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Montana Kaimin, February 14, 2003

Students of The University of Montana, Missoula

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Vampires don't always suck —
sometimes they bleed.
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OPINION

Editorial

Less forest funding,
more forest fires

Things don't look good for forests this summer.

It's been a dry winter, snowpack levels are around half their normal amounts and the conditions are already shaping up to become a dry, crispy summer. Perfect for wildfires.

President George W. Bush knows about the drought. He knows that last summer was one of the worst fire years for the Western states. He knows that fires don't fight themselves and that they cost plenty of cash to battle.

So with the prospect of another giant fire year ahead of us, what does Bush suggest? A run-of-the-mill average of \$604 million to fund firefighting programs in the U.S. Forest Service. That's pretty close to the 10-year average for fire budgets.

Why so low? Because Bush is going to sit in his air-conditioned office this summer and say, "Burn, baby, burn."

It's not that Bush is some kind of twisted pyromaniac. He just sees blazing forests as a benefit to his cause.

When the forests burned last summer, Bush marched out to a grassy knoll near the fires and said that this wouldn't have been a problem if only we had been logging the forests to prevent them from growing too thick with undergrowth. In order to prevent such fires in the future, he said, we should manage our forests better and get in there and start thinning.

Environmentalists balked at the idea, as usual, but the idea makes sense and probably would save some forests from such destruction.

But at least be rational about it. There are two sides to this fire argument: leave the forests alone and let nature take its course, or let loggers in and clean up the junk.

Due to fire suppression efforts by the government for the last 100 or so years, nature has not been able to take its course, and a very unnatural amount of underbrush has grown in. Assuming that just returning the forests at this point to a completely self-running cycle is insane. If we didn't fight the fires, they would destroy catastrophic amounts of timber.

However, we are not talking about clear-cutting or even going overboard on thinning to solve problems either. A careful balance must be found between allowing forests to naturally purge themselves and preventing them from getting out of hand.

However, Bush doesn't need to stack the cards against the forests just to try to make his point again.

The potential for problems is high when funding is low. Workers on a blaze will become more exhausted and work harder than they should. Worst case scenario: A crew of college-age fire fighters could be killed, as was the case in Washington state during summer 2001.

With so many factors piling up in favor of a burning summer, Bush should loosen his ego and recognize the need for more funding.

— Chris Rodkey

Campus Voices

Presidents protect, don't censor speech

Column by



George Dennison

I have received recently several letters, telephone calls and other inquiries about events that have occurred or will occur on the campus of the

University of Montana.

The focus of attention has varied from a conference held on campus last summer to the performance of "The Vagina Monologues." In every instance, those who called, wrote or raised questions insisted that I take action to prevent the events, or that I should have

acted to prevent the events. In response, I have stated that I cannot act as requested and still respect my responsibility as president of a public university.

I will explain that comment by discussing the most recent inquiries about the performance on campus of "The Vagina Monologues" arranged by the Women's Center, a recognized student organization. To assist with support, the center secured the involvement of and donations from individuals and groups within the Missoula community. Any funds raised by the performance will help to support the effort to end violence against women, the purpose of staging the performance, certainly a most laudable and highly desirable objective.

Many who objected to the performance may not know that the play, which has been performed during each of the last three years in Missoula, will also be performed this year in Bozeman, Billings, Butte and Kalispell, and has been presented on more than 500 campuses and in 500 cities across the United States and in 59 countries around the world.

Its popularity as measured by performances certainly does not, in and of itself, render it exempt from criticism. However, the purpose of ending violence against women certainly puts the play and its performance in a different perspective. Whether I or anyone else agrees that it serves that intended purpose, those responsible for presenting it have that end in mind.

They planned and prepared in ways that assured dialogue and discussion of this important issue in our society.

The University of Montana has an obligation

As president, I do not have the authority to dictate the views and opinions that students and faculty entertain. Nor can I censor their expressions of those views, so long as they respect the rights of others to express their views as well.

to maintain freedom of opinion and expression on the campus. As president, I do not have the authority to dictate the views and opinions that students and faculty entertain. Nor can I censor their expressions of those views, so long as they respect the rights of others to express their views as well. Nor do I interfere with open and free discussion of a range of viewpoints. I do take action to prevent harassment from occurring, whatever the viewpoint of the harasser or the person or group harassed.

It bears noting that any action against one person or group requires similar action against all others. To that end, I do not suppress viewpoints, but instead work actively to protect the rights of all members of the campus community to freedom of association and freedom of expression, so long as they abide University policies and accord respect to others who differ from them. In that regard, the annual Prayer Breakfast sponsored by student groups on campus receives the same protection as the performances arranged by the Women's Center or the conferences planned and conducted by other groups, although nearly all of them attract complaints and requests for action. A conference sponsored recently on campus by several student and community groups focused on globalization and sparked considerable controversy, but that does not

warrant or justify any effort to suppress the views expressed by the participants.

Every public university has the responsibility to assure an open and free environment for discussion. That does not mean the University sanctions any and all views, but rather that it promotes open and free discussion in the interest of allowing truth to prevail. Academic freedom means freedom from constrained belief, and the freedom to learn from discussion and debate of conflicting viewpoints. We have developed this tradition in the United States because we have learned from the experiences of other countries that forced agreement has dire consequences.

As Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson stated some years ago, "Compulsory unification of opinion achieves only the unanimity of the graveyard." Whether I agree with the variety of opinions expressed on this campus matters far less than that I make certain of the right to express those opinions, and the rights of others to learn from the discussions that ensue.

— George Dennison is the president of the University of Montana.



Montana Kaimin

Our 105th Year

The Montana Kaimin, in its 105th 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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Business office phone (406) 243-6541
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OPINION



Letters to the editor

Controversial classes shouldn't be cut

It's unfortunate that students such as Emily Jones have jumped on the political bandwagon seeking to de-fund the environmental studies program simply because it doesn't share their agenda (Feb. 11 Kaimin). But why stop with EVST when there are so many other departments to scrutinize and eliminate?

For instance, it seems outrageous that the forestry department teaches students how to log national forests. My tax dollars shouldn't go to a program that destroys our environment!

Then there's the economics department whose faculty had the audacity to publish a study about gambling's negative economic effects. Don't they realize that gambling taxes fund education?

Or perhaps we should take aim at the School of Business Administration for teaching students how to capitalize in a global economy. Haven't the "global economy" and free trade done more to "undermine" and "demoralize" the

timber and mining industries in this state than environmentalism? Sharpen the budget ax!

How dare we fund a military sciences program that teaches students strategic ways to kill people! And I can't believe there are classes about homosexuality in literature. That is an offense to the traditional family! And on and on and on. I don't agree with every criticism I've listed, but they're real attacks that have been made. If every individual, industry or interest group with a gripe about UM were able to pull the plug on offending programs there would be no University.

