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Montana Kaimin, October 8, 2008

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Tubby Thompson
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MONTANA KAIMIN

Wednesday, October 8, 2008

www.montanakaimin.com

Volume CXI, Issue 24

Republican Party withdraws challenge

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BILLINGS, Mont.—Montana Republicans on Tuesday abandoned their challenge to almost 6,000 voter registrations in key Democratic counties, after election officials said they would reject thousands of the challenges as invalid.

Republicans had notified seven counties last week that they were challenging the registrations of 5,977 voters whose addresses did not match a U.S. Postal Service database. Party leaders said they were trying to guard against voter fraud.

The maneuver—just weeks before the November election—drew criticism from state and county election officials who had to investigate the claims. Nonpartisan voter rights groups said there was no proof of fraud in the state and said the GOP effort was partisan-driven.

Challenged voters could have been forced to reregister or submit an affidavit proving their current address. Republicans said the effort was not partisan, pointing to the fact that Associated Press writer Matt Gouras in Helena was among those challenged.

In a letter sent Tuesday to election officials in seven counties, Montana Republican Party executive director Jacob Eaton said he was withdrawing the challenges and would be issuing no more. A

copy of the letter was provided to The Associated Press.

“My intent was to ensure that voters are properly registered and that Montanans would have the utmost faith in the integrity of our elections process,” Eaton wrote. “Nevertheless, because of the unintended consequences that have been reported, I will not file any other elector challenges.”

Montana Democrats had sued the GOP on Monday in federal District Court in Missoula, claiming the effort was a thinly veiled bid to suppress votes in key Democratic districts. Party officials said whether that lawsuit would be dropped had not been decided, but that the Republican decision to abandon its effort was the right move.

“This affirms what we’ve been saying for some time, that this was a desperate attempt to take away the rights of voters,” said Democratic Party spokesman Kevin O’Brien.

Secretary of State Brad Johnson, a Republican, told county election officials on Monday not to send any letters to voters informing them of the challenges until the lawsuit was resolved. Only 255 letters informing voters in two counties had been sent.

That’s fewer than the 360 letters Johnson’s office previously reported had been sent, a figure

See CHALLENGE, page 8

Students learn art of lobbying



Kenneth Billington / Montana Kaimin

Former Associated Students of Montana State University lobbyists Jessica LaRoche and Scott Martin, along with former ASUM student lobbyist Denver Henderson, help students realize their power to influence policy at a lobbying workshop in the UC Theater Tuesday night. “In Montana, we have a very open political system and oftentimes you (students) bring a unique perspective to them,” Henderson said.

Amy Faxon

MONTANA KAIMIN

Students gathered in the University Center Theater Tuesday night for pizza, lemonade and a lesson on effective ways to lobby.

With the legislature meeting in Helena to discuss thousands of proposed bills next semester, ASUM President Trevor Hunter and Vice President Siri Smillie decided to offer a workshop informing students on how they can communi-

cate with legislators and influence elected officials and policies.

The legislative session meets once every other year for 90 days. This academic year the session starts Jan. 5 and lasts through the end of April.

Hunter, Smillie and ASUM Student Political Action Director Sean Morrison opened the workshop with information on where to go for more information and the best ways to contact legislators.

Morrison emphasized that shooting an email to a legislator is the easiest thing people can do, but face-to-face meetings are the best way to communicate with them.

“You need a lot of emails to get the same message across as talking to them,” he said.

Former student lobbyists Denver Henderson, Scott Martin, and Jessica LaRoche explained to the 41 people at the workshop the

See LOBBY, page 4

Undecided atmosphere



Kenneth Billington / Montana Kaimin

Missoula’s weather has been very sporadic lately, with scattered sprinkles of rain and bursts of sun throughout the day. This weekend’s forecast projects highs in the low 40s and lows in the upper 20s, as well as possible rain showers on both Friday and Saturday.

ASUM, administration to renegotiate retake fee

Allison Maier

MONTANA KAIMIN

After a proposed \$50 class retake fee was unanimously opposed by the ASUM senate last Wednesday, the student government will be responsible for collaborating with the University of Montana’s administration to come up with an alternative option.

The Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee, which proposed the retake fee last week, turned responsibility for negotiating the fee with the administration over to ASUM. However, the Committee and the faculty senate will still be responsible for other components of the retake policy, such as whether a student would pay a fee before or after taking a course and whether to allow grade replacement.

“I think they’re totally different issues,” said ASUM President Trevor Hunter. “This is a really good thing.”

At their meeting on Tuesday, the Committee discussed whether a student’s grades should be averaged when he or she retakes a class or whether the old grade should simply be replaced, said ASUM Senator Jon Dempersmier, a committee member.

“(The Committee) has pretty well switched its focus after the senate shooting down its proposal last week,” Dempersmier said.

