Intimate Relationships.” Sure, it is both funny and symbolic, but it was enough for my 18-year-old ego to say “fuck it” to the advising experience as a whole.

Luckily, it wasn’t yet up to me. Shannon, my next advisor, wouldn’t give me my advising pin without meeting her. We met at least semi-annually. That didn’t mean that I had to be honest about my grades and it wasn’t helpful when trying to pick a major, but it did mean I at least had to take care of my gen-eds. Shannon was wonderful. She introduced me to the Creative Writing department and a community of writers who made me feel like I belonged at UM. Shannon was so wonderful that I can’t remember why I didn’t like the meetings.

Once I declared as a creative writer, I met Maria. Maria was kind, understanding and even offered me tissues when she asked when I planned on graduating and I burst into tears. She got me on track around my third year, and helped me stay focused throughout the semester. Unfortunately, Maria was too good. She left for a better job the following semester. Maria, if you’re reading this, I miss you.

Next, I was assigned to Judy. At this point, I thought I had found and lost “the one”, so what was the point of going back out there and finding someone new? I was a cocky 22-year-old. And despite being one of the worst students I knew, I was confident I could be my own advisor.

Now, here I stand, a 24-year-old who only made a legitimate advising appointment because I found out I couldn’t graduate three weeks before commencement. Don’t be like me, kids. See your advisors. Graduate.

Lucky for me, Judy was funny, not judgemental and didn’t chew me out for waiting two years to come see her. If you’re in the same boat as I was, hopefully your advisor will welcome you as well. They understand our flaky, self-destructive nature and will always be there with tissues and, well, advice.
Led Zeppelin blares before Grand Entry at the 51st annual Kyiyo Pow Wow. In the beginning, all the dancers enter the circle together at the Adams Center on Friday. Chaz Baker walks up the steps of the upper level seating, large suitcase in hand, with his brother trailing behind.

They've never missed Grand Entry before and have to dress quickly. After digging for their moccasins while carefully unraveling their outfits, the two, now fully dressed, run down the stairs through the main floor entrance into the group of 100 dancers. Toddlers and elders, most in traditional regalia and some in street clothes, dance. Some of them walk. All of them follow the circular pattern they create around the arena floor.

Baker is well-known in the powwow world. He's danced from Montana to New Mexico to California to eastern and
Baker, 20, is built like a running back. He's around 5-foot-7 and 180 pounds with black hair that hangs at his waist.

"I don't like cutting my hair," he says. "I like looking like an Indian. It anchors me to something."

This is the second year Baker has been dancing in the adult circuit. He remembers jumping into the adult circuit at 17, dancing at Kyiyo and earning second place. It was almost surreal for him. Most dancers in the men's group are five or more years older than him. He dances Fancy. It's the fastest and flashiest of all four categories, requiring the most endurance and timing.

"In the old days, they called it the war dance," Baker says.

Fancy is a representation of the intensity of battle. It comes from the Oklahoma tribes. There's a lot of spinning and physicality in it, but also elegance.

Elaine Top Sky, Baker's grandmother, described Fancy as the intensity of rodeo mixed with the grace of ballet. She drove four hours to Kyiyo to support her grandchildren. The pleasure she gets from witnessing the powwow is unmeasurable, she said.

"There's beauty in motion," she said.

And it's not something that anyone can just do. Like any sport, months of preparation and hard work go into making it look beautiful.

To get ready for the powwow season, Baker strength trains with his brother, Quinn, who is two years older than Chaz, on a hilltop at the base of Mount Sentinel. Their daily routine consists of calisthenics, pull-ups, and dips on tree branches and jungle gym bars.

The brothers have spent hours listening to powwow songs in their car and at home. The songs range from traditional to modern, all structured similarly with steady drumming, one major stop, and singers who sing chorus and four leads. Chaz stressed that memorization is crucial to being a good dancer. Otherwise he could get "bucked off," a term used for dancing off-beat. If that happens, the judges won't pick you.

"The drum ... it's supposed to be Mother Nature's heartbeat," Quinn said.

Up in the stands, their mother, Rachel Topsky, watches her kids. She started them in dancing as soon as they could walk. It's not unusual for kids to start young, but their dedication is what makes her proud. Rachel was a champion jingle dance dancer with the American Indian Dance theater for three years, traveling around the United States and as far as Europe.

"It is everything to be a dancer," she said. "When I'm dancing, there's nothing wrong in my life."

Rachel passed her passion down to the kids, but they also inspired one another. In the summer of 2017, Chaz went through the garage, found an old outfit and said to his brother, "We're gonna make you a dancer."

Quinn is a junior at UM, following in his mother's footsteps by pursuing an undergrad in social work. He's tall and brawny, around 200 pounds. After he graduated high school, he started
tuning in to what his brother was up to. He started listening to a lot more indigenous music and became a grass dancer.

"It was an intrinsic feeling," he said. "It helps me feel connected. It's who we are, we couldn't change if we tried."

Chaz inspires his siblings because he takes Fancy Dancing so seriously.

They struggled financially for a couple years while Chaz was in elementary school. Chaz, Marin, Quinn, Jyles, and Aislyn lived with Rachel in a women's homeless shelter. The separation, he says, brought them closer together.

