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Montana Kaimin, 1898-present

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Montana (ASUM)

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4-22-2009

### Montana Kaimin, April 22, 2009

Students of The University of Montana, Missoula

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Unique cycling page 13



"Tweeting" Griz page 5



# MONTANA KAIMIN

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

www.montanakaimin.com

Volume CXI, Issue 92

## Students rally for central Asian studies major support

Kayla Matzke

MONTANA KAIMIN

The University of Montana's Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee approved a proposal for a central and southwest Asian studies major by a majority vote on Tuesday.

The proposal from ASCRC will go to the faculty senate in May and then to the Board of Regents in July. UM currently has an 18-credit central and southwest Asian minor, in place since 2005, said G.G. Weix, chair of ASCRC and an anthropology professor.

The new major would be offered through the anthropology department, and it would be an interdisciplinary major involving two years of a second-language study in a critical language, Weix said.

Five critical languages are listed under the major: Chinese, Russian, Persian, Turkish and Arabic, she said, adding that the Department of Education labels these languages as a national interest for students. The major proposal would include 39 credits in the upper and lower divisions.

The ASCRC comprises 12 faculty members and five students and has been debating the new major for the past three weeks, she said.

"This program has had an excellent record of acquiring grants," Weix said. "It's See RALLY, page 16



Senior Media Arts Student Jesse Spaulding signs a petition Tuesday to indicate his support for the creation of an Arabic minor at UM. "The more language programs we have, the better," said Spaulding, "because UM is a liberal arts school, and knowing Arabic is especially important right now." Blaine Dunkley/Montana Kaimin

## ASUM candidates talk communication, parking

Josh Potter

MONTANA KAIMIN

Candidates for the ASUM senate spoke Tuesday about the importance of a direct line of communication between the legislative body and students at a candidate forum in the University Center.

"We could get more students involved in ASUM itself," said John Wilke, an ASUM senator running for reelection. "There's sort of a disconnect between students and senators as a whole," he said.

Wilke was one of seven candidates who attended the forum out of 30 who are running. He also discussed the need for UM to continue along the path toward sustainability and the need to increase student involvement in the community.

Freshman Sammy Schreiner also spoke about the communication gap between ASUM and students.

"I just want to get more people involved in what's going on through ASUM," Schreiner said.

Schreiner proposed that "at the beginning of every year, every senator needs to go to at least one lecture class with 100 or more students," adding that, as a freshman, the only time she heard from an

ASUM representative was during orientation.

Candidate Ray Davis echoed the worries over communication.

"A lot of people do believe that your senators are people you elect to make decisions for you, but I want to make sure (students) know (they) can come to us."

Davis also discussed his intentions to encourage the building of an underground parking garage.

"In the future, we can hope to strap a bike to the hands of every freshman," Davis said. "But right now, we have to consider the existing students. The university should have enough parking spaces for the number of decals they've sold."

Candidate Jeff Verlanic took the conversation in a different direction when he spoke on Davis' concern over parking.

"Issues of sustainability are key to UM students," Verlanic said. "I think, along with parking, we need more bike parking," he said, adding that to get into the UC, he had to shove his bike under a tree.

"We also need to support workers' rights as a student union," Verlanic said.

Political science major Joe See DEBATE, page 16

## Missoula's biodiesel bus system loses its fuel supplier of 10 years

Allison Maier

MONTANA KAIMIN

ASUM Transportation has fueled its buses with biodiesel for nearly 10 years, but it has been forced to change its ways after Missoula's only supplier stopped providing the renewable fuel.

"It's kind of bad news on Earth Day," said Nancy Wilson, ASUM Transportation director.

Some Cenex stations in Missoula have offered biodiesel fuel since 2003, but the gas station chain has not had it available since February, according to Wilson. She said the company stopped offering the gas after it received a bad batch that gummed up fuel tanks. ASUM itself had to deal with the problem with its buses.

Cenex regional manager Kyle Stensrud could not be reached for comment.

Steve Earle, general manager of the Mountain Line bus system, said that prices of regular diesel and biodiesel were the same for a while, but recently biodiesel prices have been rising.

"It just kind of got all out of whack," he said.

ASUM Transportation started using a form of biodiesel in 2001

when two chemistry students on campus began using grease from Dining Services mixed with regular diesel fuel to power the buses.

"It was domestically-produced, renewable fuel, made from recycled waste material, so there's a really compelling argument behind its use," said Paul Miller, one of the students originally involved in creating the biodiesel.

This system was used for a couple of years before ASUM realized they had to find a different technique, according to Wilson.

This was due, in part, to the fact that ASUM was starting to acquire more buses. When the ASUM bus system started in 1999, only one 15-passenger bus was used and about 3,000 rides were given that year. Currently, ASUM has eight buses and gave more than 310,000 rides last year.

In addition to the need for greater quantities of gas, the system of mixing the fuel wasn't completely effective, Wilson said. The grease and the fuel would be splashed together as it went into the bus's fuel tank, but often the two would separate out again.

In 2003, the chemistry students started an organization called

Montana Biodiesel and convinced Cenex to start providing biodiesel. The hope was to eventually use biodiesel coming from Montana farmers, though this never happened.

"Ideally, the more localized the product, the more sustainable it is," Miller said.

The mixture the University was using before the supply was stopped was 20 percent biodiesel and 80 percent diesel.

Wilson said that the University currently has no way of storing or pumping biodiesel.

"We're just really sad about the fuel being unavailable to use because this system is an effort to try to reduce emissions and try to reduce air pollution on campus," Wilson said. "We'd rather be going the other direction."

The Mountain Line bus system used to run off biodiesel as well.

"We're kind of in the same boat as ASUM in that we're just hoping we'll get it back," Earle said.

The Mountain Line system uses about 10,000 gallons of fuel a month and runs 28 buses, according to Earle.

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### TODAY ON CAMPUS

• Keynote Presentation:  
"Islam in the New Afghan Public Sphere."  
Nushin Arbabzadah, the International Institute, University of California, Los Angeles.  
University Center Ballroom, 7 p.m. free

### INSIDE THE KAIMIN

Record-breaking musical chairs page 8  
Contest included 122 people

Stumbling through Scotland page 2  
American stereotype going strong in France

### FORECAST

High 72F  
Low 36F

## Editorial

## Are computers the best teaching tool for Makimba?

Almost everyone has seen those tear-jerking commercials that begin something like this: An older, white guy stands in an impoverished village with starving Somalian children in the background. He walks towards the camera in his cargo shorts, all the while describing in a smooth baritone voice the famine these children endure. Then, by coincidence, a cute, little boy named Makimba jumps into the man's arms. The commercial ends with Makimba's face filling the television screen and the man guilting you into forking over a buck a month.

"If Makimba here were your son, could you tell him he won't be eating today? Could you say to Makimba, 'One dollar a month is too much.' Pick up the phone and call 1-800-MAKIMBA today. Tomorrow will be too late."

I always questioned the validity of these commercials. And I think many other people do, too. The scene is artificial; it's an act, even though the reality is anything but. Plus, no one likes being coerced into doing something, being told that they have to "save the children." Failure to pick up the phone means Makimba's blood is on your hands.

But no one can argue against the cause. Sparing a candy bar a month or a night of drinks to feed a starved child is reasonable, righteous and worthwhile. Food and water are necessities. Laptops, on the other hand, are not.

While I was watching TV yesterday, a commercial for the nonprofit organization One Laptop Per Child popped up. It was very similar to the Makimba commercial, but instead of giving food, water or shelter to these impoverished children, donations go towards — you guessed it — one laptop per child.

Imagine being lost in the Rocky Mountain wilderness for weeks with only the shirt on your back. A rescue plane spots you and drops a bag that floats to the ground from a parachute. You frantically open it to discover ... a laptop.

Even though advertisements for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Habitat for Humanity and efforts like Save Makimba don't have me reaching for my checkbook, I see the point, the validity of solving these problems.

Curious, I went to OLPC's Web site to see if its cause holds any water. I discovered that it does, but there are holes in the bucket.

Its mission is to provide the world's poorest children with "rugged, low cost, low power, connected laptops." The computers, called XOs, are integrated with educational software to teach kids of any language and connect them to other XO owners through the Internet. Kids can take them home, and OLPC even claims XOs can grow with the kids as they advance.

In a crucial way, this is a greater asset to these children than charities like Save Makimba ever were. It's the classic tale of "Give a man a fish and he's fed for a day. Teach him how to fish and he's fed for life."

Sending money to feed Makimba doesn't solve a thing. Your dollar a month will still be needed to feed him tomorrow and the day after that. Have you ever noticed that these Save-Makimba-type commercials have been running for decades? We're feeding the children of the children we fed 20 years ago, and that's the problem.

Teach these people to be self-sufficient. That's the key. Education.

But do they really need laptops to do so? American schools don't even provide students with their own laptops. Giving them computers just creates more problems, like having to provide electricity and an Internet connection. And, even though they're cheap computers, they'll cost more than traditional teaching tools, especially since each kid is to have his own. It's the equivalent of sending filet mignon and a bottle of Evian to Makimba.

Give them teachers and books.

Trevon Milliard, news editor  
trevon.milliard@umontana.edu

## The American stereotype thrives in France

"What do Americans really think of the French?" Wesley asked me, as he rolled a smooth plume of cigar smoke through his lips.

I had only been in Amiens for about two nights, but somehow I had ended up at a party filled with French students at Wesley's second-story flat. It was his birthday, and at least two dozen kids turned up with a full spread of meat, cheese, French wine and beer while pizzas poured endlessly out of the oven downstairs.

For a while, I felt like the stereotypical foreign kid at the party whom everyone wants to talk to. Whether I was a glamorous English celebrity or an American sideshow freak, it didn't really matter. I was glad that I wouldn't have to hang out in the corner trying to decipher everyone's conversation.

