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Montana Kaimin, February 25, 2010

Students of The University of Montana, Missoula

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www.montanakaimin.com

Montana Kaimin

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Women take control



Kat Franchino/Montana Kaimin

University of Montana students Amanda L. Cox (left) and Bridgette Migneault (right) practice self-defense moves as instructor James Corbin (center) watches. Corbin instructed a self-defense class in the UC Wednesday. It was one of seven 50-minute workshops held during SARC's Women's Summit. Besides the workshops, SARC offered a set of monologues in the UC atrium, as well as a panel that discussed gender equality and feminism.

UM group to vie for green living honors

Carmen George
Montana Kaimin

The bales of straw in the garage at UM FLAT aren't for horses.

They're wall insulation for the University of Montana's Forum for Living with Appropriate Technology's up-and-coming community demonstration center: the transformation of an ordinary garage near campus into a model for green building practices.

And while its walls may be made of straw, the group isn't about to let a big bad wolf blow their house down.

UM FLAT, a student group that is renovating two University-owned houses located near campus into models for sustainable building and living, entered a competitive contest in hopes of securing more funds for their remodel and earning some national recognition.

UM FLAT submitted a two-minute video for the National Wildlife Federation's Chill Out competition, which highlighted the student-run demonstration home and their goal of encouraging more sustainable building and living decisions. NWF's annual Chill Out competition was created to encourage innovation and celebrate campus sustainability initiatives to combat climate change.

Last summer, five members of the student-led group moved into two houses, located near campus at 633 South 5th St. E., in an effort to take on the greenest living and building practices possible. They monitor the energy use of all appliances in the houses using a computer program, and test different kinds of building materials and appliances to determine which ones help to reduce their carbon footprint the most. They've added a large garden and are working on building renovations that help conserve energy.

The house also serves as a meeting place for various conservation groups, and since fall 2009, the FLAT has had over 1,000 students, faculty and community members stop by for a scheduled tour, meeting or volunteer event. Their goal is to be a resource and example for people interested in more sustainable living options at UM and across the community.

While UM FLAT project coordinator Derek Kanwischer said the

Reforms could make college more affordable

Jayne Fraser
Montana Kaimin

Though big educational reforms can be seen over the horizon of Capitol Hill, only certain elements of a 2007 bill will actually affect University of Montana students next fall.

"This is all conversation at Congress that might happen in Fall 2011," Financial Aid Director Mick Hanson said.

However, Hanson noted two changes to business next fall: an increased maximum on Pell Grants and a statewide switch to the Federal Direct Loan Program.

Pell Grants

The maximum award for Pell Grant recipients will increase from \$5,350 to \$5,500 next fall in accordance with the 2007 College

Cost Reduction and Access Act.

"That's the good news in my job," Hanson said.

Pell Grants are the principle award of need-based federal student aid. These grants, in whole or part, were paid to 3,981 UM students last academic year, totaling a little over \$12.4 million.

The increase in the maximum award will help rebalance the aid with increased tuition.

Hanson compared the value of a full Pell Grant to tuition over the past few years and is happy with the continued increase.

In 2002, a full Pell Grant could pay 104 percent of in-state tuition and fees, 82 percent in 2005 and 97 percent this year.

When Hanson attended college, he said most of his generation paid for school with an after-school job.

But today's tuition has risen

faster than both the awards of federal financial aid and minimum wage.

"If minimum wage had kept in step with college inflation over the past 25 years, it would have to be \$25 an hour," Hanson said. "This is why students are relying on financial aid so much more today."

Direct Loan Program

In his 26 years working in the financial aid field, Hanson said he's seen more and more students taking out loans to make ends meet where scholarships, grants and part-time jobs cannot pay the school bills.

This year, loans accounted for 62 percent of all funds distributed through the financial aid office, Hanson said. He noted that this does not include any private loans students or parents might take out.

For the past several months, UM, along with all other Montana higher education schools, has been preparing for the July 1 switch from the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) to the Federal Direct Loan Program.

"There is no change in the dollar amount that students will receive," Hanson said.

He said the financial aid office will speak with students in April and May about the changes, though he said they will likely not notice any changes since it affects the associated office work and not the amount of aid students receive.

The only difference will be in who services new student loans and the how the funds ultimately reach the student.

FFELP let students choose

See AID, page 4

See GREEN LIVING, page 4

EDITORIAL



Laura Lundquist,
News Editor

For those working out disagreements, there are times to dig in their heels, which many are too eager to do these days, and times to compromise. While most of today's congressmen need more practice in the art of concession, they shouldn't compromise existing laws.