Rachel moved them back to the Rocky Boy reservation after she divorced and in the woods of the reservation, there wasn't much else to do but dance.

One summer, Chaz danced on the grass in the backyard so much that it turned into dirt. The neighbor's horses would watch him move his feet and practice his splits with powwow music in the background, connected to a Bluetooth speaker.

Aislyn Baker, who also dances Fancy, would move around furniture and dance on the hard living room floor with her brothers in their Rocky Boy home.

"It was a long road," Chaz said. "It also shaped the way we are as individuals."

When Aislyn danced with him, she developed a similar mentality. She now dances five times a week.

"We were sitting on the back porch and he was telling me how dancing felt for him," Aislyn said. "It's about a way of life and a way of healing yourself. All of us have a way of channeling our energy into something, and for me and Chaz, it's dancing."

Chaz had trouble adjusting to college life. He wasn't into partying or drugs. He didn't enjoy his classes. He left UM last semester to look for his first job.

Before that, he mostly made his money dancing at powwows. The long trips and nights are similar to rodeo, he said.

Both nights at Kyiyo went until about 1 a.m., and Chaz has danced as late as 2 a.m. Some powwows he's been to have lasted as late as 4 a.m. It's a hard adjustment, especially while
Chaz and Quinn share an apartment. In Chaz’s room is an old lamp with a pineapple skirt he bought at Goodwill, a rug and a twin bed without sheets that’s covered in clothes. He sleeps on a pad on the floor; he says it’s natural and good for his spine. He puts a pillow underneath his knees to take the pressure off them if they are sore from dancing.

On top of the closet door hangs two of his dancing sticks, pieces of wood he covered in fishing tape to catch the judge’s eyes.

Chaz rolls his suitcase into the living room, the same case he rolls through hallways and drags up stadium steps to accompany his dancing endeavors.

Powwow is like moving art. Chaz created his outfit with hours of stitching. The rest of his pieces include items from people he cares about. They’re always with him while he dances. Along with some homemade pieces, his regalia is a collection of everything from tokens of friendship to family heirlooms.

He pulls out two bustles, traditional parts of a man’s regalia for fancy dancing. Each has 17 feathers on each side. He collects colors of fishing tape to wrap around them, along with flagging tape and scarves.

“You just collect wherever you go,” he says. “A lot of natives go to Joann’s.”

Turquoise is his color. Then white and rainbow, with stitched eagles and lightning bolts that his mom sewed on for him.

Chaz holds his outfit carefully and begins tying his bustle together. He wears one around his waist and one on his back. Fancy dancers are the only ones who wear two.

“I just use a regular shoe knot on this one,” he says, tying his bustle to the backboard. He pulls out a pair of beaded moccasins his mother made. She used to wear them in competitions before passing them down. But they’re a little big, so he uses the insoles of his old sneakers to compensate.

His homemade headband shines in the light, and he reveals his secret, pointing to his arm bustles.

“I used CDs for those,” he says while pointing to the other. “This one’s Dragon Ball Z.”

Walter Runsabove, a Fancy Dance champion in Montana, gave Chaz a handmade eagle feather rocker, which goes on his outfit. The rocker, which is a type of headdress, comes from an Oklahoma tribe. The way it moves gives the powwow judges something extra to look at. The rocker is one of a kind, Runsabove’s own style inspired by growing up in Montana. Chaz shakes his head. It moves as he does.

Runsabove was impressed by the boy from Rocky Boy, and
intentionally gave him the rocker that embodies everything about a champion dancer. Even Runsabove's son looks up to Chaz.

"He wants it," Runsabove said about Chaz. "You can see it in his eyes."

To Runsabove, it's important that Chaz dedicates so much time to the sport and is serious about training, his health and the future of powwow. It's these things that make a champion.

During a break on the second day of Kyiyo, Chaz's friend, Shay Earthboy, gets out of his truck with a pair of brand-new bald eagle bustles to gift to Chaz. They're nice: brown, splotched with white and intertwined with silver horsehairs. Judging by the length and the width, explains Earthboy, the ones on the top belonged to male eagles and the bottom to females.

"These took me two weeks to make," he says. Gluing on the horse hair, which hung down far past the feathers, took around two hours.

"I already have an eagle bustle," Earthboy says. "I don't expect anything back."

The smile on Chaz's face is what he did it for.

"I consider Chaz a little brother," he added.

Chaz ties the bustle around his waist, another tie on his shoulders. He shakes his new bald eagle feathers, repeatedly asking how they look.

Chaz's smile fades slightly. He isn't immune to the effects of the hours of dancing for two days at Kyiyo. He naps between the arena seats, leaning onto one of his eagle bustles. The powwow music doesn't wake him and he rolls over so he can lay flat. His family sits down below to watch the specials.

It's called a "powwow hangover," and it happens when exhaustion comes from sitting too long and staying up too late. By the end of a powwow, there's nothing to do but eat and sleep. But Chaz has to dance again. It will be the first time wearing his new "eagles."

"When I go through Grand Entry, my heart explodes with joy," he said. His mother cried when she saw him in the eagle feathers.

While working 40 hours a week, Chaz has also been doing shows on the side. Before Kyiyo, his family was invited to perform their dances at the MCT theater for the Pacific Islander's Club first annual Luau.