I got the impression that a lot of them were excited to be able to use their English skills that they had to learn in primary and secondary school. At their university in Amiens there are mainly French students, giving them little chance for dialogue with Americans beyond what they absorb through media, which unfortunately makes us all look like Hummer-driving, snuff-spitting cowboy wannabes.

Before I answered Wesley's question, I wanted to test the waters and asked what he thought of Americans. He grew sheepish, complimenting American culture and Hollywood, trying not to offend.

I stopped him mid-conversation and asked "C'mon, what do you guys think we're really like?"

He laughed and said the common French image is that we all drive giant trucks, wear cowboy hats, listen to twangy country tunes and consider Fox News to be the most reliable news outlet.

I laughed, too.

Still, he assured me that it was just a stereotype, and he could only judge people on a personal basis.

I agreed and assured him that if I believed everything on TV, I would assume every French guy chain smokes and always wears a bandanna around his neck with his top two shirt buttons open as he twirls his moustache and serenades women.

Wesley's top two shirt buttons were open.

"C'mon, man. It's like an oven in here," he said,

## STUMBLING THROUGH SCOTLAND

With Mike Gerrity



taking note of the 20 others around him blowing smoke towards the ceiling.

Almost all the other kids I talked to that night whined about how much they wanted to see America, but they all suggested different places. One girl raved about how exciting New York must be. Two guys asked me if Texas and Arizona were cool places. More assumed California is the party capital that MTV says it is.

Oddly enough, nobody seemed interested in the Northwest. I tried to sell Montana and Washington as best I could and hoped that they would realize that America is much more diverse than just the cities which, at least to me, are all pretty much shopping malls, busy streets and big bills.

The next day I left my most generous hosts (after they gave me toast with Nutella spread for the road) and hopped a train to the D-Day beaches of Normandy.

Aside from the epic experience of walking on Omaha Beach and surveying the destroyed German artillery bunkers on the high cliffs, the town of Bayeux was small and riddled with outrageously expensive French restaurants for the tourist crowd.

Luckily, I taught myself in high school to live for days at a time on cheap chips and strong coffee.

Heading back to Scotland the next day was among the most grueling travel I have ever had to make in a non-English-speaking country. I hopped the train and navigated my way to the bus station, back to the airport through the veins of the Paris underground and hopped two buses from the Glasgow airport back to Edinburgh.

After a long march across town to my flat at 3 a.m. with my gear on my back, I slept the sleep of a god. A tired, hungry, burnt-out-on-the-French god.

## Letters to the Editor

### We should look at graduation

Craig Barret is a man who has certainly made his world of achievements. I had to ask myself the same question as Bill Oram in his editorial last Thursday: Who is this man and why does he want to address the graduating class here?

I was amazed at his accomplishment as I read the article. Then I had to Google Craig Barret because I had no idea who he was. When I had completed reading the article my only thought was 'Why is he willing to speak here?' By all

means he would be a good speaker for a much larger university, but he has chosen our university. That does need to be respected. It says we have made great achievements at meeting the world's standards over the years.

Then on the other side there is the modest livelihood we live by here in Montana. We can look up to those people who were just like us and found success. The creators of Hoagieville and Montana Club owner's Nick Alonzo and Bob Powell or Kathy Ogren the owner of Bitterroot Motors, whom can we learn more from but our own.

Then there is the man that has his name on just about everything that is standing at the University

of Montana: Mr. Dennis Washington, founder of The Washington Companies who has been ranked among the Forbes 400 Wealthiest Americans.

It seems that we owe the honor of our accomplishment to the people that have made dreams come true. In our falling economy we need to look close

to home for hope. Thank you for the honor you are giving us, Mr. Barret.

Cheryl Cadotte, senior,  
business administration

# MONTANA KAIMIN

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## Letters to the Editor

### Rally for Amtrak is a step in the right direction

I was pleased to read about the recent rally that was held on campus to show support for the reestablishment of the Amtrak North Coast Hiawatha Route through southern Montana. Reestablishing this route is long overdue. In this day it makes sense to continue to connect more of our nation's cities by passenger rail, and that includes the major Montana cities along the southern route.

There are a lot of us "displaced" Montanans living on the west side, and we would love to have the option of riding the rails to visit friends in Missoula and reduce our carbon footprint when traveling over for Grizzly games. Senators Baucus, Tester and Rep. Rehberg should all be in support of this effort to provide all Montanans with another transportation option.

Roger Peterson  
Class of '90  
Vancouver, Wash.

### Oram doesn't speak for all of UM

As a class, we are writing in response to Bill Oram's April 16 editorial. We think Oram's opinions and comments are extremely disrespectful to Craig

Barrett and his wife and embarrassing to us as students as well. Bill Oram wrongly characterized his opinions as those shared by the students at the University of Montana and this is most regrettable.

President Dennison works hard to find a speaker for graduation and does not pick one, but rather invites one. These people have no votes to win or concert tickets to sell, however they donate their time to us for our graduation day. Regardless of how you feel about their ties to Montana or their "give-a-damn," factor they deserve respect.

We believe students at the University of Montana are much better than how Bill Oram describes. With regards to the image he has created of our school, its students and the school's newspaper, Bill Oram's graduation couldn't come soon enough. Oram is right when he says we deserve better. We do.

David Bobbitt, junior, finance  
and Dr. Fengru Li's  
Management 340 class



## U-Wire

### Consumer preference drives quality of news down

By Luke Fisher, University of Nebraska

When I open up a newspaper or a major news Web site, I want to read about the important things that are going on in the world around me. I don't want to see the same content I would find on Entertainment Tonight or a tabloid. Yet far too often, this is exactly what happens.

Consider the first family's recent acquisition of a dog. I am thrilled that the President got his daughters a dog. It's great that an old tradition can bring so much joy to them, and it's nice to hear a good heartwarming story for a change.

But I really don't want to know everything about Bo Obama (the dog). I don't care about his breed, I don't care where they got him, I don't care who orchestrated the buy and I really don't want to hear commentary on the political implications of the President's pet choice.

It really doesn't matter, and the fact that we can get so worked up and so fixated on something so small is really pretty sad.

A lot of things pass as news that we just have no need to know about. For example, we simply should not care about Michelle Obama's forearms. Yet, for about a two-month period earlier this year I could not use the Internet for more than five minutes without seeing at least one story about her arms. The media was absolutely obsessing about how wonderful

the First Lady's arms looked, how her great arms affected her wardrobe choices and how the rest of us could have arms as beautiful as the President's wife's.

While the craze seems to have died down, I still have to be wary when looking at online news sources. A few forearm-obsessed stories are still floating around out there.

In general, much of what shows up in major news sources has absolutely no real importance to the general public. Usually when we think of our sacred right of free press, which is protected by the First Amendment, what comes to mind is not being able to know all about the First Lady's workout routine or Madonna's adoption difficulties. Yet, unfortunately, far too often this vital freedom is reduced to this.

It would be easy, and it was certainly my first impulse, to point fingers at the press and ask why professionals would publish so much garbage. However, such criticism would be misplaced.

The biggest problem lies in the fact that we, as the news-consuming public, are obsessed with this sort of gossip-mistaken-for-news. Trash only gets printed because we read it.

I did a little bit of research and I found that, by and large, the most popular "news" stories from major online news sources had to do with entertainment or other completely

irrelevant topics. Many news sites have a "most popular" tab and, while this doesn't show exactly how many hits a particular story has, it at least shows which ones the largest number of people are reading at each site.

For example, last Thursday the most popular new stories on Google News, NPR and ABC News Web sites' were about "Britain's Got Talent"'s Susan Boyle. CNN's Web site's top story dealt with Hulk Hogan and the New York Times' top story had to do with how to raise your IQ.

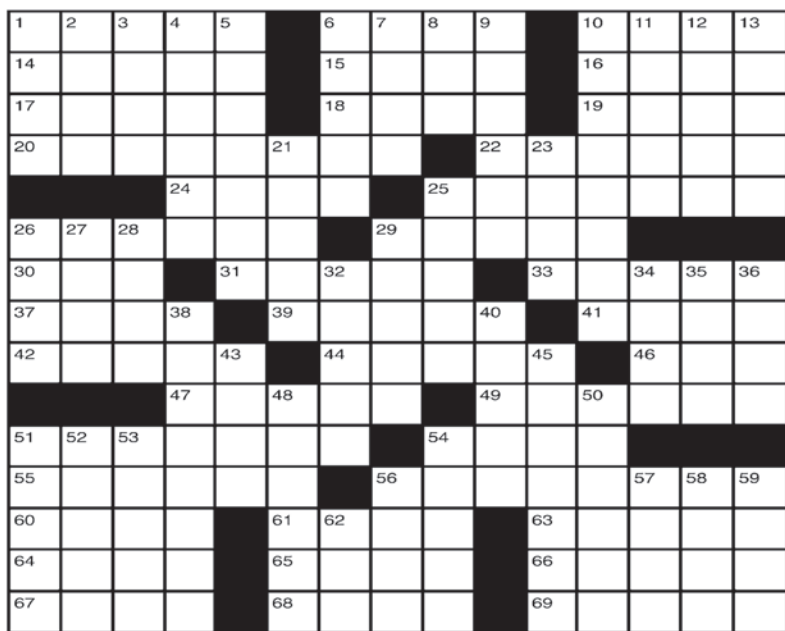
I did find some bright spots. Reuters' top news story had to do with the financial situation. The top four most popular stories on the Omaha World Herald's Web site had to do with local violence (although I will admit it seems odd to see this as a positive). The Lincoln Journal Star's Web site featured a "most read" list on which every story could be considered hard news.

We have a wonderful right to free press, but along with this comes a responsibility to use it wisely and responsibly. It offers a great tool for government accountability and keeping power in the hands of the people, but it is useless unless put to good work.