Its original retake proposal called for students to pay \$50 when they registered to retake classes. A student’s original grade would have been automatically replaced at the end of a semester. This was a departure

See FEE, page 4

TODAY ON CAMPUS

• Resume And Cover Letter Workshop
Lommasson Center Room 154
3:30 p.m.
free and open to the public

INSIDE THE KAIMIN

Sports Whit
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Griz disappoint with latest violence

Ski deals
page 6
Shop smart for season passes

FORECAST

High 56F
Low 25F

Editorial

MT Republicans' dirty tricks have no place in the election

I hope the Montana Republican Party wasn't trying to bolster its image by challenging voter eligibility in Montana. It was trying to garner attention, maybe. But in my mind, the image of the Republicans as a "for the people" party was completely ruined by its actions this past week.

That the Republican Party withdrew its challenge Tuesday night confirmed my suspicion that the challenge was nothing but a dirty political trick.

What the Montana Republican Party tried to do was illegal. Completely, utterly, illegal. It is not just illegal in Montana—it is illegal nationwide, and there is a federal law in place which prohibits exactly what the party attempted to do. Had the complaint filed against the Republicans made it to court in Missoula, I know the judge would have ruled the party's actions illegal.

According to the complaint filed on Oct. 6 against the Montana Republican Party, "within 90 days of a primary or general election for Federal office, the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 prohibits states from systematically reviewing the registration rolls for ineligible voters."

The National Voter Registration Act states that the only time a state can review voter registration in that 90-day period is at the request of the voter; if the state wants to question the criminal record or mental incapacity of a voter; or if the state wants to question if a voter is still alive.

According to the complaint, Montana has adopted some of the provisions of the NVRA, "including the 90-day prohibition on systematic review of voters' registration status."

Last time I checked, the election was 27 days away, which certainly falls within this 90-day period.

Maybe if just one person in the Montana Republican Party had any brains at all, or if one person had bothered to do some research on voters' laws and rights, the party wouldn't have made the reckless decision to challenge voter eligibility that it did.

It would have prevented a lot of negative attention from both the press and the public.

As a first-time voter in a presidential election, I now have no faith in the Republican Party.

Republicans have proven they can do nothing for me in the upcoming election except attempt to take away my right to vote. Why would I support a party that is trying to use scare tactics on the people who are solely responsible for keeping it alive?

Disenfranchising voters is not a way to win an election.

It's a way to make your party look like it succumbs to the dirty tricks and flat-out lies that the American people are trying to get out of the White House.

Do yourself, and all citizens of the United States, a favor and show up to vote on Nov. 4. The worst thing that will happen is that you will have to take a few extra minutes to update your address when you arrive at your polling station.

Don't give in to any dirty tricks in this election. Politicians' dirty tricks are child's play, and some of us have grown up and left the sandbox.

—Virginia J. Cleaveland, news editor,
virginia.cleaveland@umontana.edu

Campus less safe while Griz roam

I was unfortunately not surprised when I read "Griz football players charged with beating" in Wednesday's Kaimin. It is appalling that the three boys on the team are still roaming our community, as well as our "safe" campus.

These three freshmen are being charged with the brutal beating of one of our fellow students, who was left with cracked teeth and a broken jaw that is now wired shut. As of Tuesday afternoon, these perpetrators were attending class AND football practice without ever stepping foot in jail.

It is disgusting and a disgrace to our community to let these boys enact this sense of entitlement by assaulting



another human being and not experiencing any type of repercussion for their violent behavior.

Missoula County Attorney Fred Van Valkenburg said that the students were not arrested because he claims none of them are flight risks since they are students. Why does it matter if these criminals are flight risks? They brutally attacked someone on our campus and are free to do it to someone else.

The entire assault was recorded by a security camera, which shows the

football players' knocking the victim unconscious and proceeding to beat him consistently before fleeing the crime scene.

Only one of the players has been charged with one felony count of aggravated assault, while the other two perpetrators have been charged with accountability for aggravated assault.

It is all too common in our society to let athletes get away with violent interpersonal attacks. I am very disappointed in the inaction that has taken place regarding this situation. Our campus as we know it is becoming less safe each and every time we as a community let violent criminals get away with these types of behaviors.

Katie Bloomquist,
junior, sociology

Opposition to retake fee is wrong

As an incoming freshman, I spent most of my time partying and fishing rather than attending classes and doing homework. As a result, I failed three of my general education requirements. Now, as a senior graduating this upcoming May, I am faced with \$300 in fees to replace these failing grades. I do not think the situation that I have placed myself in is an isolated incident. ASUM and President Hunter are wrong in opposing the \$50 retake fee.