U.S. Sen. Jon Tester claims to have molded his Forest Jobs and Recreation Act in the spirit of compromise. Part of his bill was hammered out by a local coalition of groups that are often diametrically opposed, such as loggers and environmentalists. As a result, the bill would give each

The spirit of compromise is not always best

group some of what they wanted. It was proof that some people, probably because they had to negotiate face-to-face, can still agree on a compromise.

While I applaud the grudging give-and-take that went into parts of this bill, those hours of work are not enough to gain my support. A number of bad bills have ended up as law because people admired the intent. However, my objection is not against having to compromise but rather the details of this compromise.

To be a true compromise, all affected groups should be allowed to weigh in. That didn't quite happen with Tester's bill. Before his bill existed, a few groups worked together to submit their joint proposal for the new Beaverhead-Deer Lodge Forest plan. Tester took that document and made it part of his bill. Now interest groups on all sides who weren't part of the process are crying foul.

If Tester would go back, do the team building and make this bill represent a compromise for all, it might justify more support. On the other hand, with more hands on the rope, the tug-of-war may never have ended.

Tester's bill is sometimes called a "wilderness bill" because it creates some wilderness. But, as part of the compromise, the creation of wilderness is tied to logging 7,000 acres of forest each year and the creation of recreation areas. On a certain level, I don't like wilderness designation being tied to anything.

Unfortunately, it has become more difficult to pass pure wilderness bills of any significance. Some view such bills as a threat. Groups that appeared in just the last few decades, promoting mountain bike and off-road vehicle use, have grown to be vocal wilderness opponents because they are banned from wilderness.

Others don't see a purpose to wilderness. As more voters concentrate in urban areas, they can lose the passion for wild places. Perhaps the ramshackle approach is becoming the only way to garner public support to protect areas as quasi-wilderness. So I wouldn't necessarily oppose the bill on that point alone.

One of the bigger problems with Tester's bill is it seeks to designate wilderness but includes a number of exceptions for things that are not allowed in wilderness under the law, such as motorized vehicles. A law becomes toothless if legislators can ignore it by writing exceptions.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 was itself a study in compromise. It would never pass if it were proposed now. It took 65 versions and eight years to get it through the congressional process, and it ended up being far less powerful than when it started. But, it legally de-

fines what wilderness should be, and any further watering-down of that definition undermines the Wilderness Act.

Tester isn't the first congressman to try introducing a tit-for-tat wilderness bill. Rep. Mike Simpson of Idaho has been working for five years to pass his "wilderness bill," the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act. Even the titles make me cringe. Simpson included even more exceptions to what would be allowed in wilderness in his compromise, which is part of why it has yet to pass.

Tester has already shown that he will change the details of his bill. A few weeks ago, he announced changes that favor the logging interests. If he would change some of the wilderness details, I might be more willing to compromise. Otherwise, I'm wearing my boots with the big heels.

laura.lundquist@umontana.edu

THE MODERN common sense OF THINGS

Ordering off the kids' menu... for the rest of your life

By Karen! Garcia



As a 22-year-old female who was raised in upper-middle class America, I have every right to expect more out of my palate than I am currently getting. The only cuisine (and I use that word loosely) that my taste buds will positively respond to is five-year-old fare: macaroni and cheese, PB&J and the like.

Going out to eat becomes difficult, not to mention humiliating, when you have to ask for a kids' menu while simultaneously ordering a beer. The waiter or waitress often blinks, examines the table in search of the absent child and offers a quizzical but ultimately compliant look of pity.

I wasn't raised to be picky; if anything, I became more and more finicky as I got older. It's as if my taste buds decided to surrender all semblances of complexity, relegating me to a one-dimensional path for exploring (or ignoring) the culinary world.

As a college senior, I am terrified that taste operates in the same way as language: After a certain window of time has passed, the

device is no longer capable of being switched on and development is impossible. It is broken by means of neglect, and it can never be fixed.

So, I implemented an experiment. I went to the Pearl Bakery and Café, arguably the "nicest" restaurant in Missoula, and made myself eat food I would otherwise never have touched in an attempt to observe how my "unsophisticated" palate would respond.

For reference, this is the kind of place where diners toss around phrases like, "Every time I'm in Europe..." and argue with the waitresses about the year and quality of vintage wines. This is not hyperbole; both of these things happened while I was there. What follows is the story of my escargot escapade that occurred last Wednesday:

The dish placed in front of me resembles a circular mini muffin tin. There is a tiny, three-pronged fork on the plate, and this confuses me, because there are already two other normal-sized forks on the table.

It is 7:44 p.m. and I am seized with a feeling that can only be described as dread. There are six tiny snails sitting in six tiny mushroom caps in six individual divots on the aforementioned round plate. I cannot see them underneath the deceptive layer of breadcrumbs and herbs that garnish each one, but I know they are there.