Ignorance may be bliss, but in a democracy it is downright dangerous.

## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bread ingredient
  - 6 Stuff
  - 10 Black card
  - 14 Mrs. Ralph Kramden
  - 15 Asian staple
  - 16 Race loser
  - 17 Youth
  - 18 Befuddled
  - 19 Brainchild
  - 20 Soak
  - 22 City for which a TV show was named
  - 24 Usually square floor piece
  - 25 Most unfriendly
  - 26 Squat hound
  - 29 Tall structure
  - 30 Halloween mo.
  - 31 Summarize
  - 33 Wait on
  - 37 Twinkler
  - 39 Used a lawn tool
  - 41 Fastener
  - 42 Comic strip Viking
  - 44 Designed again
  - 46 Male sheep
  - 47 Desert fruits
  - 49 Sahara sights
  - 51 Taught
  - 54 Car used for test drives
  - 55 Tell
  - 56 Smiling Olympian
  - 60 African dictator
  - 61 Slave
  - 63 "Beau \_\_\_"
  - 64 Record
  - 65 Sea eagle
  - 66 Organic compound
  - 67 Ending for Rock or Paul
  - 68 Cincinnati \_\_\_
  - 69 Weather word



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4/22/09

- DOWN**
- 1 Orange edibles
  - 2 Literary pseudonym
  - 3 Contraction
  - 4 Badge earners
  - 5 Scottish \_\_\_
  - 6 Wooden box

- 7 Leave the sack
- 8 Big diamond
- 9 Pasture
- 10 Offspring
- 11 Kitchen implement
- 12 Urine components
- 13 Animal
- 21 Change
- 23 Pub choices
- 25 \_\_\_ with; tolerated
- 26 Nonsense
- 27 Legal proceedings
- 28 Restricted to men, as a party
- 29 Grabs
- 32 Gave a hoot
- 34 Scarce
- 35 Test tube
- 36 Shade givers
- 38 Brightness
- 40 Cut up into tiny pieces
- 43 Speak wildly
- 45 Mars
- 48 Wobble

### Solutions



- 50 Annoy, with intent to harm
- 51 Switch
- 52 Send payment
- 53 "...making \_\_\_ and checking it twice..."
- 54 Editor's notes
- 56 \_\_\_ your p's and q's
- 57 Ratio words
- 58 Suffix for pun
- 59 Prison sentence
- 62 Crude material

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# MT receives \$35.2 million in tobacco settlement money

ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELENA — Attorney General Steve Bullock says Montana has received \$35.2 million in its latest payment from the 1998 tobacco settlement.

The payment included \$8.5 million in so-called "strategic contribution" payments — additional money because the state's attorneys played a substantial role in the lawsuit.

The settlement imposed sweeping changes in tobacco advertising, banned tobacco companies from targeting children, allocated funds for tobacco education and provided annual payments to the

states based on the number of cigarettes sold in the U.S.

"In these uncertain economic times, the money Montana's tobacco settlement continues to bring in is even more important," Bullock said in a press release. "Whether it's funding the CHIP program, keeping tobacco products away from our kids, helping folks quit smoking or paying for other governmental services, this latest check will do a tremendous amount of good."

Bullock says 40 percent of the payment, or about \$14 million, will be deposited into the tobacco trust fund; 32 percent will go to tobacco prevention/cessation

programs; 17 percent to the Children's Health Insurance Program and 11 percent to the state's general fund.

The state has received more than \$300 million from the settlement, which is to be paid out through 2025. Montana could receive up to \$920 million through 2025. However, the settlement contains a clause allowing tobacco industry payments to decrease for certain specified adjustments including, for example, a decrease in payment if the number of cigarettes sold decreases. Since the settlement, cigarette use in America has declined by over 28 percent.

# MontPIRG fee will be on April 29 ballot

Bill Oram

MONTANA KAIMIN

Though a Montana Public Interest Group student fee was voted down by ASUM two weeks ago, the fee will still appear on the student ballot on April 29.

At its meeting tonight, ASUM will discuss a resolution regarding how the ballot will explain the fee so students can decide how they will vote.

There are two ways for a group to get something on the ballot, said Sheena Rice, UM's MontPIRG student organizer. The first is to get ASUM to approve it by a two-thirds vote, "which we failed to do," Rice said.

"The second way is to show student support," Rice said, by getting 5 percent of the student population's signatures on a petition.

MontPIRG obtained over 1,422 student signatures, which surpasses the 611 necessary to acquire a place on the ballot.

"I think people do actually see the value of MontPIRG," Rice said.

Now that the fee will appear on the ballot, ASUM must decide how the ballot will describe the fee so it is clear for what, exactly, the students are voting.

"It's more the formality thing," Rice said. "The resolution is not an endorsement."

Rice said the disconnection between student support and the student senate's disapproval of the fee came from a lack of commu-

nication between her organization and the senate.

"It comes from us not clearing it up before and ASUM not asking the right questions," Rice said.

When the resolution to pass the fee was being reviewed by ASUM, one major concern that was brought up was MontPIRG's almost \$7,000 debt to UM.

"Our biggest mistake was our debt and not really acknowledging that we accumulated that debt because we didn't have a student fee," Rice said, referring to the past four years when there was no student fee for funding MontPIRG.

But none of the money that comes from the fee would go toward paying off that debt, Rice said.

"I'm working out negotiations that would (pay off the debt). If the student vote passes, one of the provisions of that contract would be we wouldn't be able to collect any money until the debt is paid," Rice said, adding that MontPIRG proposed that idea to ensure the money would be spent in the right place.

Rice said that MontPIRG intends to use the money collected from the fee to hire new staff members.

"The biggest staff we're looking to hire are organizers," a full-time and professional position, Rice said.

If the vote is successful, MontPIRG and ASUM will need to agree on a contract that makes ASUM the legal fee collector, so the funds can go through the student organization first. That contract will need to be accepted by the Board of Regents.

*william.oram@umontana.edu*

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Solution to Tuesday's puzzle

1	5	2	4	6	8	7	9	3
8	7	9	5	2	3	1	6	4
6	4	3	9	1	7	2	8	5
2	9	1	8	3	6	5	4	7
3	8	4	2	7	5	6	1	9
5	6	7	1	9	4	8	3	2
4	3	5	7	8	1	9	2	6
7	2	8	6	4	9	3	5	1
9	1	6	3	5	2	4	7	8

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# Sports in 140

## *Twitter craze reaches realm of college athletics*

Colter Nuanez

MONTANA KAIMIN

It's nothing new for athletes to receive fines for misbehavior. Being late for meetings, arguing with teammates, criticizing officiating — all these are straight shots to \$10,000 slaps on the wrists for professional athletes.

But text messaging?

The technological craze of social interaction has swept the globe, and the sporting world is no exception. Last month, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported Milwaukee Bucks power forward Charlie Villanueva was fined for posting a message on his page on the social networking site Twitter during halftime of a game against the Boston Celtics. Villanueva sent the message from his cell phone while in the locker room.

It was later reported that Villanueva was not in fact fined, but nonetheless, Milwaukee implemented an organization-wide policy banning the use of any social networking Web sites "while on company time."

Some may argue that Villanueva's post was no more intrusive than talking to a reporter during halftime before going to the locker room. Either way, Villanueva's situation is just one small example of the frenzy that is Twitter and its presence throughout the sporting world. Athletes and athletic programs on the collegiate and professional levels have been consumed by the craze.

University of Montana senior defensive end Jace Palmer and his twin brother, wide receiver Tyler Palmer, both have Twitter accounts. When Jace was approached by the UM Marketing and Promotions about the possibility of "tweeting" about Grizzly spring practice, he said he wasn't sure how to react simply because he was not quite sure what Twitter was.

"When I heard 'Let's get your Twitter account going,' I had absolutely no idea what it was," Palmer said. "I'd never heard of a Twitter. I had no clue what was going on."

Twitter's popularity is relatively new, so Jace may not be alone. Since the beginning of the new year, Twitter has exploded onto the scene of pop culture. The social networking site is quite simple. Users post messages 140 characters at a time and essentially answer one question: "What are you doing?" University athletic departments, professional sports franchises and athletes from all levels have all capitalized on the ability to essentially market their sports, institutions and, in some cases, themselves in a forum that everyone the world over can access and read.

University of Montana Athletic Director Jim O'Day knew Montana would be missing the boat if it did not utilize this new wave of technology.

"I went to an NCAA convention in January and it was the topic of conversation," said O'Day, who has his own Twitter page about his daily dealings in the UM Athletic Department. "By the time I called our marketing department and discussed it, we had a page within a day."

"It is sweeping the country," he said. "You are seeing a lot of very high-profile coaches and administrators doing it to keep people in the forefront of what's going on in their programs."

Twitter has become prevalent throughout professional athletics as a tool for self-promotion, a way for athletes to connect with their faithful followers. But Palmer said he is much too resistant to technology to ever use it for self-glorification. Palmer agreed to let UM Marketing make him a Twitter page to keep fans updated on spring ball simply to keep Grizzly football in the forefront of Griz Nation's mind during the off-season.

"The basic idea was just to get an early jump on the season and get people excited about our team," Palmer said. "It's part of my job to be a good spokesman for Grizzly football."

UM Marketing and Promotions director Christie Anderson said Montana is constantly striving to stay "ahead of the curve" in all aspects of the packaging of Grizzly athletics. She said creating Twitter accounts for the Palmer twins was essential in an effort to give the Montana faithful a different, and perhaps a more intimate, angle.

"Our main goal is to keep our fans involved and give them a different perspective," Anderson said. "They get the media perspective; they hear from the coaches all the time. The student athletes are probably the voices they hear from the least. And it might be the most interesting perspective."