Chaz walks through the lobby, rolling his stuffed black suitcase, his family following behind him. They hustle into the dressing room in the right forestage.

He ties together his outfit while his sister, Aislyn, braids his hair. Chaz points to her braces.

"Your springs are hanging out!" he says.

She puts her hand to her mouth and laughs. He hasn't seen her since she got her braces.

His other sister, Marin, woke up sick before the drive to Missoula. She stares into the mirror, unphased, doing her makeup. Her brothers give her a hug and a kiss on the cheek before they go out backstage. Their mother, Rachel, walks into the room.

"Okay, we're ready to rehearse," she says. "Quickly, quickly. We only have 15 minutes."

The siblings practice their steps and stops together to the songs. They only picked them out an hour ago and the show starts soon.

Rachel directs from afar, but then Chaz takes the leadership role. He uses his arms like he's conducting a concert, swinging his wrists to show how to step during a certain beat of the powwow songs. He's still wearing his blue Nike T-shirt, jeans and Air Jordans. He slaps his hand on his leg to the beat of the powwow music in the background.

Rachel walks around her kids, making sure they are giving each other enough room.

"You are children of the American Indian Dance Theater," she says to them.

She's a professional, but still can't shake the butterflies that come with watching her kids dance on stage.

"Take your time, bro!" Chaz says to his brother. "Go slow."

Rachel tells someone to get some sandwiches and bottles of water from the break room.

"Marin, I got you a chocolate cake for energy," she says.

"That's not until after," Aislyn says.

They perform four songs for the sold out show at the theater.

Rachel says, before he dances, Chaz "is like a jumpy racehorse in the gates."

Chaz's high energy of dance is matched by the tenacity of his moves. He does cartwheels and the splits. He has different ways of making his bustles move, by wiggling his shoulders and kicking his leg high at the beginning of the song. His feet move like bullets, almost too fast to see. It took him a while to perfect the splits. He learned the move as a kid. He would stretch on the floor, starting off as a half split, but eventually learned how to finish his dance in a full split.
At Kyiyo, Chaz finishes dancing at midnight. The crowd has dwindled down to only dancers, drummers and their families awaiting the results. The spectators are mostly gone.

"The judges weren't looking at me," Chaz said. His mom said the same, worried he was unable to catch their eyes.

Aislyn got second place in her division of women's Fancy and smiles, her braces showing. She hugs her brothers. Quinn doesn't place, but he danced better than ever before.

Chaz, in his street clothes, nervously turns his back on the MC. His division comes up and he cringes. His name is called as the first-place champion.

"It was the eagles," he says.

He hugs his family and kisses his grandma on the cheek.

"Dinner's on me," he says.
SRSLY wants you do to acid and listen to its album

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DREW DANBURY

WHERE THEY’RE FROM:
Missoula, by way of Utah

GENRE: Experimental pop

SIMILAR ARTISTS: The Shins, Ben Ricketts

Getting stuck in your own head isn't so bad when music is playing. Burying into existentialism and nihilism is a lot easier when you have an outlet to express your roundabout questions and answers. This has been both a comfort and a confusion for Drew Danbury in his experimental pop project, SRSLY.

Danbury has never done acid himself, but as the record's title states, he wants "you to do acid and listen to this."

The album title might not give the music enough credit or room to speak for itself. One needs not go on a soul-searching acid trip to see themselves inside these inquisitive and internalized songs.

"It's a tough thing to balance idealism and nihilism and existentialism," Danbury said.

He ended up with a narrative told in two albums: first, a story of struggling with religion followed by having a spiritual experience, the second about that spiritual experience not having any meaning.

The lyrics in "I want you to do acid and listen to this" burrow into that nihilism. "Temple Shoes" pleads with the universe, "people drown in guilt, can't forgive how they feel, such awful people justify themselves." In "Comforting Nihilism," Danbury sings, "If I took my life would I finally get some rest? If you took my life for me would you be my friend? I'm not tethered to this world."

Danbury started the project while living in Utah for a couple decades, growing frustrated with what he perceived as a "disillusioned" culture. Left with an "existential black hole" in his life, he eventually moved to Missoula to start filling it.

Through sharing his project, he is able to see how the messages ring true in a different environment. They will soon echo in the cavernous basement of a house show and burrow into a crowd of college students.

Drew Danbury plays Saturday, April 27 at the Eel Pit at 7:30 p.m. Cult of Lip, a shoegaze post-punk band from Minneapolis, Minnesota, also plays. The event is hosted by Ghost Carrot Records. $5. Check Facebook for more information.
Once again, Beyoncé blesses our undeserving souls with ‘HOMECOMING’

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Rejoice, one and all: Beyoncé has granted us the privilege of watching her Coachella set from the comfort of our own beds. Not only did Knowles drop a 40-track live album of her show on all major streaming services, she’s given us the greatest gift of all: a Netflix documentary. “HOMECOMING: A film by Beyoncé” displays a combination of her Coachella shows interwoven with Maya Angelou and Malcolm X quotes and behind-the-scenes clips of creating and rehearsing the set all while recovering from an emergency C-section for her twins in NBD, just another day in the life for Queen Bey.