The marketplace of ideas line about universities is cliché but true. If enough students are interested in a particular subject or idea, they should be free to study and engage in it. Thankfully, Montana's constitutional drafters had the foresight to buffer higher education from the whimsical fury of ludicrous legislators (and their pet lobbyists) and leave the governing to the University community.

Chris Zeeck
senior,
communication studies

Duringer's not new to Coke drama

Bryan O'Connor's attempt to turn the controversy around the Coke contract into a novel/movie (Feb. 13 Kaimin) offers an interesting perspective that could benefit from some more thoughtful development. I'd like to offer a few suggestions to clarify the theme and plot.

Let's call the movie "Coke III: Big Sky Billboard." Bob Duringer plays the leading role in all three episodes — the only thing that changes is the location. In Coke I, released in 1997, he was the director of business services at Oregon State University and negotiated a nine-year exclusive contract. In Coke II, released in 1999, he was the vice president of administration and finance at the University of Maine and negotiated a 10-year exclusive contract. In Coke III, released in December 2002, he plays the same role at the University of Montana and negotiates a seven-year exclusive contract. As the corporate leading man, Duringer gets his star salary of \$122,000 per year.

In the latest episode, Duringer encourages Monte to leave Grizzly Stadium and become Coke's international mascot. Unfortunately, while in Colombia, Monte attempts to form a mascots' union and is promptly murdered by his cor-

porate sponsors.

The movie is now playing at the Coca-Cola Theater of Thoughtless Consumption, previously known as the University of Montana. Although the producers claimed the film was going to gross \$600,000 per year, ticket sales have turned out to be a disappointing \$303,600 per year — barely enough to cover the star's salary and other administrative expenses. Fortunately, people in Montana like to see good triumph over evil and plans are underway to revise the ending of Coke III. Actors and actresses are being recruited now and significant changes are in the works for the concessions stand.

Scott Nicholson
organizer,
Montana Human
Rights Network, Missoula

Coke won't save higher education

I am so fed up with UM administrators' actions that I had to write this letter. According to the Feb. 11 Kaimin, the University is facing a \$9 million budget cut. The administrators think the \$2.8 million that will supposedly be generated by this coke contract (I won't capitalize the word coke, because I don't think they deserve it) over the next few years will lower stu-

dents' tuition.

The revenue generated by students, per semester, is close to 10 times that amount. Three million dollars is pocket change when we consider the damage that coke is doing to workers in Colombia.

We need to look at the local situation to fix the University's budget crisis. Let's start with the salaries of some of the high-ranking people. Specifically, George Dennison. Last semester, he decided he needed a \$5,000 pay increase. Now he's making around \$150,000 a year. I understand the desire to make wages that are competitive, but Montana's economy is bottom-of-the-barrel. There is no reason for Dennison to think he needs \$150,000 a year. Or maybe he doesn't care as much about the students as he does his own well being. I want my money back, George!

Secondly, let's look at intersession operations. The University has a tendency to use electricity in ALL the buildings during winter session. Why can't the administrators minimize the number of buildings used for classes and move the students into the minimum number of dorms?

If administrators want to decrease tuition, and our budget crisis, they need to start talking to the students. ASUM helps, but it is just a small portion of the 13,000

Letters continued on Page 4

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OPINION

Continued from Page 3

students attending UM.

Ask the rest of us for suggestions and you might get some good ideas. After all, the University's administrators aren't the ones trying to get an education.

Morgan Nelson
non-traditional freshman,
forestry

Twisted interests
don't start with Coke

In all honesty, Coke is but one minor grievance. Our campus thrives on erroneous financial backing. The Mac labs vanish as Microsoft becomes a standard for our public computers. How can we show such blind support for an operation of neo-imperialistic monopoly? Our money cannot, in good faith, fund economic Darwinism that destroys necessary competition.

Look at "Club Nocturnal."

Can non-drinkers, in good faith, let their costly education include a college-mandated pub? Should dry religions, like the Latter Day Saints, be expected to pay for this through tuition and activity fees? It's a small wonder they've not created an uproar.

Regarding religion, let's not forget our neighbors. Can Pentecostals support charters which allow groups like Lambda or the Druids club? Muslims needn't support Campus Crusades, Christ Scientists needn't support the health center, and Jews needn't support cafeteria pork chops.

Our diverse plethora of groups are outraged. But now, because of the Mormons, Pentecostals, Muslims, etc, are getting deductions, the consensus is that an equal part be deducted for all. Yearly tuition is dropped by 8 percent, a deficit remains, and no party will fill it.

Coke is vetoed, the cola effi-

gies removed, and the company still operates in Colombia, for a profit, because no better jobs were actually offered to the workers during our awareness boycott. We can sleep soundly not because we've actually helped oppressed workers but because we firmly stated that we didn't like it when they are oppressed. How feasible. How political.

I'm on my way to the Orange Street Bridge now, about to attach myself to a logging truck in vain hopes that it will stop a timber sale. But first I'll pick up a Diet Pepsi and attempt to slap myself to wakie wakie.

Joel W. Bartron
sophomore, English

What about
Wal-Mart and Nike?

I have a feeling the boycott started Wednesday left many people feeling confused.

What exactly are we boycotting? Are we boycotting Coke because it's not taking care of workers in Colombia? Coke has also been accused of buying up precious water rights and of neglecting to support its African employees in the struggle against AIDS, so what's special about Colombia?

Are we boycotting because of the ways corporations abuse humanity in general? If so, what happened to worrying about Wal-Mart and Nike? Are we boycotting the corporate sponsorship of schools? If so, what about the issue of corporations sponsoring politicians?

More generally, what about the question of whether the decisions of America are really made by "the people" or whether they are made behind the scenes, by companies who couldn't care less about things like social consciousness?

What about the health implications of supporting a company that has succeeded in

making sugar water the No. 1 selling drink in the world?

Boycotting is a powerful tool of the people, and it's a shame to see it used primarily as a band-aid solution that makes us feel better about ourselves as "activists," but that makes little difference to the bigger picture. My intent is not to belittle or discourage the Coca-Cola boycott. I simply wish to express my belief that to be effective as a university community, as citizens, and as rebellious youth, we first need to educate ourselves about the entire spectrum of political, economic and social issues that are facing our nation and our world. Unless we are willing to overcome the apathy that results from our affluence, we have little chance of uniting to take meaningful action against a scheme of global injustice much larger than even mighty Coca-Cola.

Garrett King
junior, liberal studies

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UM to refund tuition to ROTC students called to duty

Active duty a "special circumstance" registrar says

Alyson Tolley
Montana Kaimin

When Kevin Furey, 20, was called to active duty and had to drop his classes recently at the University of Montana, the deadline to receive a refund had already passed.

But fortunately for Furey and other students in his position, UM is refunding tuition

to students who are summoned for active duty.