O'Day said Twitter gives athletes a voice. It helps portray them as people rather than entertainers, personas rather than just a name and a number on a jersey.

"It brings a personality out there to the athletes," O'Day said. "By the writing style you can get to know the student athletes. They become a real person."

The technological progression Americans have witnessed since the turn of the millennium is astounding. Just a decade ago, fax machines and flip phones were all the rage; now, smart phone technology, text messaging and all things instantaneous have made office-to-office faxes almost obsolete. This is proof that people who came of age over the last score are the trendsetters and the key to predicting "what's next."

"More than anything, it's a way to stay connected to the younger generation," O'Day said. "It's provided us with another avenue to access them. As it gets to be more well known, you start to get people of all ages. It's just another way to market sports. Our fans are very passionate and they like to know what's going on with the athletic department."

Palmer found it somewhat ironic that he was asked to keep fans up to date via technology. He said he has never been much of a computer whiz, nor one who is that fond of the social networking worlds of Facebook and Myspace.

"At first I was kind of getting jumped on because I wasn't Twittering enough," laughed Palmer. "I was never really into the whole social network thing. Christie would tell me, 'Jace, you need to start Twittering more,' so I got on it. So many people are doing it that I half-way questioned if it was required now."

Twitter has become so popular so fast that it might as well be a requirement. About the time the Palmer brothers' sites were launched, athletic-related Twitter sites exploded. Nearly 50 NBA players including

Lebron James, Dwight Howard, Allen Iverson, Shaquille O'Neal, Steve Nash and Paul Pierce all have Twitter accounts. Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban has an account. A few dozen NFL players have jumped on board, including Randy Moss and, of course, Terrell Owens.

Even coaches at some of the biggest college programs in the country have worked updating their statuses into their busy schedules. University of Tennessee football coach Lane Kiffin, LSU football coach Les Miles, University of Georgia football coach Mark Richt, Colorado State basketball coach Tim Miles and USC football coach Pete Carroll regularly "tweet."

Twitter within the University of Montana athletic department is a relatively new concept.

Aside from the Palmers, volleyball player Stephanie Turner has a Twitter account set up by UM marketing. A Lady Griz basketball player has her own account on which she chronicled the NCAA women's basketball tournament, but it is not University-sponsored. UM coaches are yet to jump on the bandwagon.

"We have talked to our coaches a little bit about it," O'Day said. "It's not a high priority to them. It's not anything we would ever demand of them, but if they have an interest in staying in touch that would certainly be an option."

Palmer said he has not heard much from any of the Montana coaches about his participation in this social experiment. He said he understands his responsibility to represent the UM football program in a good light, especially since anyone can read what he posts at any time. Tweets cannot be edited or deleted, so once they are posted they are permanently on the poster's Web site. He has all intentions of posting after the season begins, but he said there is a line that should not be crossed.

"Absolutely not, I would never do it during games," Palmer said. "If I was updating at half time I would probably be walking to the locker room for the last time; that would be it, I'd be done. You have to keep them separate."

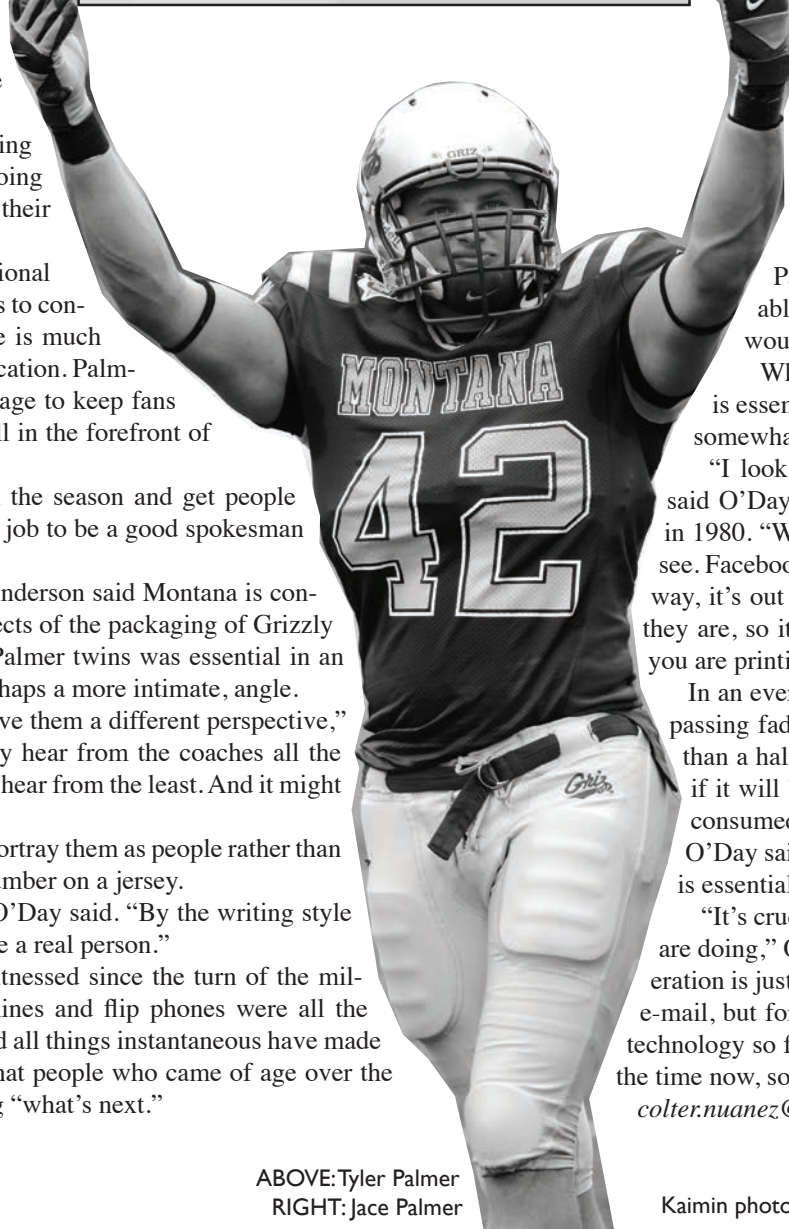
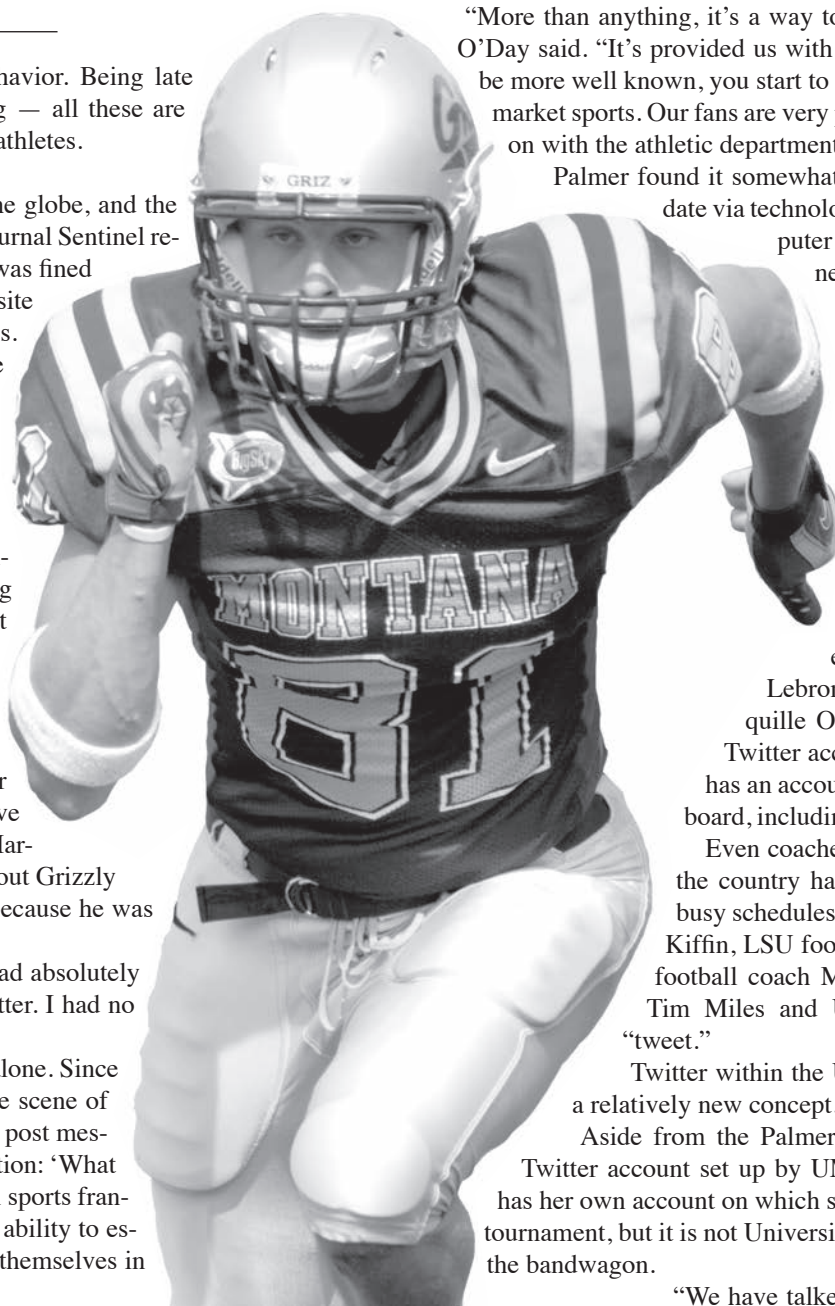
While O'Day acknowledged keeping pace with technology is essential, he also said the simple, unedited nature of Twitter is somewhat old-school.