ASUM President Trevor Hunter opposes the \$50 retake fee because it "doesn't give (students) the option of averaging the two

grades." If a student retakes a class and gets a better grade, his or her GPA will increase higher than if it is averaged with an "F." Students would have been better off if their retake grade automatically replaced the failing grade; in addition, they would have saved \$50.

I also find fault with Hunter when he says, "Nowhere should we ever take a stance on what we think the faculty wants." Compromise is vital for any functioning governmental body. Nobody can ever get what they want all of the time. This proposed policy was a compromise offered by the administration following ASUM's failed attempt "to abol-

ish a retake fee" in 2007. It should not be surprising that (President) Dennison doesn't want to give up \$110,000. I wouldn't either.

With the entire ASUM's faulty logic and inability to compromise, it is accomplishing the exact opposite of what it's supposed to be doing. By opposing this new and cheaper policy ASUM is not protecting students' rights or providing them with a positive voice. ASUM should set aside its disagreements with the administration to approve a policy that would benefit students where it matters the most: their wallets.

Richard Reneau,
senior, political science

Montana GOP actions reprehensible

Montanans are registering in record numbers this year, and it's more than just young voters amped up on Barack Obama! Many of us know we live in a state where just three votes determined the makeup of the last state legislative session, or that about 3,000 votes determined the fate of the U.S. Senate in 2006. Most Montanans are proud of our accessible democracy, and we're excited to make a difference on Nov. 4th!

The Montana Republican

party knows that Montanans will make their voices heard in record numbers this November, and the GOP is scared of what that means. That's why they've challenged almost 6,000 voters in mostly Democratic-leaning counties. Their shenanigans are an attempt to wreak havoc on the electoral process, made evident by timing their challenge days before absentee ballots are mailed and days before the close of early voter registration.

Based on GOP Executive Director Jacob Eaton's reasoning, are there no voters in Flathead, Custer or Gallatin Counties that meet his

challenge? Really? None at all?

The Montana GOP is led by corrupt fraternity brothers and train conductor wannabes with penchants for political theater. They are exercising a blatant disregard for our right to vote, a right that American troops have died to protect, a right that the long battle for civil rights has fought to ensure and a right that thousands of organizers have worked tirelessly to preserve. Their actions are reprehensible, desperate and unpatriotic and will not easily be forgotten.

Jamee Greer,
Missoula resident

The Kaimin invites letters to the editor and guest columns.

Letters should be 300 words or fewer, and columns should be about 700 words. Please e-mail both to kaiminletters@umontana.edu. Make sure to include a phone number.

ACCURACY WATCH

The Montana Kaimin is committed to accuracy in its reports. If you think the Kaimin has committed an error of fact, please call us at 243-2394 or e-mail editor@kaimin.umt.edu and let us know. If we find a factual error we will correct it.

MONTANA KAIMIN

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The Montana Kaimin, in its 111th 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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Refreshments will be served.



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ACROSS

- Savage and Friendly
- Shade trees
- Murdered
- Collar part
- Horn honk
- Fisherman's decoy
- City on the Mohawk
- Nasal inflammation
- Giant with a retired number
- Delta deposit
- Movie about Mozart
- Ducats
- Head of a state
- Engraves
- Santa ___ winds
- Poet Teasdale
- Most reticent
- Mineo and Maglie
- Magazine VIPs
- Computer info
- Burn slightly
- Promissory notes
- Diplomat Hammarskjold
- Create charged particles
- No longer in use
- Humerus place
- Cut off
- Public lavatory
- Bad-mouth
- Antitheses
- ___ Park, CO
- Tight closure
- Alone
- Works strenuously
- Mail or broadcast
- Shed
- Schnoz

DOWN


- Grippe
- Snitch
- Center starter?
- Translate an encryption
- Christian and Helen
- Aliens, briefly
- Superman's girl
- "Waterloo Bridge" painter
- Hits the books
- Slight of build
- Pipe sealant
- ___ go brag!
- Sunset direction
- "The ___ Sense"
- Sushi choice
- Graf's husband
- Grimaldi family's country
- King Arthur's paradise
- Painful
- Brit's wireless
- El ___ Campeador
- Soccer shot
- Will contents
- Put on for show
- Hindu title
- Blubbers
- Old rulers
- Exceptional courage
- Previously owned
- Russians, once
- Practice session
- Saying
- Singer Diana
- Fencing sword
- Straddle
- Tattled
- Supper, e.g.
- Cpl.'s superior
- Yucatan uncle
- "Telephone Line" rock grp.
- Mach topper

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FEE

Continued from page 1

from the current policy, under which students do not pay to retake a class but can opt to pay \$100 if they want their old grades completely replaced instead of averaged with their new ones.

The money raised through this grade replacement fee goes to the university's general fund, Provost Royce Engstrom said.

Last week, the ASUM senate opposed the policy in a unanimous decision, saying that the \$50 fee is too high for students to pay.