"This is a very special circumstance," UM's Registrar Phil Bain said. "We have a normal refund schedule that all state colleges have to follow."

Bain said higher education associations are urging colleges and universities around the state to issue refunds to those called to duty.

"We are doing everything we can to not have these people penalized," Bain said. "We feel like it is the right thing to do."

Furey, a sophomore in environmental studies and political science, said his tuition refund will go back to the Army, which is paying his tuition. He was going to have to pay back money for a scholarship he received from Safari Club International for students interested in conservation work.

"I was going to have to pay back \$300, but money I got from ROTC for good grades will cover the cost," Furey said.

Bain said he has seen around eight to 10 UM stu-

dents who have been called to active duty this semester. He said students are less likely to have to withdraw from class as they get farther into the term.

"Near the end of the semester the faculty are willing to say, 'you can just have the grade you have right now,'" Bain said.

Other students called later on in the semester will be able to work things out with the registrar's office, he said.

"(Bain) is really good to work with," Furey said. "I was

surprised at how easy it was. He talked about the different options I had; I could either cancel my classes or drop them. I decided to cancel so I wouldn't have to pay back more money."

Furey said he is disappointed to leave school but that he plans to come back and continue his studies at UM.

"I'm pretty bummed," he said. "It's something I signed up to do but I didn't think would happen, or that it would happen this quickly."

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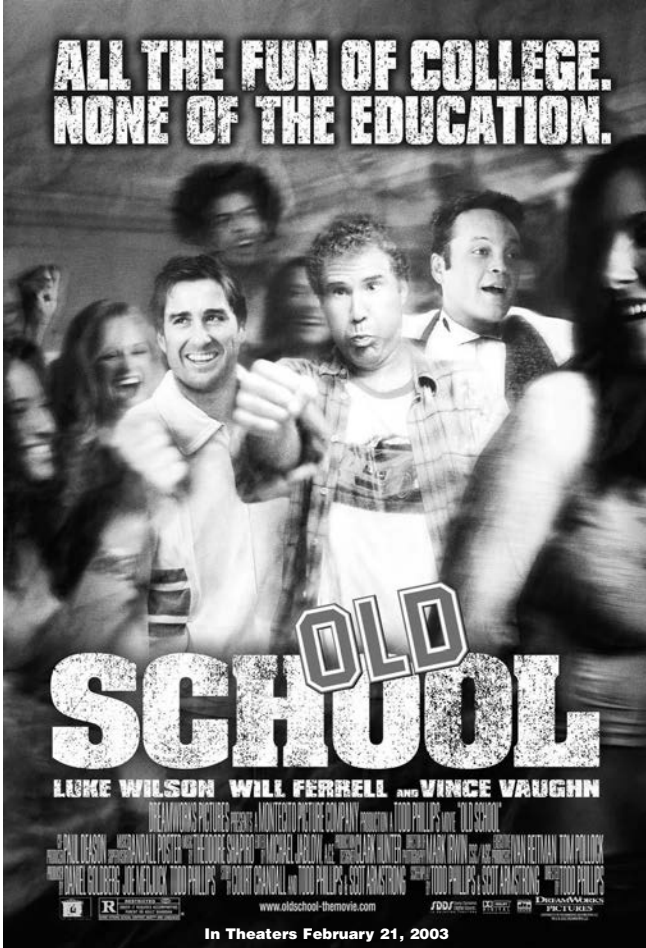
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NEWS

Committee offers cash to students with efficiency tips

Natalie Storey
Montana Kaimin

The University of Montana Incentive Awards Program Committee will soon reward students who have money-saving suggestions if their ideas are implemented. The program, originally implemented in 1993, allows state employees to make suggestions about how they think state agencies could be run more efficiently. Students will be offered a cash award but the amount has yet to be decided by the committee, said Rob Natelson, chairman

of the committee.

In September, the Board of Regents extended the opportunity to students, and the program will soon be implemented at UM.

UM students will be able to participate along with faculty and staff in filling out a form and submitting it to the incentive awards committee, which then reviews requests and decides which ones are beneficial for the University. Once a suggestion is determined to be viable, it is passed on to UM President George Dennison and possibly to the department it

affects, where it will be implemented. If the suggestion is successful, the student, faculty or staff member who made the request receives part of the savings.

Dennison said the extension of the program to students was warranted.

"Students should have the same options available to them as are available to faculty and staff," he said.

Others agree.

"Anytime we can involve students in the decision-making process, we want to do it," said

Richard Roehm, chairman of the Board of Regents. "Students have first-hand views on what's going on and oftentimes come up with really good ideas."

Natelson also said students have a unique perspective.

"Students see a lot of things, sometimes, that staff and faculty members don't see," he said. "I'm delighted to have it extended to students."

At UM suggestions such as using e-mail for memos and communications between professors, hiring an electricity efficiency

consultant and putting covers over the thermostats in the Curry Health Center have been approved by the incentive awards committee. These suggestions are being considered by Dennison.

"It often comes down to the little things," Natelson said. "It is often not the big grandiose things that make the best suggestions."

Natelson said he hopes many students will respond with ideas about how to make the University more efficient. He also said few faculty make suggestions and wishes they would make more.



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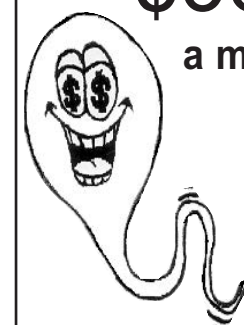
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NEWS

Pseudo-blood eaters bloodletting for blood bank

Katherine Sather
Montana Kaimin

Thursday's blood drive in the UC had all the qualities of a vampire feast, but all of the un-dead in attendance were on good behavior.

They opted to donate instead of dine.

Members of UM's vampire role-playing club donated blood together to promote service in their organization, and to celebrate a good cause.

As flush-faced students were pricked and pumped for the Red Cross, they handed out certificates for the best phlebotomist, fastest bleeder and most gruesome bruise.

Missoula resident Ryan Goble, leader of the vampire

impersonators, almost nabbed the award for fastest bleeder. During the club's games, he thirsts for blood as 250-year-old Jago Fenrir, a vampire prince.

But as his real self, he's donated more than a gallon of blood in the past few years.

"We give as often as we can," he said of this organization.

His 20-member club is a chapter of the Camarilla, a national live-action role-playing organization and fan club of White Wolf Game Studios, the company that started the role-playing trend. They meet each Tuesday in the UC to transform into the un-dead, and to plan community service projects like Thursday's blood drive.

They donate blood and volunteer for organizations like the Boys and Girls Club because it makes them feel good, Goble said.

"It also protects us when things like Rod Ferrell come up," he said. He referred to an incident in the 1990s when a Florida resident who believed himself to be a vampire committed murder.

"He was psycho," Goble said. "He didn't know the difference between fantasy and reality."