"I look at Twitter like my old days as a newspaper reporter," said O'Day, who graduated with a degree in Journalism from UM in 1980. "When I am writing (on Twitter), it is open to every one to see. Facebook and Myspace, you have to be accepted as a friend. This way, it's out there for everyone to follow you. You don't know who they are, so it is similar to someone buying a copy of the newspaper you are printing. Once it's up, it's up."

In an ever-changing world it is hard to gauge whether Twitter is a passing fad or if someday it will be accepted as no more intrusive than a halftime interview. Regardless if tweeting is here to stay or if it will be irrelevant faster than the Spice Girls, it has no doubt consumed American culture. It is impossible to predict the future, O'Day said, but keeping up with the rapid pace of 21st-century life is essential to success.

"It's crucial in this day and age to keep up with what the students are doing," O'Day said. "One thing I heard at a seminar is that a generation is just five years now. My generation is still trying to figure out e-mail, but for students, e-mail is just a piece. Everyone just picks up technology so fast. You can communicate in so many different ways all the time now, so we just have to try and keep up."

colter.nuanez@umontana.edu



ABOVE: Tyler Palmer  
RIGHT: Jace Palmer

Kaimin photo illustration

# Deaths help to prove the significance of sports



By Whitney Bermes

*Editor's note: Despite a catastrophic hamstring tear to slugger Colter Nuanez, Team Kaimin was able to post a win in consecutive weeks for the first time since anyone can remember. Behind stellar defense highlighted by leftfielder Tyson Alger's web gem catch, a Schilling-like effort on the mound by Nuanez, and timely hitting by*

*Recycle this newspaper*

*Bill Oram (game-winning run) and Alger (1 homerun, 4 RBI), the Kaiminites were able to pull out a 7-6 victory to move to 2-1 at the season's midpoint.*

Browsing through the last couple weeks' sports headlines, I couldn't help but notice a common theme: death.

There were big-name deaths, like the death of Angels' 22-year-old rookie pitcher Nick Adenhardt in a late-night car accident, or the passing of 73-year-old Phillies announcer Harry Kalas.

Then there were the more obscure, like 24-year-old Alberto Naranjo of Elkhart, Ind., who was killed when he was struck in the neck with a ball sliding into home

during a slow-pitch softball game. Or the 21 horses in the U.S. Open Polo Championship that collapsed and died of possible toxins found in their food.

All of these tragic stories couldn't help but shine a light on the impact athletics have on our lives. For Kalas, the Phillies had a viewing at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia. An estimated 9,000 fans paid their respects to the deceased broadcaster. Adenhardt's Los Angeles funeral garnered a crowd of about 1,800. When the polo horses died, fans and horse owners alike cried openly about the loss of their beloved horses. And Naranjo's girlfriend told MSNBC reporters that softball was her boyfriend's life. He

lived and died for it, she said.

Seeing the outpouring of grief and the public reaction to tragedies like these reinforce the notion that sports play an integral role in people's lives. For so many countless athletes, fans and coaches, the importance of these games runs much deeper than surface level.

Sports mirror so many aspects of life: victory, defeat, adversity, practice, dedication and patience. And as cliché as this all sounds, tragedies like these do nothing but prove what an important role sports can play.

While sports are just games and are meant to be fun, they end up becoming much more. They aren't shallow, and they aren't trivial.

They permeate our lives to a deeper level than most people would like to think. They teach us to win with class and lose with dignity, how to improve our performance and how to work as a team.

It's easy to get sidetracked by all the bad things about sports — the over-inflated egos and fatty paychecks of professional athletes, the rampant use of performance-enhancing drugs and the monotonous analyses of statistics.

But they allow us to connect to other people, feel the joys of success and act like a kid again. It's just too bad it takes tragic events like death to make us realize all these great aspects.

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## Investigators probe dead horse bodies

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WELLINGTON, Fla. — Organ by organ, veterinarians are taking apart 21 prized polo horses to uncover what killed them mysteriously over the weekend during preparations for a match in one of the sport's top championships. Simultaneously, state authorities have opened a criminal probe to determine whether the deaths were intentional, a result of negligence or simply a terrible accident.

With careful cuts to their mus-

cular bodies, the investigators look for lesions, fluids, bruises and hemorrhages, any obvious signs of sickness. They're removing the hearts, lungs, livers, kidneys and spleens, and cutting small samples to be tested for toxins. The process unfolds much as it would for a dead person.

State officials believe the horses died from an adverse drug reaction, toxins in their food or supplements, or a combination of the two. Two days after the horses' deaths, authorities say

they have not uncovered any crime but continue to investigate.

"We want to make sure from a law enforcement standpoint that there was no impropriety ... no purposeful harm or laws violated in Florida," said Terence McElroy, spokesman for the state Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, which is handling the case with help from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.

The horses from the Venezuelan-owned team began collapsing Sunday as they were unloaded from trailers at the International Polo Club Palm Beach, with some dying at the scene and others hours later. They were set to compete in the sport's U.S. Open tournament ahead of the finals this coming Sunday, and were seen as top contenders.

While veterinarians work with their scalpels, investigators are interviewing everyone who encountered the horses the day of the game and gathering evidence such as feed and supplements from the stables where the horses were kept.

"Should criminal activity surface, we don't want to be so far behind the eight-ball that we're playing catch-up," said sheriff's Capt. Greg Richter.

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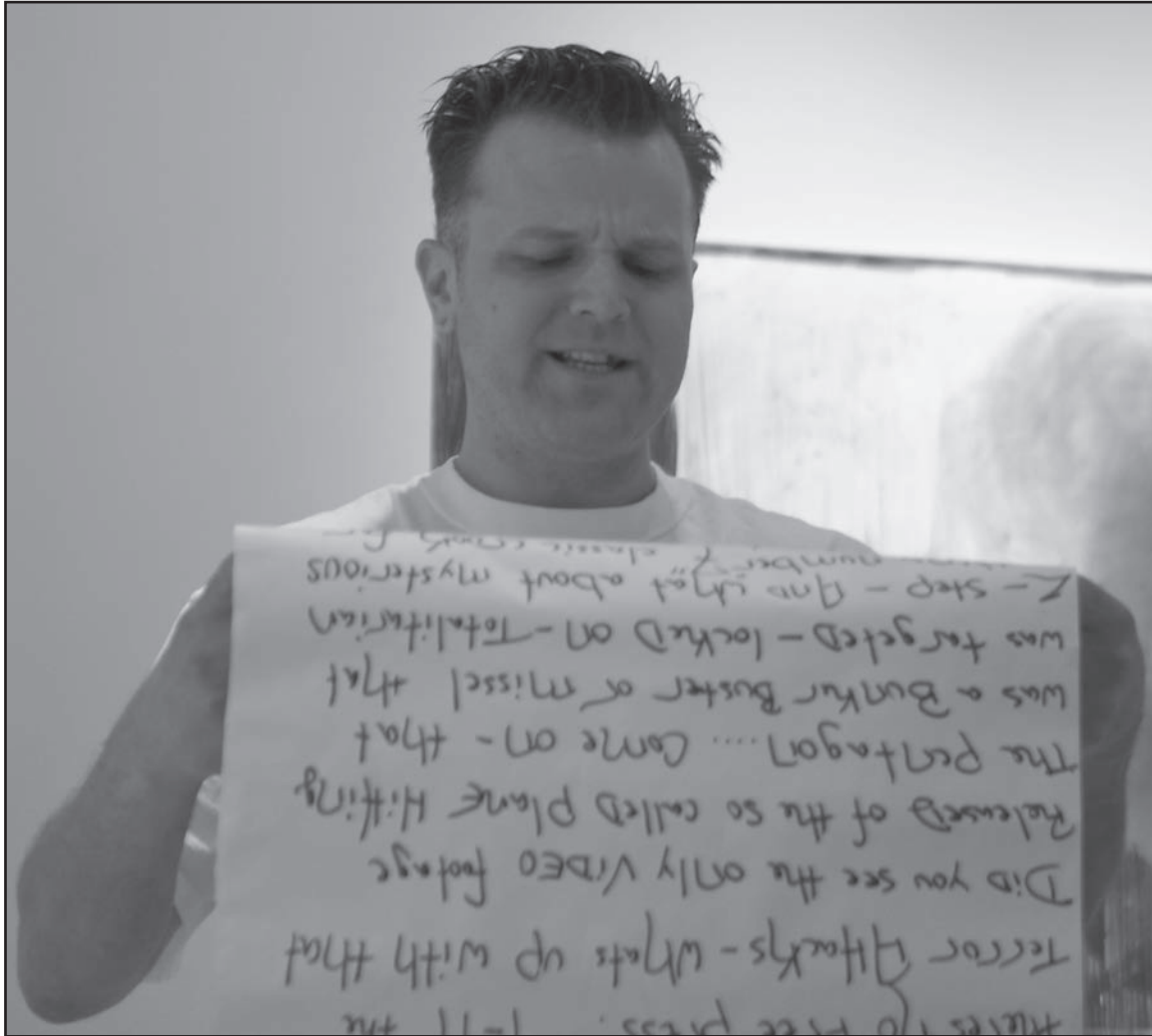
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## Modern-day Shakespeares



Alisia Muhlestein/Montana Kaimin

Tahjbo reads his piece "Asleep at the wheel" Tuesday night at Prose and Poems, an event where students get to share their original works.

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The competition began with 122 participants, each vying for the coveted last chair and a \$200 prize offered by UM's Business Management Program.

# Musical Chairs:

## *It's all about strategy*

Photos by | Blaine Dunkley

Story by | Stacy Gray

If you ever thought musical chairs doesn't require strategy, think again.

The largest game of musical chairs in Montana history took place yesterday in the Oval with 122 people vying for seats.

"If I have to punch somebody out of the way, I will," said Hannah Stiff, a junior majoring in journalism. "I'm pretty fierce."