Hunter will meet with Engstrom, ASUM Vice President Siri Smillie and Dempersmier on Oct. 15 to discuss setting an amount for the retake fee.

Hunter said ASUM will probably attempt to eliminate retake and replacement fees altogether, a plan that has been rejected by the administration in the past.

"I think initially we're going to continue what ASUM has fought for in past years," he said.

Engstrom said he is not in favor of such a proposal.

He said a retake fee could encourage students to succeed in courses on their first attempt so they won't have to pay more money to retake the class later.

Eventually, he said, the fee could reduce the number of students who retake courses.

"This has turned into a discussion about revenue, and this shouldn't be a revenue discussion," Engstrom said. "It should be a discussion about student success."

He said the retake fee should represent a way of holding students accountable for retaking classes without causing financial hardship, and the financial aid office might be able to help solve these problems.

"I'm confident that we can find a mechanism to do this," he said.

LOBBY

Continued from page 1

most important things to remember as a student lobbyist in Helena.

LaRoche suggested sending an email to the legislator about a week before you want to meet.

"When (the legislators) can put a face with the voice, it's great," she said.

LaRoche's biggest tip was to consolidate your issue into three main points and bring a paper copy to give the legislator at the end of your meeting.

Student lobbyists have to be able to deliver a unique view to the legislators, Henderson said. Make sure to read the bill ahead of time so you understand its basic meaning, he said.

Henderson said the most important piece of advice students should take away from the workshop is to be comfortable and confident.

Michele Reinhart, the representative from House District 97 in Missoula, spoke for the second half of the workshop.

Knowing your audience for the bill you're discussing, being empathetic to yourself and others and speaking from your heart are a few of the tips she shared.

"I'm a busy person," Reinhart said. "I'm most likely to hear you if you come to Helena, which is hard to do."

Out of the 41 people who attended the workshop, 17 were ASUM members.

"I think (the workshop) was a great introduction to how to get involved, get to Helena and support legislation you believe in or you believe will be harmful," said ASUM Senator Tony Brockman.

Speakers urge repeal of state death penalty

Carmen George
MONTANA KAIMIN

Marietta Jaeger Lane remembers receiving a taunting phone call from the man who kidnapped her daughter Susie from their family's tent during a camping trip.

"When I said I had been praying for him and I asked him what I could do to help him he started to sob," Lane said.

She would soon discover that Susie had been killed.

Overcoming her initial anger and hatred, Lane, who is from Lincoln, said that through her faith she slowly came to replace that hatred with a different understanding and forgiveness.

"What I came to understand is to kill someone in Susie's name was to violate the sweetness of her life," Lane said. She said that it was an "insult to the inestimable value of my little girl," to think that the death penalty could avenge her death or bring her back.

Lane spoke out against the death penalty with three other speakers Tuesday night at the University of Montana. The speakers came to Missoula as part of the "Journey of Hope...from Violence to Healing" tour, sponsored by the Montana Abolition Coalition, a Montana umbrella group of religious and civil rights activists who oppose Montana's death penalty.

The tour is holding over 50 events across the state encouraging Montana to abolish the death penalty. The coalition said that a new bill opposing the death penalty would be reintroduced to the state within a year.

The speakers included David Kaczynski, who told the story of his horror upon discovering that his brother was the Unabomber, who

was arrested in Lincoln in 1996. However, his speech focused on comparing his brother's case with the brother of another speaker to illustrate the injustice of the death penalty.

He said that Bill Babbitt's mentally ill brother Manny killed a woman during a Vietnam War flashback and was executed for it, while his brother was put in prison for life for pre-meditated murders.

Kaczynski said that expensive lawyers and friendly media saved his brother. Manny died because he was a poor black man whose inexperienced public defender drank during the trial, he said.

Babbitt said that one of the last things his brother told him was to "put a face on your brother."

"That's what I'm doing," Babbitt said.

Another face Tuesday night was Shujaa Graham, a man who was framed for the murder of a prison guard.

"Think about someone saying on Dec. 8 you are going to die for something you didn't do," Graham said. "It's not just about capital punishment, it's about social justice in our community."

Bud Welch, the father of a murdered girl, also spoke and said that when the man that killed his daughter was executed, it didn't bring him any peace or healing.

He said that it only created more death and more grieving families. Now he believes he shares common ground with the father of his daughter's murderer.

"We both buried our children," Welch said.

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(Watch the "Today in the UC" signs for room numbers)

Jesters gear up for annual Tubby Thompson match

Roman Stubbs
MONTANA KAIMIN

The UM Jesters rugby club broke a quarter-century losing streak in last season's tradition-rich Tubby Thompson match against Missoula's men's club, the Maggots, who had won 28 of the previous 30 meetings.

On Saturday, the Jesters will try to do something they haven't done since 1982—win back-to-back Tubby Thompson Matches, as they will square off with the Maggots at noon on Saturday at Dornblaser Field.