Members of his club are more realistic, he said. Before their weekly game in the UC, the group of friends chat about everything from restaurants to movies. At about 7:30, however, you can feel the atmos-



Nick Wolcott/Montana Kaimin
Axel Lybecker (right) sucks the blood out of Missoula resident April Horinek, a member of the vampire role-playing club, Thursday during the Red Cross' blood drive in the UC. The role-playing club presented Lybecker with a plaque declaring him the best phlebotomist, a person who draws blood.

phere change.

It's crawling with leering, fang-bearing characters.

UM freshman John MaGee, who sports a black leather jacket and a red streak in his hair, becomes the vampire Marcus, who possesses psychic abilities.

MaGee is one of the group's newest players. As an art major, he finds role-playing to be a satisfying form of self-expression.

"I like stories, and I like to see how things unfold," he said.

He begins to interact with the other players, who have adopted British accents, black costumes, and sinister objectives.

Players use a Camarilla rule book to guide them in achieving higher ranking in the vampire world, or murdering characters they don't want around anymore. In the course of the night, a band of vampires will hunt a character named Nathaniel because he

started a fight on sacred ground.

No actual violence or unwanted physical contact takes place at the event, however.

Oftentimes, the players use the game rock, paper, scissors instead.

Though the club has existed in some form in Missoula for about a decade, it didn't get recognition from ASUM until 2000, when it was re-established by a UM grad student.

He doesn't come to the games anymore, said former UM student Adrienne Berry.

"Buffy the Vampire Slayer is on at the same time," she said.

But the club still attracts new players who are intrigued with the underworld.

"People ask if we think it's real," she said. "I don't think it's any more real than Looney Tunes or a novel, but it's more fun than both of those."

U.S.: No sanctions for North Korea in sight

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States said Thursday it would not press for punishing U.N. sanctions against North Korea now, but Pyongyang said it didn't trust Washington and demanded that the Security Council blame the U.S. government for the nuclear crisis.

North Korea has accused President Bush's "hostile policy" for the standoff and warned that sanctions would be tantamount to "a declaration of war."

On Thursday, North Korea's U.N. ambassador Pak Gil Yon attacked the United States for pushing the nuclear dispute into the Security Council, reiterating it can only be solved through negotiations between Washington and Pyongyang — not in a setting that involved other nations.

Earlier, U.S. Deputy Ambassador Richard Williamson said the United States wants to resolve the dispute "in a systematic manner, and diplomatically."

Asked whether sanctions were a possibility in the near

future, Williamson replied, "It's not an issue right now."

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell told Congress that North Korea had turned down a proposal to involve China and other countries in talks with the United States over its weapons programs. He said Asian neighbors have a stake in putting the "nuclear genie back in the bottle" and corking it and North Korea was not just a U.S. problem.


But Pak was adamant in ruling out any talks involving other countries.

"We are strongly opposed to such kind of multilateral talks, since this is just designed to avoid any responsibility of the U.S. from its international commitments," he said. "We will never attend such kind of multilateral talks."

The standoff began in October when U.S. officials said North Korea admitted it had a clandestine nuclear program. Pak insisted this was a U.S. "rumor."

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EYE SPY



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



Garrett Cheen/for the Kaimin
Michael Franti of Spearhead enlightens the crowd with his lyrics as Radioactive beat boxes Tuesday night at the Wilma Theatre. Spearhead meshes a San Francisco reggae-rock sound with a hip-hop twist. Franti's lyrics endorse peace and anti-war messages.

Poetic Prophet
Professes
Peace

Below: San Francisco MC Radioactive pumps up the crowd with his intellectual freestyle lyrics Tuesday night at the Wilma.
Garrett Cheen/for the Kaimin



Eye Spy Video Game Correspondent

Valentine's Day: Time for racy video games

Column by



Pete Nowakowski

It's Valentine's Day ... great. All kinds of things are going on around campus "The Vagina Monologues" takes place this weekend, couples are pretending to be romantic because they have to and there is a sorta feeling of love in the air. Don't be fooled, it's not real lovin'; it's nothing more than a capitalistic device designed to make people look like they care for a day. Buying candy and flowers and edible underwear does not make one romantic. (OK, maybe the edible underwear is a little romantic.) The only reason guys even take part in this ridiculous suck-ass holiday is because they want to get laid. And women are worse. They get sucked into this exercise in lameness every freakin' year. Ladies, do you think your significant other would buy you roses and edible underwear just because he loves you? I don't think so. This is the one day where every guy can count on getting laid and all a guy has to do is buy some cheap-ass, red, heart-shaped thing. Hell, it doesn't matter what it is either. It could be a red, heart-shaped donkey hemorrhoid as

long as it says "I luv u."

I pity seemingly smart, successful, confident women who turn into 10-year old versions of themselves just because it's Valentine's Day. Really, just grow some balls, ladies, and quit being so damn shallow. Don't cater to the lowest common denominator (which, unfortunately, is men) because you are supposed to.

The cast of the current showing of "The Vagina Monologues" is on the right track. There is nothing wrong with women empowering themselves. What's sad is that I even wrote the previous sentence. That's something that should not have to be said.

— Ascend soapbox — And before anyone starts to think I am attempting compassion and understanding about women as a ploy for getting laid, fuck off. I know firsthand how violence against women can destroy lives and families. My sister was sexually abused during a span of 10 years by my former stepfather. And anyone who thinks that as a man, advocating strength and empowerment in women is weak, or lame, or gross, or out of line should take a 3 a.m. phone call from my sister and console her when she is hanging by an emotional thread. — Descend soapbox —

It's ironic that there is this stupid holiday that is supposed to be about love, but isn't, not only that it's just plain lame, but because women act like blathering middle schoolers because a male-dominated society says this is the day to do so. With love,

true love, there is equality and I see no equality in the way Valentine's Day is practiced in American society today. It's women trying desperately to gain more attention from their man. There just isn't a better weekend for "The Vagina Monologues."

One of the most romantic things I can think of is to play video games, stroking my controller, staring intently at the screen ... wait, that was before I met the coolest girl, who actually likes to play video games, too. But she is an anomaly. Most girls don't think video games are romantic. Hell, maybe my girlfriend doesn't either. To her maybe they are just cool, but at least she plays, which surprises me. Because, as a female friend of mine explained, video games are the most base, asinine forms of entertainment for guys. They are evil, digital excretions from the bowels of Beelzebub himself.

She didn't actually say that, but I could see in her eyes that she felt it. And it's no wonder most females feel this way. Most games are not only NOT catered to women — they are electric displays for polygonal boobs and female sexual objectification. In one of the most male-dominant industries in a society dominated by testosterone, it's no wonder that video games like "BMX XXX," and "DOA: Xtreme Volleyball," are so popular.