For both the soundtrack and visuals, the “HOMECOMING” documentary and album are Beyhive-required consumption.

In many ways, “HOMECOMING” is a beautiful and well-deserved tribute to herself. “I studied my history,” Beyoncé says. “I studied my past. I put every mistake, all of my triumphs, my 22-year career into my two-hour ‘Homecoming’ performance,” says Knowles. The set, kicking off with “Crazy in Love,” reflects her journey as she’s evolved from pop-star to prophet. And listening to Jay-Z rap, “History in the making,” has never felt so much like a complete circle as it did watching her descend down a staircase to kick off her show. Beyond that, “HOMECOMING” is a celebration of Black excellence as a whole.

It consists mainly of tracks from “Lemonade” and “Beyoncé” as well as a few throwbacks like “Check on it” and “Baby Boy.” Some genre subversions work better than others, and some are more extreme than others. “Yoncé,” a rap that relies on its heavy, primal beat, falls a little flat when sung with the bass. The added riffs and harmonies in songs like “Say My Name” (oh yeah, there’s a Destiny’s Child reunion!) and “Soldier” allow Beyoncé to relive her whole career with insight and wisdom.

‘Cosine’ evokes a Pacific Northwest mist and moodiness

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There is something wise and wistful about indie pop group Ancient Pools. The band may first appear mousey, but once it opens up, it becomes moving.

Ancient Pools warmed Missoula hearts with their intimate show at Ten Spoon Winery last summer. The set was full of thoughtful, calming tunes. Hooked, I searched for their music online, perfect for the overcast day I was having. To my dismay, all that was available was a single, “There No More.”

A year later, they have finally filled in the blanks, releasing their debut album, “Cosine.” You can hear the year’s time in the intention and attention to detail. “Cosine” wanders through the enchanting Northwest mist to escape the mind.

Ancient Pools is an Olympia, Washington folk-rocker superduo evoking stable sensitivity. Lead singer Anna Jeter is also the bassist and keyboardist in 100 Watt Horse, and her counterpart, Kevin Christopher, is the bassist for Oh, Rose. They found each other in Olympia and started making music. They’ve been touring and making music together in Portland, Oregon ever since.

Their folk sensibility lends itself to simple but smart dream-pop. “Cosine” is melodic and downtempo. It feels a bit like a purgatory for lost souls, capturing the physical sensations of the Pacific Northwest environment, full of forest and mist and skies heavy with rain. The landscape of their sound creates a visceral emotional response.

In “Lake Isabella,” Jeter begins with the lyrics, “I want to feel the wind hit, from the window wide open.” “Ocean for Ocean” is a wattery abyss, with soft lo-fi vocals. The synth in “Quarry” lulls you into a melancholic daze. “Open yourself to the sun when it opens up to you,” Jeter sings.

The songs are short and sweet, and their simplicity is soothing. “Coffee” starts with a peaceful, meditative drone as chimes wake the song and seem to greet the day. “Good morning, my friend, how are you feeling?”

ARTIST: Ancient Pools
WHERE THEY’RE FROM: Olympia, Washington
GENRE: Indie Pop
SIMILAR ARTISTS: Japanese Breakfast, Cults
Jeter sings. “It’s good to see you, it’s good to be here in this small world making coffee and moving on.” The song reconciles with past frustrations by waking up on the right side of bed with a clear head.

The album’s mood is nostalgic, with an expansive dreaminess that remains present throughout. “Sing to the Bears” summates it all, singing, “Sing to the bears, sing to the mountains, so they know you’re near. In the Northwest winds I hear laughter, oh I know they’re here.”

The album has a mellow approach, with steady beats, solemn synth and cooing vocals. Jeter and Christopher are patient in processing emotions, and you can feel the time and effort they spent creating each track. The themes reflect their process as they navigate how to speak their minds earnestly. They search for answers, then make conscious decisions to move on. “Cosine” both loses touch and gets back in touch, finding its way with harmonious vocals and misty synth.

“Cosine” can be streamed on Spotify, Apple Music and Bandcamp.

montanakaimin.com  April 24–30, 2019  21
PHOTO COLUMN | DORM LIFE

What's on the Walls?

PHOTO PROJECT BY DANIEL DUENSING

College students showcase who they are in the spaces they occupy. What decorates their walls or the mess on their desks can open a window to their personalities. I want to show how students make a blank space their own, a way of knowing the student that is just as intimate as a close-up portrait.

"MY LITTLE BROTHER GAVE THIS TO ME. IT WAS HIS WHEN I MOVED OUT HERE, AND I SLEEP WITH IT BECAUSE IT REMINDS ME OF HIM."

CONNER TOLANDER WITH HIS BROTHER'S STUFFED ANIMAL
Be a Taurus and grab summer by the horns

After a good run these last three months, Kaimin Horoscope is done for the semester. We’ve carried you through the blissful highs of Pisces season and the chaotic lows of Aries season. Here, under the bustling stars of the Taurus, we take some time to reflect and predict what the warm months of break to come will have in store for you. Also for Gemini too, I guess.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19):
OK, we get it already. You’re grounded and reasonable, and you’ve got it all figured out. Sage wisdom is the highest of horses is what the rest of us will get from Capricorns this summer. And as much as we hate to admit it, you’re generally right. Congratulations. Don’t let it go to your head.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18):
Get that customer service voice ready, Aquarians. Y’all were born for the hustle economy, which is good, since y’all are going to be hustling every day until they finally put you in the ground. This summer will require much hustling and bustling. Y’all will be the Uber driver with the plastic sleeve on the seats filled with snacks and hand sanitizer.