"It's always a huge match," said Jester's flanker Trent Drinkwalter. "Always a fun match, and always a really tough fought game." Drinkwalter will be playing in his fifth Tubby Thompson Match.

Saturday morning will mark the 31st annual scrap, celebrating an icon in Missoula rugby history. The match honors New Zealand native Rex "Tubby" Thompson, who was a graduate student at UM who rebuilt the fledgling Jester's club after becoming head coach in 1973. The Jesters, who hadn't won a match in three years, went on to win 24 matches that year and earned a berth to the National Tournament. Three years later, in 1976, the Maggots were formed from several players from that squad and the 31-year fall rivalry match ensued.

The Maggots have dominated since, owning a 28-3 series lead, including a 25-match win streak dating back to 1983. The Jesters registered back-to-back wins in 1981 and 1982 and then broke through with a 29-10 upset of the Maggots last fall.

It was a landmark win for the program against the Maggots, who as of late have acquired many former Jester players to their men's league roster.

"I think there's more Jesters playing for the Maggots now than there's ever been," said Jester's advisor Ashby Kinch, who has



Alisia Muhlestein / Montana Kaimin

UM Jesters Rugby Captain John Lynch, center, practices with his team at Dornblaser Field Tuesday afternoon. The Jesters are preparing for a match against the Missoula Maggots this Saturday at Dornblaser.

been a part of the rivalry since 1991, including a stint playing on the Maggots squad. "And that's how it should be. It should be that you play four or five hard years of college rugby for the Jesters, then you should go onto the Maggots if you're still in town."

While the relationship hasn't always been harmonious (Kinch referenced the lore about the "bad old days" when frigid relations between the two teams existed in the '80s), second year outside center Casey Booe said the club benefits matches played against the Mag-

gots, who are often times stronger and more physical than their college club foes.

The match will be even more important this year, as the Jesters try to break in their predominantly inexperienced club.

"It's been tough. Over half the team has never played before," said Booe of the slow-rolling fall campaign, but adding that he loved the spirit of the new players. Just a year ago he joined the club as a new player and said he has grown to love the culture of the sport. "The rookies have been impres-

sive, especially in the backline."

The young Jesters have found some early season success, picking up a win over Gonzaga two weeks ago at a Coeur d'Alene tournament, as well as a 25-0 romp over Butte at the annual Oktoberfest tournament last weekend in Bozeman.

The Jesters have three more weekends of action, including a league game next Saturday against Butte in Missoula, as well as hosting the Big Sky Conference Championships at the end of October. Idaho, Idaho State and Eastern Washington will be among the college clubs to

comprise the field at the Big Sky Conference Championships.

But before any league action, the club's only focus is on Saturday against their rival, where they will look to capture back-to-back wins over the Maggots for the first time since 1982.

When asked what the match meant to the Jester's program, Booe replied that the club is honored to be a part of the tradition.

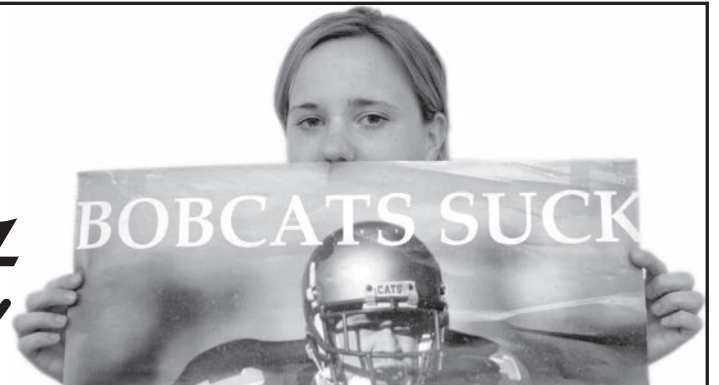
"A lot of pride," he said of playing in the match as a Jester. "Pride, just for the fact that it's been around for so long."

roman.stubbs@umontana.edu

SPORTS

By Whitney Bermes

Whit



It was yet another banner week for Griz football.

I'm not referring to their not-so-shocking loss to conference foe Weber State. Anyone who has watched the previous four games of the season could see that loss coming from miles away.

I'm not even referring to the Griz's sloppy play on display down in Ogden last Saturday. Four turnovers? Penalties racking up 82 yards? Seven Bergquist sacks? Definitely not what Griz fans are used to seeing from their boys in maroon and silver.

What I am referring to is the news of yet another example of the Griz's newest tradition of violence and crime. Three more Griz players' off-field antics landed them in the courtroom on charges of felony aggravated assault, adding yet another chapter to what has become one of the biggest news stories to hit Missoula in the last year.