The game itself was a marketing strategy to advertise the upcoming Spring Thaw event, on Friday, May 8. Students in the Entertainment Management program put the Spring Thaw event on every year so the campus can celebrate the warm weather on the Oval with live music, games and giveaways from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"This is the coolest, most aggressive marketing Spring Thaw has ever seen," said Jen Anderson, an Entertainment Management student.

They even used the musical stylings of Soulive, the band headlining the Spring Thaw event at 7 p.m. in the University Theater.

Zach Partin, a student leader in the Entertainment Management program in charge of marketing the event, described the band's style as a unique blend of soul, funk, and jazz. He said the sudden musical breaks in the songs sent people scrambling for seats before he paused the music.

"Keep it moving people," he called out.

It started out slow, at a one foot in front of the other shuffling pace. Some onlookers even booed until participants picked up their stride.

At first, the facilitators pulled 10 chairs out each round.

Michelle Johnson, office manager of the math department, was "out" after the first round.

"It was either sacrifice myself or throw my daughter out of the way," Johnson joked. "And she's 100 pounds lighter than me."

Johnson let her daughter "play hookie" from Rattlesnake Elementary School to participate in this event, she said.

Tricia Johnson, 11, was out of the running a few rounds later, but said it was totally worth it. But if she could do it again, she would use a different strategy.

**“ It was either sacrifice myself or throw my daughter out of the way. ”**

*Michelle Johnson*

"I would wait at a chair until the person in front of me goes to the next chair," she explained.

When only 30 chairs were left, facilitators switched from pulling 10 chairs out at a time to five.

Motivated by the \$200 prize for the last person standing — or "sitting" — some contestants took it to the extreme.

Freshman Matt DeBray said he kept himself

in the game longer with an epic dive. When the music stopped, DeBray found himself behind the last free chair. Instead of running around the row, he dove over it and landed with his stomach on the seat and feet in the air.

"It was amazing, but I think I hit some girl on my way over," DeBray confessed.

When it was down to the final six competitors, facilitators picked up the intensity by removing chairs one by one.

Arieanna Fisher, a senior majoring in business marketing, said it was her small size that got her to the final round.

"I stayed low and slid in beneath people," Fisher said. "A lot of people ended up sitting on top of me."

Fisher almost didn't compete. She's recovering from a torn ACL and had to be in class, but her professor ended class half an hour early so the students could play musical chairs.

While she was waiting for the game to start, Fisher took a seat next to Mimi Allen, a friend from class. Fisher said they made a deal that if either of them won the game, they would split the \$200 prize.

Fisher said she was surprised to be one of the last two competitors in the massive game.

"The other girl was so intense," Fisher said. "I was afraid she was going to plow me over for the last chair, but somehow I got it!"

Fisher said she would be true to her word and give half of her winnings to Allen, who cheered her on the whole time.

Partin said he thinks the musical chairs competition will become an annual tradition.

"I don't think it could've gone better for a first-time event."

*stacy.gray@umontana.edu*





LEFT: When the number of chairs diminished, crowds gathered near the griz statue to watch the final showdown.

BELOW: Participants moved slowly at first, afraid to lose their grips on the nearest chair.



ABOVE: Miranda Laber, an interdisciplinary studies graduate student, edges out 11-year-old Tricia Johnson, whose mother allowed her to play hookie in order to compete in the event. "She was pushing me, saying 'Hurry, hurry,'" said Laber about the younger Johnson. "I feel bad but, I need the money to pay for books and school."



FAR LEFT: Students gather in the oval, Tuesday to participate in Montana's largest game of musical chairs to date. The event was an ambitious promotion for this year's Spring Thaw event, an end of the year celebration put on by Business Management students.

LEFT: Arianna Fisher, a Business Marketing Senior secured the last chair and the \$200 cash prize. Her strategy? "I followed people very closely and paid attention to the left corner of each chair," said Fisher, "Being smaller definitely helped, too."

# The Kaimin Says:

Enjoy the sun while it lasts! (It is April in Montana...)

## Lighting the way



Blaine Dunkley/Montana Kaimin  
Media Arts graduate student Emily Mellinger handles a china ball lantern while operating the sound boom on set Friday, in the Roxy Theater. Mellinger is the sound designer for fellow Media Arts student Ryan Rundle's film production entitled "The Wilding." Student filmmakers are quickly wrapping up production of their thesis projects in time for their screenings in mid May.

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## Creative mayhem will celebrate female artists

Kelsey Bernius

MONTANA KAIMIN

Missoula women will roar artistically and especially loud tonight as the UM Women's Center hosts the first Night of Mayhem and Creativity, a fundraiser and celebration chock full of local female-centric bands, artists, photographers and poets.

"I think we can sometimes get caught up in feeling intimidated by other people that we consider artists, whether it be through music or painting or whatever," Kindra McQuillan of the Women's Center said. "This recognizes and celebrates the fact that everybody is an artist and can integrate it into their own lives."

The creative mayhem begins at 7 p.m. and is expected to go until 2 a.m. The fundraiser is an 18-and-older event with a \$5 cover donation. According to a press release from the Women's Center, the night serves "to demonstrate and catalyze local female artistic endeavors."

Local bands Friedrich's Teeth, Knot Knocked Up, Butter and fiddler Erin Snyder will play sets throughout the night. Art and photos will be on exhibition much like a First Friday art show. Proceeds from the fundraiser go to both the Women's Center and the Zootown Arts Community Center. The ZACC is a local organization that offers art training to Missoula-area students outside of class.

McQuillan said she and other Women's Center workers had so much fun organizing the Panty Rock Drag Show fundraiser for the Vagina Monologues earlier this semester that they decided to organize another live event and fundraiser.

"We all like the ZACC and think it's really good to support that sort of organization," McQuillan said. UM student Katie Cain will be among many female artists involved in the fundraiser. She will present her self-described "wom-

en-based art" at the fundraiser, which includes nude female drawings, some mixed-media art incorporating collage and photographs focused on the female form.

"I love women, and this is a really good cause. Since all my art is centered around females and self-esteem issues, I feel like it fits appropriately," Cain said. "I'm really honored to be a part of something like this."

Cain will graduate next May with a degree in photography from the Fine Arts Department and plans to pursue photography as a career.

Cain said that the Women's Center is an important resource on campus that students should know about.

"It's a great cause, and there's just going to be so much fun and creativity that it won't be able to fit in one bar. It's just going to spill out into the streets, and Missoula is going to thrive on it. Literally," said Erin Joronen, a senior at UM and a volunteer at the Women's Center.

The Women's Center is a volunteer organization that educates and raises awareness about women's issues. The group has organized events like the Vagina Monologues and the weekly sexual finesse workshops.

kelsey.bernius@umontana.edu

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kaiminletters@umontana.edu

## Mom ordered daughters out, police say

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — Usually, it's an empty threat: "If you kids don't stop fighting, I'm going to stop this car right now and leave you here!"

But a mother from an upper-crust New York suburb went through with it, ordering her battling 10- and 12-year-old daughters out of her car in White Plains' business district and driving off, police said Tuesday.

Madlyn Primoff, 45, a partner in a Manhattan law firm, pleaded not guilty Monday to a charge of endangering a child. A temporary order of protection was issued, barring her from contact with the children, who were physically unharmed.

Primoff's lawyer, Vincent Briccetti, would not comment Tuesday on details of the case. But he said, "Madlyn is a great mother connected with a great family, and she is grateful for the outpouring of support from friends and family."

There wasn't much support from strangers, however. Mothers interviewed near the scene said they couldn't imagine doing what Primoff did, though some understood the urge.

Iris Gorodess, 49, of Mahopac, who has four children ranging from 10 to 19 years old, said she sympathized with Primoff's actions, right up to the point where she pulled away.

"I used to pull over and make the kids change seats. Also, I make sure the kids have their iPods and their games. And I have a minivan, so they're not up my neck all the time.

"But I can't see pulling away. That has to be too scary for the children."

White Plains police said Primoff ordered the arguing girls out of the car Sunday evening as they were driving home. She left them at Post Road and South Broadway, an area of shops and offices 3 miles from their home, then drove off, the police report said.

The report does not say whether the girls had cell phones.

Police would not say if Primoff ever returned to look for the girls, but they said, without explaining how, that the 12-year-old eventually caught up with the mother. The 10-year-old was found by a "Good Samaritan" on the street, upset and emotional about losing her mother, police said.

The girl gave police her mother's name and their address in well-to-do Scarsdale, and they asked Scarsdale police to check Primoff's \$2 million house. Shortly afterward, Primoff called Scarsdale police from home to say the 10-year-old was missing, said Scarsdale Detective Lt. Bryant Clark.

He directed her to White Plains police headquarters, where she was arrested.

Dr. Richard Gersh, director of psychiatric services at the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services in Manhattan, said Primoff's behavior was not appropriate.

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# Somalian charged with piracy

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The sole surviving pirate from an attack on an American cargo ship off the Somali coast will be tried as an adult after he was portrayed Tuesday as the brazen ringleader of a band of pirates who shot at the ship's captain and bragged about prior acts of piracy.

The bravado authorities say 18-year-old Abdiwali Abdiqadir Muse displayed as the first pirate to board the Maersk Alabama on April 8 had evaporated by the time he entered a federal courtroom to face a piracy charge that carries a mandatory life prison sentence.

At one point, Muse sobbed as his lawyers notified the court that they had spoken to his family in Somalia. He lost his first court battle when his court-appointed public defenders failed to convince a judge that he was 15 and could be processed through the courts in secrecy as a juvenile.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Andrew J. Peck cited conflicting testimony that Muse's father gave about his children's ages during telephone testimony from Somalia and his own failure to testify about his age as reasons to find he could be treated by the courts as an adult.