PISES (FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20):
Pisces are always just swimming along in the current, going with the flow and letting huge swaths of time pass without a thought for the “future” or “responsibilities.” The semester will end, you’ll blink, it’ll be mid-July, and you won’t have done anything except smoke weed out of every different kind of fruit in the Orange Street Food Farm produce section.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 19):
Aries are going to get into some trouble this summer. Let’s just say we see a dangerous fire season ahead. We’re not pointing fingers, but we fully expect a major blaze to start when an Aries or two get together in the woods with a liter of Nikolai and a pack of Virginia Slims.

TAURUS (APRIL 20 - MAY 20):
There’s a summer full of grillin’ and chillin’ in store for the Taurus among us. They’re going to get really into smoking meats and brewing beers at home. They’ll likely also develop a keen interest in Bob Seger and Steely Dan deep cuts and cultivate a wardrobe of cut off jean shorts and Hawaiian shirts. Days spent admiring your lawn and commenting on the weather are in your future.

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUNE 20):
We haven’t been very nice to Geminis in this horoscope lately, and that’s totally reasonable. We feel completely justified because y’all are often terrible, horrible monsters. If you want us to be nicer when we return next semester, here are some things to work on this summer: try to go the whole summer without calling another person a “smoke-show,” don’t harangue disinterested passers-by to join your slackline group, and do not, under any circumstances, wear a bucket hat and a tank top as part of the same outfit.

CANCER (JUNE 21 - JULY 22):
Oh boy, Cancers. You are going to go through all the feelings this summer. A kaleidoscope of personal-life changes will reach its peak with a smooth-talking hottie who is extremely into you appearing at the absolute worst time. What happens next is up to you, crab kings and queens. Will you let that sweet piece of bait float on past you as you scuttle on along the ocean floor or will grab it in your vice-like claws and devour it until there are just bones left? We recommend going for the bones.

LEO (JULY 23 - AUGUST 22):
Seasons don’t really matter to Leos, since they live much more in their own head than they ever do in physical reality. You will likely just breeze through summer, looking hot and having a grand old time in your own little universe. Consider joining our shared reality every once in a while, and remember hot people are just regular people who are hot.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22):
This summer will be one of ultimately fruitless effort and frustration. You’ve got all these new outfits for warm weather and you want to strut around town looking fine. But the reality will be a lot more sweating through all your t-shirts and showing up to every social gathering flustered and out of breath. Real hot mess vibes here, find an experienced Aries who can help you roll with the punches.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22):
Libra is the official summer summer of 2019. None of you will be any fun to be around until the end of September.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21):
We foresee a lot of recently divorced dad vibes in Scorpio’s future. Sloppily unshaven, eating too much junk food, and just generally being a deadbeat. Get a productive hobby and a job so you don’t end up homeless by August. The sun is not your enemy.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21):
We really think Sagittarius need to go on some type of “Eat, Pray, Love” style journey of self discovery. Take a scenic tour of the Chernobyl Reactor, visit the ashes of the Notre Dame, or canoe down the polluted waters of the Yangtze. You’ll come back a new person, changed down to a cellular level, maybe even with a superpower or two.
New Dance in Concert explores humans in their surroundings

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Rain curtains, dancing flames and uplifting stories of human connection will hit the stage this weekend in the annual Dance in Concert production. The concert, titled “Quest: a series of environmental dances,” will feature a series of seven dances.

Dance professor Nicole Bradley Browning first began developing “Quest” four years ago, and hasn’t stopped since. It was born from a curiosity about how to change the nature of the fourth wall, an invisible barrier that separates the stage from the audience. Bradley Browning wanted to transform the theater and “create a feast for the senses.”

Her first idea was to have the audience watch the dancers through a curtain of rain. And, with the help of scenic designer Brian Gregoire, she was able to make it happen. “From there, I became curious,” she said. “What are other ways we can transform the space?”

Bradley Browning created dances she hopes will invoke feelings of nostalgia, hope and connection in her audience. “We live in Montana. This is an incredible place, beautiful environment,” she said. “People make a lot of sacrifices to live here. How can we capture some of the beauty of Montana and bring it into the theater and have the dancers embody it?”

Bradley Browning made something special and unique, said the show’s producer Michele Antonioli. “It’s not something that a dance program does,” she said.

Many of the dances in the series focus on the natural elements with dancers embodying a storm or flames. Some will mimic animals alerted to danger. Others will capture humans supporting other humans. One humanity-focused dance is a duet named “Two if By Sea”, featuring student dancers Olivia Pillidge, 21, and Logan Prichard, 22.

Prichard is a senior in the bachelor of fine arts for dance choreography and performance program. He will perform a solo named “Sediment” that preludes the duet. The solo has been in the works for more than a year and has naturally found its place in the series.

“When I dance this piece, I think a lot about what I know about the landscape that I’m trying to embody,” he said. “I think about the facts that I’ve learned throughout my life, but also just my own personal experiences with the elements.”