The scary thing is that over the past year, these players' crimes aren't typical minor-in-possession citations from a loud house party or a misdemeanor assault for throwing a drunken

punch in a bar. That's child's play for them. We're talking charges of felony assault (freshmen Justin Montelious, Andrew Douglass and Cody Von Appen), conspiracy to commit robbery (ex-cornerback Jeremy Pate) and even murder (ex-cornerback Jimmy Wilson).

Regardless of whether or not these are isolated incidents, the fact of the matter is that every one of these instances reflects negatively on Grizzly Athletics. As a sports fan, these are not the types of athletes whom I want representing my school

on the field. I cheer for them. While I sport Montana clothing to show my alliance, their actions are a big slap in the face to all of Griz nation.

And while these stories have kept local journalists busy, the volume of crime that has come out of that team is overwhelming.

There is no easy solution to this situation. Bobby Hauck is not their mother. What they do when they're off the field is technically out of the grasp of Grizzly Athletics. But enough is enough. Hauck and company need to start

regulating their players and keep out the riff-raff.

No matter how many wins Hauck ends his career at Montana with, people will remember him for these incidents. Since his crew recruited them, the coaching staff will have to suffer the consequences of the players' actions as well. Griz fans will remember the types of players he has recruited. Griz fans care about hard work, determination and, most importantly, character.

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Law student hits the trails for ultramarathons



Kenneth Billington / Montana Kaimin

Third-year law student and ultramarathon runner Mike Wolfe gears up for a cooldown jog at the base of Mount Sentinel Tuesday afternoon. Ultramarathons are considered races longer than the standard 26.2-mile marathon.

Jeff Osteen

MONTANA KAIMIN

Running may be lonely, but it isn't mindless.

"You're in a dream the whole time," said Michael Wolfe, 30, a third-year University of Montana law student and ultramarathon runner.

Ultramarathons are defined as any race farther than the standard 26.2-mile marathon, but Wolfe said most ultramarathons in the United States are 50-kilometer, 50-mile, 100-kilometer or 100-mile races.

Wolfe focuses on 100-mile races.

"One-hundreds are just a totally different game, even if you're fresh," he said. "It takes a while to figure out how to survive them."

Wolfe said his interest in ultramarathons is based on the simplicity of the sport. There's a challenge in the willpower it takes to get through a race while not knowing if you are able to push your body to the finish.

There's a point, he said, that comes about two-thirds through a race when you think, "Why the hell am I doing this? This is the stupidest thing I've ever done."

One's speed during the race depends on the difficulty of the course, which can range from level road races to hilly mountain marches.

Faster front-runners on more level courses usually finish between 15 and 17 hours, while some of the more mountainous courses can take up to 30 hours to finish, potentially putting runners' bodies through turmoil.

Wolfe said he has seen runners' legs swell up so badly that doctors have had to cut them open with a scalpel immediately after the race.

U.S. races typically ramble through land managed by the Forest Service, requiring permits that limit the events to 350 people. But Wolfe said the races are more curbed by the number of people who actually want to run them.

While he said the niche sport's popularity is growing in the U.S. partly because of more sponsor involvement, races in Europe draw much more public interest.

He said he recently competed in an ultramarathon in France with 3,000 competitors and 50,000 spectators.

"It's kind of like the Tour-de-France of running," he said.

Most ultramarathons fall between April and September. During the off-season, most runners take about a month-long break to fully recover. Wolfe said he also usually stays active in the winter with Telemark and Nordic skiing, which he said doesn't hurt his race training in any way.

Generally, Wolfe said, there's no specific diet that he maintains when preparing for a race.

"Your body just wants calories," he said. But when he sticks to meats and greens and cuts down on refined sugar, he said he feels better and recovers quicker. "The engine just burns cleaner when you're eating healthy," he said.

Ultramarathon running is doable for most runners, according to Wolfe, who said he's always just figured it out on his own through trial and error. He said the biggest obstacle is overcoming the mental barrier.

"People have a hard time wrapping their head around it," he said. "You've just got to enjoy suffering."

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Ski deals save students cash

Local pass prices

Montana Snowbowl
13 miles
\$38 day
\$449 pass

Lost Trail Powder Mountain
90 miles
\$34 day
\$400 pass

Discovery Ski Area
90 miles
\$35 day
\$330 pass

Lookout Pass
106 miles
\$29 day
\$199 pass

Silver Mountain
130 miles
\$44 day
\$309 pass

Will Freihofer
MONTANA KAIMIN

For those of us looking to Lolo Peak's newly whitened northern slopes and dreaming of the winter to come, it's about time to come up



with a plan for affording some fun this season. Old Man Winter and the Fair Lady of Snow Sports go hand in hand, but remember, relationships can be expensive.