"BMX XXX" is the worst of the two, because it totally blows as a game, and because it's only selling point is boobies. You get a flash here and there of some

naked chicks with massive jugs riding BMX bikes — that's it. It's not like there is humping or anything going on, at least it would warrant the XXX in the title, nope, just fake boobs. Seriously, NOBODY plays this game because they like BMX, that is straight-up bullshit. If you want to play a BMX game, go get Dave Mirra. This game is the epitome of lame-ass and, as a person on a crusade proclaiming the virtues of gaming as an art form, this really puts a damper on things.

Then we have "DOA: Xtreme Volleyball," which is really hard to bash because despite the jiggling jugs bursting from the bikinis of the gleefully hopping beach bunnies in this game, it really isn't a bad title. Gameplay is tight and actually fun, but you can't overlook the fact that there are tons of pasty white dudes drooling at their screens in secret, while telling the world that they play the game for the technical aspects, polygon counts, anti-aliasing, accurate body physics and other geek speak. BAH! It's about the tit, period.

Back in 1996 when the trend of big watermelon boobs on chicks in games, took off with the original "Tomb Raider," I knew that good things would not come of this growing practice.

Mind you, stereotypes in videogames are absolutely horrible, and are one of the most disappointing aspects of a medium with such potential and have always been there, especially in fighting games where EVERY

female character is a cookie cutter of a barbie doll, albeit a badass barbie doll, with bazoon-gas twice as big as that great American female stereotype.

But before "Tomb Raider," (an action/adventure game), there wasn't such an emphasis on this sophomoric practice, even in fighters, though it is understandable being that boys masquerading as grown men make up the entire gaming industry, consumers and producers, (present company included).

Sadly, "Tomb Raider" was an excellent game but things got a bit scary when dudes started pinning over Lara Croft, who ISN'T REAL, saying they would totally "do her." How anyone can "do" a polygonal set of walking breasts is beyond me, but I shudder to think how certain parts of the male anatomy were poked at countless computer screens, while in a waking wet dream of Croft.

I avoided "BMX XXX" as long as possible, but having just recently played it (only for the technical aspects) I had to get this off my chest.

So keep propagating this behavior, people, and we will never get rid of the endless stream of jerk-off games whose sole purpose is to offer naked chicks as objects, all the while the negative sexual stereotypes surrounding women and the attitudes toward video games as an invention of Satan will never transcend the current level of lameassedness.



Calendar

Friday

•**That Friday Night Thing:**
The University Center’s weekly experiment in fun kicks off at 10 p.m. Admission is \$3 with a Griz Card and \$5 without.

• **“My Big Fat Greek Wedding”:**
The movie will play at the UC Theater at 7 p.m. with the critically acclaimed Adam Sandler drama “Punch-Drunk Love” to follow at 9 p.m.

• **“The Miracle Worker”:**
The play, which is on a national tour run by the University of Montana’s own Montana Repertory Theatre, will play to the home crowd at 7:30 p.m. Call 243-6809 for tickets.

• **“The Vagina Monologues”:**
The play will create a dialogue with the audience about women and their vaginas. Proceeds from the play go to 1st Step, a program that counsels women who are victims of sexual abuse. The show is in the University Theatre, will kick off at 7 p.m. and costs \$6.

Saturday

• **YWCA Peace and Pampering Day for Women:**
One day a year women are invited for massages, manicures, and portraits all free of charge. Ladies, take advantage from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the YWCA.

• **Movies: see Friday.**

• **“The Miracle Worker”:** see Friday.

• **“Stuart Little”:**
Let children from Missoula melt your heart with this play based on the classic story by E.B. White. The show will run at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Cost is \$8.

• **Lambda V-Day dance:**
Everyone is welcome in this day after St. Valentine’s Day dance. Proceeds will be used for Lambda’s PRIDE week in early April. The Elks Lodge will be bumping at 9 p.m. Admission is \$5.

• **“The Vagina Monologues”:** see Friday.

First love yourself. Only then can you truly love the Eye Spy pages.
Make contact with us: arts@kaimin.org

No Method to Wu-Tang ’s Missoula madness

No Ol’ Dirty Bastard, either

Ira Sather-Olson
Montana Kaimin

From the slums of Shaolin (New York City) came the Wu-Tang Clan, a group originally composed of nine stellar hip-hop emcees and producers. Their 1993 debut album, “Enter the Wu Tang: 36 Chambers,” revolutionized the sound of hip-hop by its use of stripped-down production, martial arts sound samples and the lyrical fury of its members. Missoulians are in luck as four members of the Clan will stop by the Blue Heron next Thursday. While the show won’t feature all the members of the Clan, Cappadonna, Inspectah Deck, Killah Priest and a recent addition to the Clan named Remedy will be sure to rock the Garden City. Jimi “Nasty” Nasset, a member of the local hip-hop booking crew Hungis Productions, said members of the Clan got into contact with him and expressed interest in playing a show in

Missoula. Nasset said the tour the members are embarking on is more of a grassroots tour, spanning only 30 cities across the United States. “It should be pretty huge, they just wanna go out and do shows,” Nasset said. “I apologize to those who can’t get in. It’ll be a lot bigger than anyone expects it to be.” Nasset said security for the show will be as big or bigger than it was for the Atmosphere hip-hop show in September. Nasset said he thinks the crowd will be rowdy, but it should be a good time for all in attendance. John Donkersloot, a junior in criminology, first heard Wu-Tang during his junior year in high school. “(They) talked about dark and evil stuff and I liked it,” he said. “I’m not a fanatic. I listen to them every now and then.” Donkersloot said his favorite member of Wu-Tang is Method Man. He also said he’s going to check out the show with a bunch of his friends who are big Wu-Tang fans.

“I never got into Wu-Tang as much as everyone else,” said Brian Brock, a senior in history. “(But) I’d like to see what they’re like nowadays. It’ll be a new thing for me.” Brock said that if the members of Wu-Tang come here and go through the motions of a regular “hip-hop” act, many people won’t be into it. He also said his favorite member of Wu-Tang is Ol’ Dirty Bastard. A number of Wu-Tang fans who are underage will be disappointed to find out that the show is 21 and over. Mike Huberman, a freshman in general studies, wants to go to the show but isn’t old enough. Huberman also said that many of his friends would like to go but they aren’t old enough, either. “They have a lot of members and lots of verses,” Huberman said about why he likes Wu-Tang. “They’re pretty unique. (There) aren’t a lot of groups like Wu Tang.” One would think it would cost thousands of dollars to get members of the Wu-Tang Clan to play a show in Missoula.

“(It was) not as much as I thought it would be,” said Nasset. “Those guys are out to do shows more than to make money.” Nasset said he thinks the show will sell out and that 200 of the 400 tickets have sold already. He also said this show will be the biggest name in hip-hop that Hungis has brought to Missoula. Nasset also said that people trying to make fake tickets to get into the show are out of luck. “We have tricks up our sleeve to prevent that,” he said. Opening up for the members of the Wu-Tang Clan is an all female hip-hop group called Siren’s Echo. Siren’s Echo is affiliated with Oldominion, a hip-hop group from the Northwest. Siren’s Echo is composed of Syndel (the girlfriend of Oldominion member Sleep) and Tony Hill. The show is scheduled to start at 9 p.m. at the Blue Heron on Thursday, Feb. 20. Tickets are \$15 pre-sale at Rockin’ Rudy’s or \$17 at the door. The show is 21+ so bring your I.D.