I assume I am supposed to use the miniature fork, so I pick it up self-consciously. I cautiously excavate the contents of one ramekin and at first have trouble differentiating between the snail part of the dish and the mushroom cap.

The snail is a dark, almost black, slimy thing about the size of a large marble. It is nestled inside an overturned mushroom cap, which is also an earthy grayish-black. The only smell that reaches me is the garlic butter that the concoction is drenched in, and I silently pray this ingredient will overpower the rest.

And it does, for the most part; all I can taste is the salty fattiness of the butter that pools in globules at the bottom on the ramekins. But

taste is not my main concern here. It is the texture that is most challenging. The texture that makes me gag every time I bring my lower jaw toward my upper in a (failed) attempt to masticate.

Snail is chewy. And it isn't fun chewy like taffy or even tough chewy like beef jerky; it's just this unrelenting chewy that refuses to give in. Like no matter how much you munch it, it will remain rubbery and obstinate in the face of your mouth's deconstructing amy-lase. And since this off-putting consistency is hard to mentally take, I start swallowing the small mollusks whole.

I am sure I look terribly pained at this point, and the waiter walks over to refill my water glass and inquires good-naturedly, "How are you enjoying the escargot?"

I am mid-bite, so I have to swallow without exposing even a twinge of revulsion. The slippery thing slides down the back of my throat and I smile weakly.

"Oh, it's really great," I lie through my teeth.

I feel bad relaying this tale,

because the waiter actually recognized that I write for the Kaimin and said he reads my column. If you are reading this, sir, I am sorry I lied.

Anyway, I bravely consumed all the escargot, patted myself on the back, and left. I realize this was not necessarily the best way to broaden my culinary horizons, but it was interesting to see how my primitive palate responded when exposed to such a refined dish.

Maybe I will always be this way. Maybe I will just have to keep ordering off the kids' menu for the rest of my life, conveniently disregarding the "10 years and younger only, please" disclaimer until I die.

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Correction:

In Wednesday's article titled "Sports Union rallies for big showing," the Kaimin incorrectly reported the source of a budget decrease, which came from the Administration Assessment as well as the overall budget deficit.

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Canvassing means education

I very much disagree with the view you expressed in your editorial on Feb. 24, 2010. While I understand what its like to say "no thanks" to a petitioner in certain circumstances, I think its important to acknowledge that I do take the time to understand what or who they are representing. Let's not forget that canvassing is primarily used as an educational tool. In this case, your annoyance reminds me of the political apathy and inaction that we should be fighting against.

The fact is, canvassing is one way that many groups on campus have an impact! Gaining student support for important issues goes along way to reminding our leaders that our votes — and there are a lot of us — must be earned.

Students on this campus accomplish great things. That would probably stop being the case if ev-



everyone started following in your footsteps. Wake up, drink your coffee, and join those of us who working for a better future.

*Patrick Rhea
Vice President,
UM Climate Action Now!
Sophomore, Biology*

Props for student involvement
I often appreciate the columns

of Editor Allison Maier: they are usually thoughtful and well written. I'd like to offer another perspective to her recent editorial, "I probably don't want to sign your petition." I will admit, that, like Maier, I sometimes just want to walk to the UC, unimpeded by solicitors with message. But overall I am proud to teach at a university like the University of

Montana where large numbers of students care enough about a variety of issues that they organize to inform others and act on their convictions. I have taught at other institutions where levels of student apathy are much higher. I have developed a different response than Maier advocates. When I see students with petitions on an issue, I approach them first and ask

them what issue they are advocating. Then if it is an issue I agree with, I sign the petition (if I am eligible); if not, I tell them "Thank you, I will think about this"; in any case I thank the person for caring enough about the issue to help inform the rest of us. The interactions I have with these persons are inevitably pleasant, regardless of the issue, and they take perhaps 30 seconds — much shorter than the coffee line at the UC Market. I genuinely appreciate those who take the time and effort to organize on important community and social issues, and to inform the rest of us. Granting them a few seconds of our time can strengthen the community conversation at UM on a variety of issues.

*Dan Spencer
Associate Professor
Environmental Studies*



Help Someone, Help Yourself Suicide Prevention Training!!!

The "Help Someone, Help Yourself" campaign is designed to raise awareness about suicide prevention services for you, or someone you know. Come to Curry Health Center's one-time, two hour training and become a volunteer to help students on campus.

THURSDAY, Feb. 25 from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. at Curry Health Center, room 073
Call 243-2809 to reserve your spot.