Skiers and snowboarders face, as always, a variety of season pass and ticket deal options for the resorts around Missoula this winter. What you're looking for and how much you plan on skiing or riding this winter will dictate your choice, but making the decision soon can save you a considerable amount of money. Most areas have a sliding scale of season pass prices respective to deadlines set throughout the fall—the sooner you buy, the more you save. Some deadlines have already passed with the end of September, but more are coming up in

the next few weeks.

Though in many cases buying a pass may not seem practical, considering your options and doing some quick math before writing it off might just save you some cash.

Also worth considering is the fact that most Montana ski resorts will sell full-day tickets at the half-day price for displaying a season pass to any mountain, saving the skier or snowboarder five bucks or so every time he decides to go somewhere different.

Look at Snowbowl first for no other reason than its proximity to town. Dividing the student pass rate by the daily ticket price will reveal that students only have death to defy on their way up Snowbowl Road 12 times this winter for a pass to pay for itself. There is also a weekday-pass option for \$291, meaning students would have to skip eight precious days of classes to come out on top if they did not avoid a full-week course load.

Lost Trail Powder Mountain

See PASSES, page 7

Upcoming movies bring taste of winter

Amanda Eggert
MONTANA KAIMIN

You've been waiting so patiently. While others are frolicking in the crisp autumn breezes, you await the snow.

Here are six upcoming wintry delights to give you goose bumps until you can generate some of your own.

Wednesday, Oct. 8—that's today, folks—Poor Boyz Productions is showing its latest ski film, "Reasons," at the Wilma. Mike Douglas, Tanner Hall, Pep Fugas, Sammy Carlson, JP Auclair, Simon Dumont, Mark Abma and Jon Olsson take the stage on this one. Tickets are \$10, and the show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 9, Travis Rice & Associates and production company Brain Farm, will show "That's it, That's All" at the Wilma at 9 p.m. Tickets are

\$5 and are available for early sale at Edge of the World. Travis Rice, Jeremy Jones, Nicolas Muller and Mark Landvik are some of the athletes starring in this film about snowboarding.

Friday, Oct. 10, Matchstick Productions presents its 20th ski film, "Claim," at the Wilma. Claim features Hugo Harrison, Sean Pettit, Ingrid Backstrom, CR Johnson, Shane McConkey, Simon Dumont and TJ Schiller filmed in locales ranging from the Italian Alps to Valdez, Alaska. Tickets are \$10 and are available for early purchase at Helly Hansen. The show starts at 8 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 19 is the second annual Pray 4 Snow Burning Dog Festival at the Big Sky Brewery. The fun starts at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$11 at the door and all benefits will go to

See FLICKS, page 7

PASSES

Continued from page 6

and Discovery Ski Area are both offering deals to attract Missoula skiers and riders who will migrate south this winter. Lost Trail is offering a 10-day pass for \$279 this winter, targeting frequent visitors who are hesitant to fork out for the entire season. Discovery, on the other hand, offers the best break for college students of the nearby resorts, giving undergraduates in the Montana University System a \$150 discount off the area's normal adult rate.

Lookout Pass, located due west on the Montana-Idaho border, offers season tickets for less than half of what is charged by most of the competition. Though unable to boast the terrain and vertical drop found at some of the other mountains, Lookout did open new lifts last season and traditionally gets more than its share of fresh snow.

Silver Mountain is also an option, located 20-something miles into Idaho on Interstate 90. With a large terrain park and good annual snowfall, some will find it worth the drive. Those willing to venture further—and pay significantly more—will have great days north at Whitefish Mountain Resort and east at the mountains around Bozeman.

Anyone considering planning more extensive trips should consider purchasing a six-day student pass to Jackson Hole, available here at UM on Oct. 16 for \$200. The deal only lasts for one day per school, so be sure to make it to Campus Recreation next Thursday with your Griz Card if you want “on board.”

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Pleased?
Perturbed?
Write a letter to the editor
kaiminletters@umontana.edu

FLICKS

Continued from page 6

the West Central Montana Avalanche Foundation. There will be a showing of the tele-mark film “The Pact” by Powderwhore Productions and music by Reverend Slanky and the Inhumans. Door prizes, including an avalanche transceiver, will be given away.

Wednesday, Oct. 22, Rage Films will present “Such is Life” at the University Center Theater at 7:30 p.m. Kyler Cooley, Ashley Battersby, Jessica Sobolowski, Lynsey Dyer and Ryan Oakden star.

And finally, Thursday, Oct. 23, Teton Gravity Research,

based out of Jackson Hole, Wyo., is showing “Under the Influence,” featuring Seth Morrisson, Sage Catabridge-Alosa, Jeremy Jones, Victoria Jealous, Jeremy Nobis and Montana native Wiley Miller. Tickets are \$8 if you get them early from the Outdoor Program, located at the east end of the Fitness and Recreation Center or the Trail Head at 221 E. Front St. Tickets are \$10 at the door. The film is showing at 7 p.m. right here on campus in the Urey Lecture Hall.