The solo exemplifies the struggle of him being without his partner, and the duet reveals the importance of their togetherness. Bradley Browning said, “This dance is definitely about relationship, connection, the critical nature of our existence as human beings to have partnership and be with another human.”

Pillidge is a senior receiving her bachelor of Arts from the dance program. She said that her favorite moments are when she’s making contact with another dancer, and her duet with Prichard is full of them. “It’s a lot of just surrendering and meeting and catching and supporting,” she said. “Those are my faves.”

Both dancers were adamant that Bradley Browning guided them through the process with wisdom and thoughtfulness. They said she celebrated the strengths of each dancer and kept dialogue going throughout choreography.

“Nicole has definitely helped me identify what my movement voice is, which is something that feels very important and rich,” Pillidge said.

Bradley Browning did her best to include as many dancers as possible, including alumni who will come back to reprise their roles. She said, “We create everything together. That feels like a really important part of my role, to credit the dancers who have worked for me.”

She wants to emphasize the important part each person played in the production. Gregoire, created the scenic designs and said “yes” to all of her “outlandish ideas.” Paula Niccum created cohesive-ness through costumes, Abbey Mosely is the only student to light an entire dance concert on their own and the sound was designed by student Adam Wood.

Bradley Browning hopes the audience will be inspired by the series. “I hope that they are able to live in a different world for just a little while,” she said. “One that’s good.”

The dance concert will be held in the Montana Theater April 25 to 27 at 7:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. on the 27. Student tickets cost $16 and regular tickets cost $20.
Liquid Planet Review
BY NICHOLAS SODERBURG

The south side of the Missoula County Courthouse is a regal piece of architecture. Three stories of sandstone blocks fronted with proud Roman-style columns and crowned with a dark bell tower. This neoclassical building, built in 1910, projects power. Looking at it you might expect the local judges to still be wearing powdered wigs and blush over thick white corpse paint while a bellman cries out, “Hear ye, hear ye.”

But, the north side of the building, not so much. This annex was added on in 1966 and looks like a Soviet-era East German factory. The sidewalks are in perpetual shade. At this entrance you see bureaucrats wearing power ties, sheriffs in black and yellow Kevlar, defendants in sweat pants and city employees in blue canvas work boots coming in and out of court.

Just inside the north entrance is the Liquid Planet coffee shop and cafe. Liquid Planet’s catchphrase is “A journey in every sip.” It’s not meant to be ironic, but it’s more the kind of spot where you order a coffee and a sandwich on your journey to plead for leniency in front of Judge Holloway or to register a vehicle with the county clerk.

The food isn’t as bad as going before the judge for your third DUI or serving two nights in jail after an unpaid jaywalking ticket turns into a warrant and some asshole cop stops you for no reason whatsoever and runs your name and then acts as if he feels bad as he cuffs you and puts you in the car. But it isn’t great either.

There are yogurt parfaits, prepackaged salads, cold club sandwiches (The Montanam: beechwood smoked ham with roasted turkey, bacon, and cheddar), hot paninis, with clever, court-appropriate titles (The Judge, Plaintiff, Defendant) as well as some local pastries and snacks. The Defendant, a turkey, bacon, Swiss, panini with pesto aioli costs six bucks and fits in the palm of your hand. It’s prepared off site at the Liquid Planet Warehouse and delivered weekly to the shop. Once ordered, it is microwaved and grilled for just a moment and then served in aluminum foil or on a paper plate with a very thin dill pickle and potato chips. The hope is that you’ll either be too distracted with stress and hunger before court or too elated at finding yourself free to notice that the sandwich has little to no distinguishing flavors. It just tastes warm.

The bagels, also made at the warehouse, come in the usual variety of flavors (everything, poppy seed, etc) and run you about a buck fifty plain and two bucks with cream cheese. Asked how the bagel tasted one court-goer said, “I didn’t even notice. I guess the Philadelphia cream cheese was good.”

While the food is underwhelming, the espresso is strong and locally roasted. You can get a Tsunami — a coffee with two shots of espresso — for under three bucks that will keep your heart pumping while you wait outside the county treasurer’s office or for your significant other to pay off their court fines. The baristas are nice and willing to listen. Asked about the clientele, one remarked that her customers are great.

“Everyone’s always relieved to get coffee from us. We’re kinda like their therapists. We hear everything that goes on in there,” she said, motioning toward the courtrooms. “We listen and get them their drinks and help them get on with their day.”
How to make trail mix nobody wants to steal

Trail mix is the perfect snack for a college student because it’s just whatever miscellaneous ingredients you want, mixed into a bag. Trail mix! Old Five Guys peanuts and beef jerky? Trail mix! Altoids, Adderall and your own tears? Trail mix for finals!

The key to giving your mix some gusto is all in the ratios. But you aren’t here to learn about the perfect trail mix. You didn’t shove all the near-expired snacks you forgot you bought into a sack because you were feeling the Martha Stewart in you. You did it because you have three back-to-back classes today and you woke up too late to eat breakfast.

So instead of teaching you how to make the perfect trail mix, I’m going to address your real problem: Vultures in your class who want you to share with them. Sure, trail mix is a shareable snack, but here are five tips to keep it all to yourself when you’re feeling Scrooge-y.