UM students revive New Crystal Theatre

Erin Strickland
Montana Kaimin

The Crystal Theatre is up and running again with the help of some friends at the University of Montana’s Wilderness and Civilization Program. The students help with advertising, take tickets, make popcorn and sell organic sodas and cookies from local bakeries. It’s a project meant to bring the local community together, not only for the Crystal’s sake, but for the sake of continuing to address important global and local issues with the films that are shown. “It’s a way to extend the learning they’ve done to the greater community,” said Nicky Phear, a wilderness and civilization program instructor. The Wilderness and Civilization Program is a year-long program that integrates classroom learning and field study to educate students in wilderness policy, ecology, economics and Native American studies. They go on trips all over western Montana, immersing themselves in the surroundings they study. They also work for a local non-profit organization. “We try to engage them with the community,” Phear said. Each spring semester the students do a service project that is “consistent with the ideas and philosophy of the program,” she said. This year, that means volun-

teering at the theater so the New Crystal, a non-profit organization that has run it in the past, can continue to bring more alternative, educational and documentary films to Missoula. In July, New Crystal decided not to rent the theater seven days a week as it had been doing. For awhile they showed films at the Roxy, then worked out a deal with Shirley Juhl, the owner of the Bridge/Crystal building, to rent it four nights per month. Peter Nelson, one of 15 wilderness and civilization students, is the theater’s director. He recruited the other students in the program, “seeing it as a great way to interact with the Missoula community,” Phear said. “It was sad for a lot of them that the Crystal would be gone,” she said. “So they’re reviving the alternative theater in town. It’s really about importance of community and place.” Phear added that the relationship with the students and the theater isn’t going to last forever, but for now it gives the New Crystal more time to find funding. “By no means is it gone, or dead,” said Juhl, who has owned the building for 31 years. “It’s more diverse,” she said. She now rents it out to various groups for things other than films. “There are things happening all the time.”

Ira Sather-Olson
Montana Kaimin

Folk music has influenced many people with its rootsy and down-to-earth tones. Bob Dylan and Joan Baez are two names synonymous with folk music. Tracy Grammer is a folk artist who will perform Friday, Feb. 21 at the Crystal Theatre. Grammer used to be half of a folk duo with songwriter Dave Carter, said Jess Byers, concert coordinator for the Missoula Folklore Society. Byers said Grammer and Carter were a performing duo starting in 1996, and that their music was No. 1 on the “most-played” lists of folk radio DJ’s. Byers said Carter died of a heart attack last year. Grammer and Carter weren’t just musicians, Byers said, they were also in a relationship together. Grammer is now starting to tour again as a solo artist, Byers said. “It’s contemporary folk music; it feels like something new and different.” Byers said. “Her singing has a transcendent quality to it. All the songs she performs were written by him (Carter).” The duo of Grammer and Carter released three albums, Byers said. Their first album, “When I Go,” was released in 1998, as well as “Tanglewood Tree” in

Half of folk duo to hit Garden City

2000 and “Drum Hat Buddha” in 2001. “Drum Hat Buddha” and “Tanglewood Tree” both received heavy play on folk radio charts, she said. “(The music is) spiritual but not overt. It makes me feel something,” said Byers. “(I’ve) been a fan for a few years. I’m excited she’s still performing.” Byers expects the show to sell out and urged people to buy their tickets early. She said if the show sells out and more people are interested in seeing Grammer, there may be another show on Sunday, Feb. 23. According to the Missoula Folklore Society’s mailing list, Grammer will play the mandolin, guitar and banjo with accompaniment from Donny Wright on upright bass and guitar. Byers said Grammer will play live on the show “Morning Freeform” on KUFM at 10 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 21. Byers also said she is planning to interview Grammer on her own radio show on Thursday, Feb. 20 at 9:30 p.m. on KUFM. Tracy Grammer and Donny Wright will play at the Crystal Theatre on Friday, Feb. 21 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$14 at the door. They can be purchased at Rockin’ Rudy’s or Crystal Video. Missoula Folklore Society members get \$2 off.

KAIMIN SPORTS

Lady Griz hang tough in OT loss to Weber State

Will Cleveland
Montana Kaimin

The Lady Griz didn't have enough left in overtime to knock off Weber State Thursday night.

Powered only by the points of Lady Griz guard Brooklynn Lorenzen in overtime, the Lady Griz faltered to a 74-65 loss to the Wildcats.

The Lady Griz, 5-3 in the Big Sky and 14-7 overall, came back from an 11-point halftime deficit to take a two-point lead in the final minute of regulation after a 17-footer from Lorenzen.

But sophomore sensation Julie Gjertsen drove to the basket and made a lay-up over Lady Griz sophomore center Hollie Tyler to tie the game at 58 and send it into overtime.

In overtime, the Wildcats took over as Gjertsen opened up the extra session by hitting another three-

pointer, which was then answered by Lorenzen seconds later.

After Lorenzen's tying three, Weber State continued to shoot the three well as redshirt freshman Sheila Robertson added another long distance trey to give her 18 points for the game.

The Lady Griz never led after that point. The Wildcats continued to hit their free throws and eventually pushed the lead to 11 before Lorenzen added another deuce.

Lorenzen was the only member of the team to score in the extra period, finishing the game with a season-high 23 points and eight assists, following up her career-high 27-point effort against Weber last year.

"Brooklynn was unbelievable as she has been against Weber," said Lady Griz head coach Robin Selvig. "The poor girl, it breaks her heart. She keeps throwing up career nights

for us and we can't get it done."

Tyler dominated in the second half as Weber State left her single-teamed most of the game until late in the game as they collapsed on her every time she had the ball.

She finished with her tenth double-double of the season with 19 points and 15 rebounds.

In the pre-game press conference, Selvig said that senior guard Jill Henkel had tweaked her knee and was unlikely to see any playing time, but she started regardless and chipped in with an eight-point effort.

Other than the Lady Griz's top three scorers, no one provided any substantial contributions off the bench. Freshman guard Katie Edwards was held scoreless and sophomore center Crystal Baird only scored two points on 1-of-10 shooting, following her career-high 20-point effort against Eastern Washington last Saturday.



Lorenzen

Condition a concern for Grizzly spring tennis teams

Brittany Hageman
Kaimin Sports Editor

The University of Montana's head tennis coach, Kris Nord, and his squad of 15 will dust off their tennis elbows this weekend as both the men and women's teams spin into action.