Peck also noted that prosecutors had produced evidence dur-

ing a closed hearing that Muse admitted he had lied to an FBI agent about his age before admitting he was 18 and that one of his brothers had confirmed he was 18.

The decision to treat him as an adult led to the unsealing of a criminal complaint by FBI Agent Steven E. Sorrells that provided dramatic new details about the ship's seizure and what transpired before U.S. snipers shot three Somali pirates and Muse was captured.

Sorrells wrote that the ship's captain, Richard Phillips, told him he fired multiple warning flares at the pirates' boat to try to chase them away.

The agent said Muse was the first pirate to board the boat, armed with a gun, as it was about 280 miles off the Somali coast.

"From the deck of the Maersk Alabama, Muse fired his gun at the captain who was still in the bridge," Sorrells said.

The agent said Muse entered the bridge, told the captain to stop the ship and "conducted himself as the leader of the pirates."

After the other pirates boarded, three of them accompanied the captain to a safe where he took out about \$30,000 in cash, which the pirates then took, Sorrells said.

Sorrells said the pirates held

Phillips on a life boat for four days, with Muse telling the captain at one point that he had hijacked other ships before.

After Phillips tried to escape by jumping in the water, the pirates fired a gun at him and later tied him up and hit him, Sorrells said.

Sorrells noted that Muse left the life boat on April 12 and one of the remaining pirates shot a gun on the life boat later that day.

"Less than one hour later, the captain heard several gun shots on the life boat, and saw that the three remaining pirates had been shot," he said.

Muse was charged with several counts, including piracy under the law of nations. That charge carries a mandatory penalty of life in prison.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Brendan McGuire said Muse initially told a Somali interpreter on April 12, when he was first detained, that he was 16, then that he was 19, then that he was 26.

Muse indicated a day later on a different U.S. Navy vessel that he was 19, McGuire said. The prosecutor said Muse told an FBI agent Monday that his age was 15 but later apologized to the agent for lying, telling him he was 18, going on 19.

Muse, his 5-foot-2 frame so slight that his prison clothes draped loosely, at one point put his head in his uninjured hand. His left hand is heavily bandaged from a wound he suffered during the skirmish on the Norfolk, Va.-based cargo ship.

He arrived in New York on Monday evening, handcuffed with a chain wrapped around his waist and about a dozen federal agents surrounding him.

In addition to piracy, he was charged with conspiracy to seize a ship by force; discharging a firearm; aiding and abetting the discharge of a firearm during a conspiracy to seize a ship by force; conspiracy to commit hostage taking; and brandishing a firearm.

# Scientists discover Earth-like planets

ASSOCIATED PRESS

HATFIELD, England — In the search for Earth-like planets, astronomers zeroed in Tuesday on two places that look awfully familiar to home. One is close to the right size. The other is in the right place.

European researchers said they not only found the smallest exoplanet ever, called Gliese 581 e, but realized that a neighboring planet discovered earlier, Gliese 581 d, was in the prime habitable zone for potential life.

"The Holy Grail of current exoplanet research is the detection of a rocky, Earth-like planet in the 'habitable zone,'" said Michel Mayor, an astrophysicist at Geneva University in Switzerland.

An American expert called the discovery of the tiny planet "extraordinary."

Gliese 581 e is only 1.9 times the size of Earth — while previous planets found outside our solar system are closer to the size of massive Jupiter, which NASA says could swallow more than 1,000 Earths.

Gliese 581 e sits close to the nearest star, making it too hot to support life. Still, Mayor said its discovery in a solar system 20½ light years away from Earth is a "good example that we are progressing in the detection of Earth-like planets."

Scientists also discovered that the orbit of planet Gliese 581 d, which was found in 2007, was located within the "habitable zone" — a region around a sun-like star that would allow water to be liquid on the planet's surface, Mayor said.

He spoke at a news conference Tuesday at the University of Hertfordshire during the European Week of Astronomy and Space Science.

Gliese 581 d is probably too

large to be made only of rocky material, fellow astronomer and team member Stephane Udry said, adding it was possible the planet had a "large and deep" ocean.

"It is the first serious 'water-world' candidate," Udry said.

Mayor's main planet-hunting competitor, Geoff Marcy of the University of California, Berkeley, praised the find of Gliese 581 e as "the most exciting discovery" so far of exoplanets — planets outside our solar system.

"This discovery is absolutely extraordinary," Marcy told The Associated Press by e-mail, calling the discoveries a significant step in the search for Earth-like planets.

While Gliese 581 e is too hot for life "it shows that nature makes such small planets, probably in large numbers," Marcy commented. "Surely the galaxy contains tens of billions of planets like the small, Earth-mass one announced here."

Nearly 350 planets have been found outside our solar system, but so far nearly every one of them was found to be extremely unlikely to harbor life.

Most were too close or too far from their sun, making them too hot or too cold for life. Others were too big and likely to be uninhabitable gas giants like Jupiter. Those that are too small are highly difficult to detect in the first place.

Both Gliese 581 d and Gliese 581 e are located in constellation Libra and orbit around Gliese 581.

Like other planets circling that star — scientists have discovered four so far — Gliese 581 e was found using the European Southern Observatory's telescope in La Silla, Chile.

The telescope has a special instrument which splits light to find wobbles in different wavelengths. Those wobbles can reveal the existence of other worlds.

"It is great work and shows the potential of this detection method," said Lisa Kaltenegger, an astronomer at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics.

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## Mountain climbing on one wheel gains popularity



Eric Oravsky/Montana Kaimin

Sophomore David Hobbs rests at the top of Mount Jumbo. His parents always said he was a little bit left-of-center. So, when he couldn't afford a whole bike, he settled for riding half of one down mountains.

### *UM students perfect their skills in the art of rough-terrain unicycling*

Matt McLeod  
MONTANA KAIMIN

Most people think of unicycling as something done in a circus or parade, but for a pair of campus riders, the sport is much more than a chance to clown around.

Freshman Forrest Rowell and sophomore David Hobbs both practice MUni or mountain unicycling, a discipline that evolved in the late 1980s. Since then, extreme riders have tackled the sport, also known as rough-terrain unicycling, all terrain unicycling or UMX.

The concept behind MUni is simple, with three basic components: man, a mountain and a unicycle. A rider travels uphill and down, riding trails that hikers and mountain bikers traverse. But MUni riding is no walk in the park, as the cyclist must draw on significant core strength to maintain a precarious balance at all times.

Despite the arduous prospect of learning to ride, Rowell said he's grown into it.

"It's kind of hard to learn," Rowell said. "But once I got it down, it became like second nature. It's something I love to do."

Growing up in tiny Garrison, there wasn't much for Rowell to do, so he turned to the outdoors for entertainment. Rowell's father used to unicycle as a kid, and when the pair spotted a unicycle in a Helena pawnshop in 2002, they decided to buy it. It's a decision that has paid off in spades.

Rowell recently went to Denmark to compete in the European Mountain Cycling Trials, where he finished in 10th place. In July he looks to capture his third consecutive MUni title at the North American Unicycling Convention and Championships in Bloomington, Minn. Over the years, the Media Arts major has come to love the sport. He said he has always enjoyed other alpine pursuits like mountain biking, but that physically, unicycling holds a

deeper, more personal appeal.

"It's like the wheel is almost part of my body," Rowell said. "I feel like there's just a better connection."

Rowell takes his unicycle to the skate park to do tricks and he can ride up and down mountains, but neither is the toughest challenge he's faced.

Each year, Rowell travels to the Moab MUni Festival held in Moab, Utah, where he tackles the Slickrock bike trail — an exhausting, 15-mile challenge.

“*It's like the wheel is almost part of my body.*”

**Forrest Rowell,  
freshman unicyclist**

"It's definitely the most grueling trail I've done," Rowell said. "It's so long. Plus you have to use your legs the entire time, so it's a lot harder than mountain biking."

Unlike with a mountain bike, on a unicycle the rider has to pedal continuously — even when traveling downhill. There is no brake, so in order to slow the cycle, the rider has to use his or her legs to put backward pressure on the pedals.

As daunting as it might seem, mountain unicycling is relatively safe. Since a unicycle employs a system of direct drive, where the craft can only travel as fast as a rider can pedal, the cycle usually travels at much lower speeds than bicyclists, who can coast at high speeds without touching the pedals. Skinned knees are common, but major injuries are rare, as cruising speed on a standard unicycle (most riders use a 24-inch or 20-inch model) is only about eight

to nine miles per hour.

While MUni is a new phenomenon, the unicycle has been around for over a century.

It started as an offshoot of the first bicycles, called "penny-farthings." A craft with a large front wheel and small rear wheel, the bike was popularized in the late 1800s. Like unicycles, penny-farthings also had cranks connected to the front axle; if a rider stopped on a dime, the penny would rear up in the back, creating a unicycle-like effect as the rider tried to balance on one wheel.

Today, the once-quirky stunt of riding on one wheel has begun to come into its own, its appeal picking up momentum and drawing the attention of extreme sports enthusiasts.

Hobbs is a member of the U.S. World Cup Telemark team, but in his spare time the Whitefish native bombs down Mount Jumbo on his unicycle. He's dabbled in a number of extreme sports, but said for the last eight years, unicycling has been the biggest thrill for him.

"I just got stoked on it in middle school, and it's really grown on me from there," Hobbs said.

Hobbs cycles down hillsides around Missoula and Whitefish and heads up to Canada to tackle the ski hill in Fernie, B.C. He said he has ridden some steep terrain, but that he has managed to stay safe because of the nature of the craft.

"You can definitely have some pretty good wrecks," Hobbs said. "But it's pretty easy to just step off when you need to and just chase it."

Hobbs said it took him only about six months to master the skill; soon he was comfortable enough to head up mountains.

"You get comfortable pretty quickly," Hobbs said. "You learn to just attack the trail."