Instructions

1. **Soak your peanuts in arsenic.** This won’t keep your classmates from stealing your first batch of mix, but it will keep their greedy mitts out of the second batch.

2. **Add screws and/or shattered glass.** This is a nice visual deterrent for those of us who have a hard time saying no to people.

3. **Lace your M&Ms with LSD.** This option is risky because, living in Missoula, there’s a 50-50 chance drugs will only make people want more trail mix.

4. **Hiss like a cat when someone reaches out for your mix.** This one’s my favorite because it doubles as a deterrent for creeps at bars.

5. **Three words: Secret trail mix.** This is just like any other trail mix, but nobody can see you eat it. I suggest non-fragrant ingredients so nobody wonders why your breath smells like peanuts. Or hide it in your coat pockets. No one wants lindy trail mix.

There you have it, folks. Theses tips won’t make you friends, but at least now you’ve eaten some protein today.

Contributed by Lily Soper

Have a student-friendly recipe you want us to feature? Email it to editor@montanakaimin.com
A tart cherry delight from Western Cider

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WHERE ARE WE?
Western Cider is just off Broadway on North California Street. A quiet place and the perfect place to be the introvert babe you are. No one comes there during the day to scope out “hotties” at the bar unlike those late night downtown dives. You have the piece of mind to read your book and enjoy a cider only to be asked gently by the bartender, “Another one, maybe?”

WHY WE’RE DRINKING
Reading in a place off campus has been a goal. Being within a mile of the unread books and unwritten papers is a little stressful. So sitting in Western Cider with the company of Atticus Finch and a Sour Cherry cider is a form of relaxation.

HOW’S IT TASTE?
The sour cherry cider is exactly what it says. You’ll taste the cherry flavor even without an acquired taste for ciders. It may say sour, but it’s quite sweet, which isn’t a bad thing. This cider is very flavorful and a great introduction to anyone interested in checking out the cider bar.

All-in-all
If you prefer a quiet space to have an alcoholic bevvy, check out Western Cider. They have events like Yoga and Cider and Pretty Tricky Trivia that happen weekly. Just relax, grab a cider and get into tree pose and chill. The cider is great especially if you don’t like beer. So if you you like sweet or sour, or even hops, they have a cider for you.

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Medium

5 8 4 3
1 3
6 1

1 3 2
8
9

8 9

Answers to Last Week’s Sudoku:

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Layer it on thicc: Your spring style guide

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Spring is great because it means winter is over and more rain showers make it lush on campus. But it’s not the easiest season to dress for. Creating a solid outfit to fit one spring day is mission impossible. It’s the time of year for Chacos with a puffy jacket, which is totally acceptable for Missoula. Spring brings out the outfit combos that make Anna Wintour cringe. So here’s a couple ways to avoid being the latest fashion disaster this season.

LAYER IT ON THICC:

Cotton sweaters are best for layering. The material breathes and allows some airflow. If sweating is a worry, start layering with a tank top and put on a button-up and a sweater that’s easy to take off. Lightweight rain jackets are a great alternative to your heavy winter jacket, too. Keeping it light and effective is the best way to stay protected without schlepping your whole closet with you. If you can wear a hat with your outfit, throw it on. Protect the ‘fro, or whatever you have going on.

SANDALS IN THE RAIN: NOT TODAY, SATAN

Finding an effective shoe for spring is tricky. Do you jump in the rain puddle or avoid water at any cost because your footwear lacks the waterproofing you need? Slip-on sandals are easy and cute, but if you can’t avoid the rain or the puddles that cover the sidewalks, change to a pair of flats. Closed-toe flats are perfect for spring. Or just put on your Hunter rain boots, you boujee beauty.

I’m not saying you have to follow these rules, but the Missoula fashion police are watching. And by Missoula fashion police, I mean the Trendsetters at the U.
River surfing picks up as snow melts

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Surfers and kayakers speckle the waves near Caras Park in the spring, catching river swells as snow melts from the mountains and flows into the Clark Fork River. The early season surfers are taking advantage of the river before the water gets too high and washes out the waves. Last year, record floods in Missoula left the waves as small ripples for a week-and-a-half while huge trees hurtled down the Clark Fork River.

For Nani Murray, a senior studying health and human sciences, the transition from kayaking to surfing meant leaving the comfort of her boat, life jacket and helmet for a wetsuit and river board. Murray grew up in Missoula and learned to surf in high school when her parents decided to pick it up.

“It looked like the surfers were having way more fun than us kayakers, so I just switched,” she said.

Murray was frustrated that summer as she tried to catch the wave to surf and struggled to swim back to it. She still struggles with the same things today, and each river wave presents unique challenges.

“It is the same sensation you have skiing on a powder day when you get up and catch the wave, and it feels good to work super hard at something and finally stand up and feel the wave,” Murray said.

She has surfed since the end of high school, and is one of the few females in Missoula’s river-surfing community. On Friday, Murray was the only woman, out of 12 surfers and paddle boarders, in the waves. Like many water sports, women have yet to become a prominent force in river surfing.