The 2003 spring tennis season begins this weekend with the men in the Montana State Invitational in Bozeman Feb. 14 to 16 and the women at the Eastern Washington Invite Feb. 14 to 15 in Cheney, Wash.

The men will begin play against Montana State-Billings at 10 a.m. Then they'll take on Lewis-Clark State at 5:30 p.m. They'll face MSU on Saturday at 2 p.m. and wrap up play with Idaho at 9 a.m. Sunday.

Two states over, the women will take on EWU at 8 a.m. They'll play Gonzaga at 12:30 p.m. on Friday.

The ladies will close out their competition with Portland State on Saturday at 8 a.m.

This weekend will give both teams the chance to play a lot of tennis, something the team hasn't been able to do.

The team has only been practicing together Friday nights, with the men practicing separately on Saturdays and the women on Sundays. Because UM doesn't have indoor tennis courts, the team is forced to vie for court time at the Missoula Athletic club.

"No doubt about it, we're going to be behind the rest of the competition because we just haven't had the practice time," Nord said. "Our goal for this weekend is to get in a lot of tennis and get the feel of competition."

Because the teams haven't had the

best venue for practicing, Nord fears his team is still out of shape.

"We've been doing what we can, but I don't think anyone is at top form," he

said. "We're just going to have to treat February like an experiment and get through it."

This weekend, Nord said the men's team singles and doubles ladders "will shuffle," but the ladder for the men is as follows: No. 1: Jan Harm Steenekamp, No. 2: Stanislav Nevolovich, No. 3: Ryan O'Neill, No. 4: Grant Gelina, No. 5: Varun Giri and No. 6: Gus Treyz.

Steenekamp and Nevolovich will team up in the No. 1 doubles spot, Brian Devlin and O'Neill will fill the second slot and Giri and Treyz will be the third pair.

Nord said Steenekamp and Nevolovich are showing the most promise for the men at the moment.

"Steenekamp has had a great fall and established himself as one of the best players in our region," Nord said.

Steenekamp is just as strong in the doubles as the singles, Nord said, which is a double bonus.

Nevolovich is at the top of his game since transferring to UM, Nord said, so fans can expect a dynamite pairing between him and Steenekamp in doubles action.

The women's ladder for the EWU tournament will be as follows: No. 1:

Michaela Zima, No. 2: Lindsey Torgerson, No. 3: Ashild Fjeldheim, No. 4: Annabelle Janairo, No. 5: Kate Kohlschreiber and No. 6: Erin Cooney.

The women return their top five letter winners from last year, which will provide consistency and maturity on the women's squad.

"Our top five are almost interchangeable," Nord said. "I'm excited about the way we've been playing."

After this weekend, both squads will head back to Cheney for another invitational on Feb. 21.

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Grizzly men lose close call to Weber State

*Injured cheerleader
Rick Wiesemann
honored at halftime*

Myers Reece
Montana Kaimin

For the first time this season, the Grizzlies' gray locker room door remained closed to all people, including media members, following Montana's devastating loss to top-ranked Weber State Thursday night. Members from the press waited for 30 minutes until it became clear that it was time to pack up and leave.

Head coach Pat Kennedy, who always does a post-game radio interview, sent assistant coach Wayne Tinkle to talk in his place. Kennedy and the players remained in the locker room, with no people entering or leaving.

Although the Kaimin was unable to speak with Kennedy, the closed doors said more about the game than any post-game

interview could.

The Grizzlies led the undefeated Wildcats for the majority of the game. Weber State did not get its first lead until four minutes into the second half, but did not gain a lead of more than one point until Slobodan Ocoolkjic's basket at the 7:05 mark, making the score 52-50. Ocoolkjic finished with 30 points and 12 rebounds — both game highs.

"What can I say about him (Ocoolkjic)?" said Weber State junior center/forward Patrick Danley. "He's had a big impact ever since he got here. He's just a great player."

Weber State's standout guard, Jermaine Boyette, scored 16 points, but was overshadowed by the amazing play of Ocoolkjic. Ocoolkjic finished the game shooting 10 of 13 from the field and went 9-for-11 from the free throw line. Montana had two different leads of eight points in both the first and second halves.



Bret Ferris/Montana Kaimin
Victor Venters goes up for a shot early in the first half of Thursday night's game against Weber State. The Griz battled back from a second-half deficit late in the game but came up short, losing 75-72 to the Wildcats.



Lisa Hornstein/Montana Kaimin
After walking onto the floor of Dahlberg Arena for the first time since dislocating his neck in November, Rick Wiesemann gets a hug from a fellow cheerleader Thursday night. After a fall during cheerleading practice last football season, Wiesemann temporarily lost the use of his arms and legs. Following months of rehabilitation and encouragement, Wiesemann has plans to return to UM next fall.

The Grizzlies led 46-38 with just under 12 minutes left in the game, but then Weber State went on a big run to gain control of the game. The Wildcats used a 25-5 run to put the score at 63-51 with four minutes remaining in the game.

"Our defense was the key (to the run)," Danley said. "We kept stressing defense, defense, defense the whole game."

At halftime, injured UM cheerleader Rick Wiesemann was honored for his inspirational fight to recover after being paralyzed in cheerleading practice earlier this season. The crowd gave him a raucous standing ovation as Montana's mascot, Monte, presented him with a pair of shoes as a symbol of his hard-earned walking ability.

After the ceremony was over, Wiesemann expressed his gratitude for those who helped him along the way.

"All the support was awesome," he said. "Everyone was really supportive."

He then thanked his family and the cheerleading team for being there for him throughout the struggle.

"The whole community was great, too," he said.

The Grizzlies could have used some of Wiesemann's inspiration in the second half as they watched a vital conference game slip away from them.

After Weber State established a comfortable lead, Montana made the end of the game exciting with the clutch shooting of senior David Bell. Bell made three highly-contested treys in

the final minute to keep Montana within reach.

Weber State made enough of its free throws to hold onto the lead, warding off Montana 74-72 with only 9.6 seconds remaining. Weber State played keep-away in the final seconds and Montana was not able to foul to stop the clock until only 4.5 seconds remained.

Then, Ocoolkjic made one free throw to increase Weber State's lead to 75-72. After Montana grabbed the rebound on Ocoolkjic's miss, Bell missed a desperation three-pointer that would not have counted anyway because time had expired.

Bell finished with 22 points on 8-for-12 shooting, including six of 10 from three-point range. Bell, the Big Sky's second-leading scorer, outscored the conference's top scorer, Boyette, but also committed an uncharacteristic nine turnovers.

"David Bell is a great player," Danley said. "They have other great players, but he was definitely our main focus. He almost brought them back by himself at the end."

Both Montana and Weber State had little scoring balance, which was especially unusual for the Wildcats. Steve Horne, Kevin Criswell and Bell scored 55 of Montana's 72 points. Ocoolkjic, Boyette and Nick Sparrow combined for 59 of Weber State's 75 points.