Trailers for all of the films are available at youtube.com by searching for the production company and name of the film.

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ACCURACY WATCH

The Montana Kaimin is committed to accuracy in its reports. If you think the Kaimin has committed an error of fact, please call us at 243-2394 or e-mail editor@kaimin.umt.edu and let us know. If we find a factual error we will correct it.

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Bengals LB suspended over banned substance

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI —The NFL suspended Cincinnati Bengals reserve linebacker Darryl Blackstock for the next four games on Tuesday because he used a performance-enhancing substance.

The Bengals signed Blackstock as a free agent from Arizona in the offseason. He has played in all five games, including one start, and has four tackles. The fourth-year veteran said in a statement that one of his nutritional supplements contained an ingredient banned by the league.

“I’ve apologized to my coaches and teammates for an unfortunate mistake,” Blackstock said. “I did not intentionally violate the policy, but I know it’s my responsibility to use only approved nutritional supplements, and I didn’t realize I was taking an over-the-counter


product that included a banned substance.”

The Bengals also re-signed running back Kenny Watson, who was released on Saturday when they needed to open a roster spot for receiver Chris Henry. The troubled receiver returned from a four-game suspension for misconduct and played in a 31-22 loss at Dallas, where he didn’t have a pass thrown his way.

Watson carried seven times for 32 yards in the first four games, when he was Chris Perry’s backup. His return gives the Bengals three tailbacks, including Cedric Benson, who was signed last week as a free agent.


Cincinnati also added rookie cornerback Simeon Castille to their practice squad on Tuesday. Castille, an undrafted free agent from Alabama, played in the first four games and was waived last Friday.

The University of **Montana**



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Ahmed Rashid 
 Journalist and Historian

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(in collaboration with the First-Year Reading Program and the Office of the Provost)

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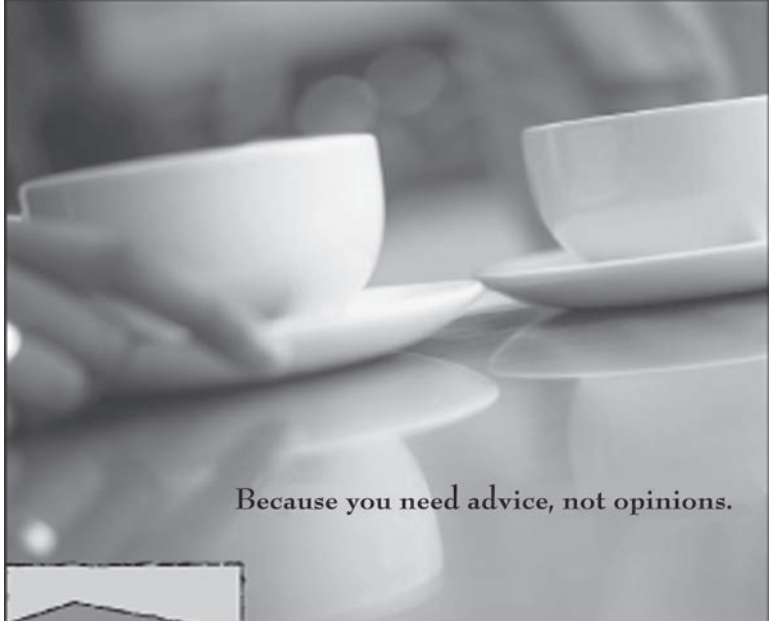
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CHALLENGE
Continued from page 1

his spokesman said was based on faulty information.

Of the remaining challenges, county election officials had rejected at least 2,300 that involved voters who had recently moved within a county and were still eligible to vote in their old district.

The GOP challenges in Montana followed similar attempts by party officials in Wisconsin, Ohio and elsewhere in recent months to remove voters from registration rolls or block late registrations.

Craig Wilson, a political analyst at Montana State University-Billings, said the attempt in Montana backfired as Democrats capitalized on worries that legitimate voters would be denied the chance to vote.

"The amount of negative publicity this has attracted was an unintended consequence for the (Republican) party," Wilson said, in an interview prior to the GOP's announcement that it was ending its challenges.

Matt Singer of Missoula-based Forward Montana, a progressive political group, told the Kaimin late Tuesday night that the announcement was "definitely surprising" and said that he is curious about how the affidavits against the individuals could be withdrawn.

"How do you withdraw a sworn statement?" Singer asked.

Singer said that by "accidentally catching too many people in their net," the Montana Republican Party confirmed the warnings of organizations statewide that said the large-scale challenge would unintentionally challenge voters who weren't in violation of registration regulations.

"That's exactly what we've been saying from day one," Singer said.

Kaimin editor Bill Oram contributed reporting to this story.

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