Missoula gave birth to river surfing from a small surf shop that stuck out as an oddity on Higgins. Strongwater Surf Shop, run by Kevin Berhart Brown, left the Hip Strip last year, but the strong presence of young surfers at the wave is proof of Brown’s impact on Missoula’s surfing culture. Though the gear needed to river surf is not extensive, the learning curves can be steep.

Learning how to read a wave and the river can be difficult, said León Beltrán Laborde, a UM senior focusing on environmental studies.

Laborde, a river guide and part-time surfer, has been catching turns in town on his surfboard before the river rises. If the river is too high or too low, the water won’t make the waves surfers need. This time of year, surfers can head out to catch waves on the whitewater section of the Clark Fork near Alberton, Montana and on the Lochsa River in Idaho.

The surfers say they’re a supportive group of people, which is important because the beginning stages of learning to surf entail falling off a surfboard into the waves repeatedly. Catching a wave is a tricky thing. After learning to read where to enter a wave laying on a board, a surfer then must learn how to pop up to their feet so they can ride it.

River surfing can be more difficult than ocean surfing because the waves are smaller and less consistent. When surfers fall, they fall into a rapid and the current’s eddylines can pull a human body underwater quickly.

Watching the waves in town, few surfers consistently catch and make turns on the waves. It can be an exhausting cycle of getting washed out of the wave, swimming back to an eddy and then attempting to catch the wave again.

But when surfers do pop up and slice the river wave with turns, all the exhausting failures are forgotten. The biggest lesson Laborde has taken from surfing is letting go for the river.

“There is no way to fight the water, so it’s learning to work with it,” he said.
Don’t miss the International Fly Fishing Film Festival (The Wilma) after Down the Hatch. WIN A TRIP TO BELIZE!
All film ticket ($12) proceeds benefit the Montana Trout Unlimited Youth Conservation Camp.

ORVIS
DOWN THE HATCH
2019
APRIL 27, 2019
FLY-FISHING FESTIVAL
CARAS PARK | MISSOULA, MT
NOON – 6:00 PM | FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
LOCAL FOOD & OUTDOOR VENDORS | LIVE MUSIC
FROM THE WRINKLES & MILLTOWN DAMN
BEER PROVIDED BY BIG SKY BREWING & ORVIS (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)
KIDS ACTIVITIES | LIVE FISH POND INSECTARIUM
Griz golf finishes 10th in Big Sky Championship

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The University of Montana women’s golf team put together a pair of strong showings this weekend at the Big Sky Conference Championship, but 20-mile-per-hour winds derailed their performances.

Montana closed its season April 21 with a 10th place finish out of 11 teams.

The Griz held their own for two of the three rounds at Boulder Creek Golf Club in Boulder City, Nevada, but an ugly Saturday showing dropped the Griz to 10th. Montana shot 307 on Friday, 325 on Saturday and 308 to end the tournament on Sunday.

In tournament play, each team brings five players to compete, but the worst individual round each day is not included in the team score. Saturday was the first day all year that no Griz broke 80 strokes. The score matched the team’s worst score of the season. They fell to 10th place in the championship.

Montana finished Friday in ninth place, two shots from eighth and eight back from seventh. Freshman Kylie Esh led the way with 74 in the opening round. Esh tied for the most birdies of the day with five and finished the weekend with nine, the eighth-most in the tournament. Esh shot 74-80-73 to place 24th, the best of any Griz.

Montana wasn’t the only team that struggled with Saturday’s wind; each of the 11 teams in the tournament posted their highest team score of the weekend.

Montana rebounded Sunday with 308, led again by Esh. But it wasn’t enough to gain ground on ninth-place Weber State.

The Grizzlies’ championship performance was a step down from 2018, when Montana finished seventh. But the Grizzlies only brought back three of the seven players on their roster for 2019, and the rest were replaced by freshmen.

Four of the seven women on the roster this season were freshmen and one was a sophomore.

Montana will only graduate one senior this year, Baylee Barkley. Barkley had the lowest average score on the team this season with a 76.6. She also had the lowest round of the season with a four-under-par 68 at the Red Rock Invitational in Cornville, Arizona. Barkley shot 79-83-76 this weekend to place 40th.

Sophomore Faith D’Ortenzio was third on the team with an 83-84-79 showing. Junior Teigan Avery was fourth, carding 76-89-78. Freshman Allison Sobol finished fifth at 81-82-81.

Sacramento State won the tournament with a three-over-par 867. Defending-champion University of Idaho came in second, 20 strokes back. Northern Colorado placed third at 77-over-par. Northern Colorado’s Beah Cruz won the individual title at one-under, beating Sacramento State’s Corinne Viden in a playoff.

Sacramento State will represent the Big Sky Conference in the NCAA Regionals, which will be hosted by Auburn, Washington, Oklahoma and Michigan State May 6-8, with the top six teams at each advancing to the National Championships. Sacramento State will learn where they play Wednesday evening.
Kyiyo basketball brings competitive play to UM

The University of Montana hosted a basketball tournament with the 51st Annual Kyiyo Pow Wow in the West Auxiliary Gym of the Adams Center on April 20. The tournament brought many casual and competitive players together for a high-level final in both the men's and women's divisions. “Shane N Da Boyz” bested the “War Lords” to take the men’s final, and the “Wind Dancers” beat out “All Nations” to win the women’s final.