The crucial loss leaves Montana with a 10-15 record, but more significantly, 4-6 in the conference. The win pushes Weber State to 9-0.

MSU meet is track's last chance to qualify

Marina Mackrow
Montana Kaimin

This is the University of Montana's last chance. Its last chance to get ready for the Big Sky Conference Championship and its last chance to get more championship qualifiers. This last chance is a double dual at Montana State University.

Unlike last weekend's, this dual is scored. The men already beat MSU and the women came within five points of beating the Bobcats, but that was on a neutral track. Now, the Cats will have homefield advantage.

"We'll have to have a good day," head coach Tom Raunig said. "I expect it to be close."

Raunig said MSU is like UM — a balanced team.

The Grizzlies will take on Big Sky rival Weber State University, which is the defending Big Sky Champion and favored to win again. Raunig said WSU could sweep the duals. Also at the MSU dual is Utah State. Raunig said this team is strong in sprints and throws, and although it will be a challenge, Utah State will not be as tough as Weber.

Right now, the Grizzlies are "soft in the sprints" since Tuff Harris and Drew Babcock are both out with injuries, Raunig said.

Despite running in last weekend's pentathlon in Idaho, Suzanne Krings is entering another five events.

"Her success," Raunig said, "is key to the women defeating MSU."

Andrew Levin, who placed second in the pentathlon, is competing in four events at MSU.

Raunig said Levin is nursing some sores, but hopes to be 100 percent this weekend.

Raunig said the team wants to add more conference qualifiers, but at the same time not overrun people in order to avoid injuries. Already the men have qualified nine athletes in nine events while the women have qualified eight in seven events.

"We've been doing well this season," Raunig said. "The team broke up last weekend so it will be exciting to put the entire team back together. We'll see if we have a strong showing."

By the Numbers

5
Age when Lady Griz guard Jill Henkel started shooting basketballs. But her love for the sport goes back even farther. "I've been playing basketball since I've been in the womb," she said.

2,238
Approximate number of students who sweated their asses off Wednesday at the Student Rec Center.

20
Number of sneakers Grizzly forward Jody McLeod owns.

38
Years old new Griz football coach Bobby Hauck is, making him one of the youngest coaches to ever lead the team. (Hopefully to another national championship.)

7/8
Days until the women's/men's basketball teams have another chance to take on the evil forces of the Bobcats.

Love
A score just in time for Valentine's Day. Love in tennis terms means zero. Hopefully, that's not what you're left with this holiday.

Auditing

Continued from Page 1

the deadline to audit only allowed students to use the audit option inappropriately by using it as a grading option instead of a registration option.

“I think it is important that students should be held accountable for some of their choices,” he said.

Morin also said the audit option should be used as a registration choice instead of a grading choice.

Once the proposal is put into effect, students will have to petition to audit classes after the 15th day of instruction. According to the UM catalog, petitions must be signed by the instructor of the class and the student’s adviser. It costs the student \$10 in processing fees to petition to audit a class.

“Students need to remember that there is always the opportunity to petition when there is a real need to audit a class,” Hill said.

The Faculty Senate also passed a resolution to change what it means to receive a grade of “no pass” for a class taken with a pass or no pass grading option. According to the resolution, “no pass” is defined as producing D or F quality work. However, the definition of D in the traditional grading system will still be defined as “work below average.”

The motion passed unanimously with little discussion from the senate.

There was also a tie vote on the issue of removing the suffix “T” from the College of Technology courses.

“The ‘T’ is problematic for some of our students when they try to transfer,” Hill said.

Vice-chairman Bill Knowles acted as chairman during the discussion and refused to break the tie vote, saying the issue need “further discussion.”

The issue was sent back to the Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee.

A beautiful moonlit afternoon



Matt Hayes/Montana Kaimin
Laddie Weider (right) and Krystal Colley take in the spring-like weather above the M on Mt. Sentinel Wednesday afternoon. Weider and Colley made the trip from Hamilton to Missoula just to hike the M.

Valentine

Continued from Page 1

even get me a card for Valentine’s Day.”

During this time, she said, she longed for a simple gift, one that millions of elated women received and just as many relieved men have given: 12 red roses.

Finally, 14 years into their union, he came through. No hinting, no suggesting, no screaming — 14 years she waited silently, and after 14 years, it paid off.

“He got me a dozen red roses. Out of the blue,” she said. “That, to me, was what I had always secretly desired.”

Others around campus have a different idea of romance.

“I’ll probably take her out to Sizzler, maybe woo her with some Jerry Springer,” Kurt Wikel, a second-semester transfer student in geology joked about his hot February date.

He has been dating his sweetheart for a year-and-a-half now.

Almost all of that time has been spent in other parts of the country, with her going to school and him attending the University of Connecticut.

Wikel said that one year they didn’t get to see each other for two of the biggest gift-giving holidays of the year, and found a different occasion to lay them on her.

“I gave her the piled-up gifts I hadn’t given her since Christmas for spring break,” he said. “It was a mass gift giving.”

Wikel said that although he acknowledges the existence of this holiday, he doesn’t think it should be the only time two people show each other how they feel.

“Valentine’s Day is just a day like any other,” he said. “If you need a holiday to tell your girlfriend that you love her, then you need to re-evaluate the situation.”

UM sophomore Meg Powell has similar feelings. She and her boyfriend of five months took vows not to buy each other gifts, or make a fuss about the holiday.

“I’m not that excited,” she

said. “Valentine’s Day is a commercialized, Hallmark holiday.”

She and her boyfriend will spend the evening at the “Vagina Monologues,” in the UC, where her friend Jen Richert will perform. Richert, an English major, will talk about female genital mutilation at the event.

“One-hundred-and-thirty-million girls and young women have been subjected to this mutilation,” she said.

Finally, UM’s most starry-eyed couple, Dave and Diane Friend, will postpone their holiday celebration. The UM astronomy professors were recruited to help friends move into a new home on the big night. They plan to make up for it soon, with dinner at the Red Bird.

Dining out has been a typical Valentine’s Day activity for the couple of 28 years.

Friend said he might give his wife a box of chocolates, or flowers.

“We’re going to have a romantic evening,” he said. “It’s just going to be postponed.”

Dean

Continued from Page 1

demanding job,” he said. “The pressure on deans across campus is extreme. I think she made a decision that was best for her and her family.”

Lundt said he is worried that finding a person suitable to fill Evans’ position will be difficult because of the comparatively low salaries Montana positions pay. When the position opened up two years ago, he said, many people laughed, or even hung up, when told what their salary would be.

Despite these constraints, Evans said, the faculty, staff and students of the school of education are the best on campus, and that she hopes to someday be offered the dean position again — when her kids are grown up.

“It really breaks my heart to make this decision,” she said. “I would accept it in a New York second.”

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