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# Wildlife photos on sale Saturday

Amanda Eggert  
MONTANA KAIMIN

For wildlife photographer Robin Poole, getting that special photograph to come together is like going on a first date and finding an instant connection.

"It's like hitting the jackpot," he said. "It's a real uplift because you take so many pictures that don't turn out."

Although Poole also does landscape photography, wildlife photography — encompassing everything from grizzly bears in Alaska to bighorn sheep right here in Montana — is Poole's primary focus.

On Saturday April 25, Poole's decades-long photography will be exhibited in a show honoring his work from noon to 3 p.m. in Urey Lecture Hall. His photographs, taken with a 14-megapixel Sigma

digital SLR and processed in Photoshop Elements, will be for sale.

Timing is a constant challenge in wildlife photography, Poole said, but the opportunity to become familiar with his subjects is part of its reward.

"To me, shooting wildlife is kind of like being in a soap opera. I shoot a lot during the mating season, and there's a lot of interaction with the males and the females."

Recently, his attention has turned to ducks. Poole said he has been out photographing ducks virtually every day for the past three months.

"I've turned into a horrible mallard duck fanatic," Poole said. "They've got interesting personalities and I've learned lots just watching them."

Link Starbureiy, Poole's friend of three years and sometimes-agent, said, "He's fair and he's kind of goofy. You know, he's an elder, so he's very wise."

On top of that, Starbureiy said that Poole is an excellent photographer. "He loves what he does, and it shows."

Poole celebrated his birthday yesterday by fly-fishing on the lower Missouri River. He said that he turned "old enough to vote, that's all I'm going to say."

Earlier in his life, Poole lived in Seattle and worked primarily in Europe and South America in sales for a company that sells spare aircraft parts. He came through Missoula a dozen or more times on his regular sojourn to West Yellowstone to go fly-fishing. After retiring several years ago, he made it his home.

See WILDLIFE, page 15



Blaine Dunkley/Montana Kaimin

Wildlife photographer Robin Poole shows off some of his favorite shots during the UC's Spring Art Fair last Thursday. "It's a hell of a lot of fun," said Poole, who describes photographing elk in Yellowstone during the rut as watching one of nature's soap operas.

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## Turkey hunting requires multiple fees

## WILDLIFE

Continued from page 14

Jeff Osteen

MONTANA KAIMIN

Back off, turkey. Just because it's not Thanksgiving doesn't mean you're safe from the plate.

Spring turkey permits are available, and hunting season officially began April 11.

"Whether you get one or not, half the fun is getting out in the spring woods," said Beau McBryde, a UM College of Technology senior.

McBryde said he purchases a spring turkey license every year. He was on the hunt this weekend hoping to nab a bird. Though his hunt didn't end in a kill, he said he would be back out this weekend hoping for a more successful trip.

"I'm confident we'll get something," McBryde said. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks regulations allow two kills per year, and McBryde said he will make as many hunting trips as it takes for him to get a bird.

Ravalli and Flathead counties, including a portion of Lake County, are the only western Montana areas approved for turkey hunting.

Spring turkey permits aren't the only barriers standing between the hunter and the hunted.

In addition to the permit, Montana FWP requires a conservation license and, for residents, an upland game bird license. First-time hunters are also re-

quired to pay a hunting access enhancement fee.

Residents hoping to hunt turkey will have to pay \$22 in required permits. Non-residents are subject to fees of \$125 if they want a turkey license, or they can pay \$175 to purchase an upland game bird license, which will enable them to hunt multiple types of birds during each designated hunting seasons.

Hunting access enhancement fees only need to be purchased once and cost \$2 for residents and \$10 for non-residents.

Spring turkey season lasts until May 17, but McBryde said he has the best luck near the beginning of the season.

"Earlier in the season is more active, for sure," he said.

Although his most recent hunt supplied no turkey dinners, the lure is out there.

"We saw some birds," he said. "We didn't get them to come in close enough to get a shot off."

McBryde said he spends the middle of the day fishing while the turkeys wander around and that he usually tries to find out where the birds are roosting.

"They're always walking," he said.

And a successful hunt means a feast is soon to come.

"They keep for quite a while," he said. "I like to smoke them."

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"Montana's just such a cool place because it has such great outdoors and such beauty and it's not overrun with people," Poole said. "I used to say, 'This has to be the coolest little town in the United States, and nobody hardly even knows about it.' With that mentality I said, 'To hell with Seattle, I'm coming over here.' So here I be," Poole said.

"I just feel very lucky to take pictures here. It's just so bloody photogenic."

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## Yellowstone plan covers cell phones, Wi-Fi

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — As the host of more than 24,000 visitors on busy summer days, Yellowstone National Park has adopted a wireless communications plan that seeks to balance safety and convenience with its mission of preserving the park's natural condition.

Yellowstone completed the plan this month after taking public comment on a proposal released last fall. The plan includes a limited expansion of cell phone service, restrictions on wireless Internet at historic lodges and rules for new scientific monitoring stations.

"Not all potential services are appropriate in all areas," park spokesman Al Nash said Monday. "It really is about an expectation that visitors have of a certain ex-

perience in Yellowstone, whether it's in historic lodging or in the backcountry. This plan recognizes technological change but works to protect the experience people seek in Yellowstone."

The plan restricts cell towers in the backcountry, in campgrounds and along park road corridors. While cell service won't be available in the vast majority of the park, the plan allows continued cell phone service in developed areas and the addition of service at Fishing Bridge/Lake Village area.

Tim Stevens, Northern Rockies regional director for the National Parks Conservation Association, said the final draft was a reasonable precedent for other parks.

Stevens said he remained concerned about the prospect of building a new cell tower at the Fishing

Bridge/Lake Village area, which he said could disrupt the serenity of the area.

"So instead of relaxing, being able to enjoy the view that you have at that lake, you instead have people walking up and down in front of you talking on cell phones," Stevens said.

The plan calls for moving the cell tower located near the geyser basin and Old Faithful — the park's most visited site — to a less visible site at a nearby water treatment plant. The installation of the tower in 2001 fueled debate over how the park would navigate the rush of wireless technology.

In response to public comments, Yellowstone added a prohibition against wireless Internet service at historic lodges including the Lake Hotel, Old Faithful Inn, the Roosevelt Lodge, Old Faithful

Lodge, Lake Lodge and Mammoth Hotel. Wi-Fi service will still be allowed in other hotels and general stores.

Yellowstone will also attempt to educate visitors on cell phone etiquette with "courtesy signing and protocols" that "focus on increasing the distance between visitors enjoying the natural soundscapes and those using cell phones by designating 'cell phone free' zones where possible," according to a summary of the plan.

The plan also includes removing communications equipment from the fire lookout structure on Mt. Washburn and relocating it to an unobtrusive alternative; and relocating cell phone infrastructure from Bunsen Peak to Elk Plaza.

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## DEBATE

Continued from page 1

Sanders said that he would try to make sure UM money is spent where students want it spent.

"It's just ridiculous how much our tuition has gone up as a result of a lot of programs that a lot of students don't support," Sanders said.

"Students are the lifeblood of this university," Sanders said. "For too long, the university bureaucracy has taken this for granted."

Freshman senator Kip Barhaugh also brought up the issue of tuition, saying that "the worldwide recession is hitting Montana," and that he would help students by "ensuring that students see as minimal a tuition increase as possible."

Will Selph, an education major who said he is hoping to teach government upon graduation, agreed with Barhaugh's ideas about tuition.

"It's a long-term goal to start decreasing tuition or to work for a freeze," Selph said. "We don't make enough to pay off what we do here."

Near the end of the forum, Verlanic, who was appointed to the senate earlier this year, spoke about the need for diversity in the senate.

"This is a great opportunity for us to work together," Verlanic said. "I've been asked to work with people who share my beliefs and who have totally different beliefs."

Selph agreed, adding that, for students, ASUM can be a "means to an end."

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## RALLY

Continued from page 1

already brought in \$2.4 million for language programs, exchanges curriculum development and trainings."

UM plans to apply for grants next fall, Weix said.

In 48 hours the committee received more than 150 letters from students in support of the program and the new major. Many students wrote in support of the Asian studies program and many requested an Arabic minor.

Weix said she was very impressed with the students' explanations in support of studying these languages, but the Arabic minor has not been brought to ASCRC.

"An Arabic minor has not been proposed to our committee," Weix said, although it could be something proposed in the future. Proposals are made in the fall to ASCRC.

Students enrolled in Arabic courses rallied next to the grizzly statue on the Oval Tuesday afternoon. They held signs in support of an Arabic minor and a central Asian studies major. They also asked students to sign a petition for an Arabic minor.

Ashleen Williams, a junior majoring in political science, organized the rally to support the new major and bring awareness to the fact that there isn't an Arabic minor at UM.

"We wanted to show how many students care about this and have no reward," she said.

Williams applauded the new central and southwest Asian studies major, but said an Arabic minor is the next step to go with it.

"As far as we know, the administration is supporting us," she said. "We can't afford to wait any longer."

Williams said students are working for long credit hours in the Arabic program, but have no reward for it.

There is an overwhelming number of students who support the minor and would pursue it if it existed, she said.

Arabic faculty members declined to comment Tuesday.

Many people think Arabic is a minor at UM, said John Blake, a sophomore majoring in international relations who rallied for signatures on the Oval. Blake has been studying Arabic for one year, and said he would minor in Arabic if it were offered. The group gathered about 400 signatures, according to Blake. The students will turn the petition over to the Arabic faculty, he said.

There are only four or five programs in the nation specializing in central and southwest Asian studies, said Weix.

"The University of Montana is on par with some of the best programs in the nation," she said. "It's as well known as those programs."

Weix said UM is hosting the Seventh Annual Central and Southwest Asia Conference starting today in the University Center with a number of presentations and speakers.

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