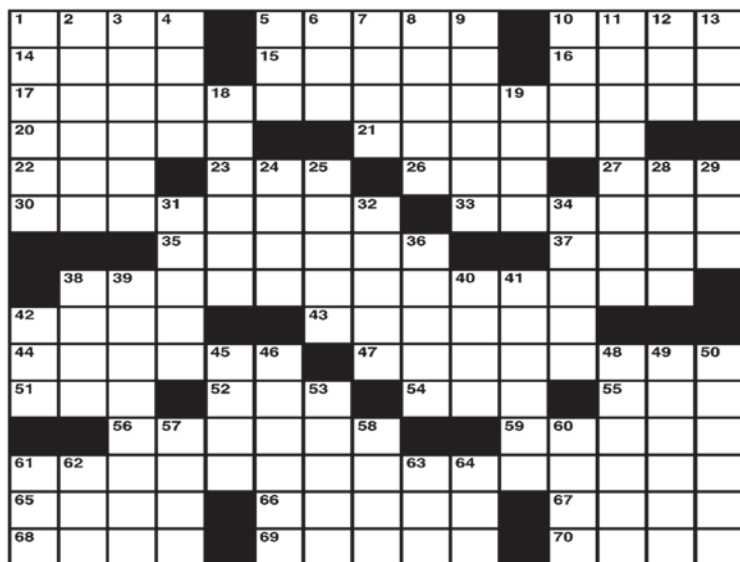
FOR RELEASE FEBRUARY 25, 2010

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Quick kiss
- 5 Bond player, seven times
- 10 Confiscated auto
- 14 End of a fronton game?
- 15 Back list
- 16 Court cry
- 17 Detectives assigned to unsolved mysteries?
- 20 Buddy boy
- 21 Calls, in a way
- 22 Waste not
- 23 Navig. guide
- 26 Quarterback Roethlisberger
- 27 Stable diet?
- 30 Soak through
- 33 Siesta shawl
- 35 Local groups
- 37 Start of a theory
- 38 Intermission queues?
- 42 Hawaii's "Valley Isle"
- 43 Midwestern landscape
- 44 Ring setting
- 47 Carrying capacities
- 51 Pavement warning
- 52 Word processor setting
- 54 Mad Hatter's drink
- 55 Fjord relative
- 56 Like some bio majors
- 59 Daphne eloped with him on "Frasier"
- 61 Shower gifts for brie lovers?
- 65 Word that can precede each word in 17-, 38- and 61-Across
- 66 Crucial artery
- 67 Regarding, to counsel
- 68 Fesses (up)
- 69 Watch secretly
- 70 "Just a couple"



By Gary Steinmehl

2/25/10

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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2/25/10

DOWN

- 1 Get ready to go

- 2 Kay Thompson's impish six-year-old
- 3 Mobile maker
- 4 William the pirate
- 5 Hamm of soccer
- 6 Switch positions
- 7 River forming part of Germany's eastern border
- 8 Betty Ford Center program
- 9 Oozes out
- 10 Prefix with tiller
- 11 Sleeping aid
- 12 A pop
- 13 Jigger's 11/2: Abbr.
- 18 Clear and convincing
- 19 High Court count
- 24 Poker holding
- 25 Condescend
- 28 Big louts
- 29 House call?
- 31 Partner of words
- 32 Gay leader?
- 34 Unilever laundry soap brand
- 36 Like a whip?
- 38 Train guide
- 39 Continental

- 40 Gin and tonic garnish
- 41 Away from the coast
- 42 Roast hosts, for short
- 45 Sport ___: family vehicles
- 46 Equal to, with "the"
- 48 Actress Dahl
- 49 No-calorie cola
- 50 Gets fresh with
- 53 Dizzy's jazz
- 57 Wine list heading
- 58 Fishing craft
- 60 Cow-horned goddess
- 61 Comic Margaret
- 62 Cut off
- 63 From ___ B: basic step
- 64 Fled or bled

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GREEN LIVING

From page 1

group has received tremendous support from more than 30 local donors and a \$12,000 check from the university to start its renovations, the total cost for the garage renovation alone was estimated by local contractors and architects to be around \$40,000. Kanwischer said that over \$20,000 worth of that estimated cost has been cov-

ered by volunteer labor and materials, but more funding would allow them to expand their renovations to the houses.

While the Chill Out contest doesn't award a large prize, awards range from \$500 up to \$1,500. UM FLAT hopes winning the national recognition will keep the campus and community believing in what Kanwischer said he knows they can accomplish.

The video in the contest that

receives the most votes will receive funding for further sustainability initiatives.

Kanwischer hopes that students take a few minutes to support UM FLAT by watching the Chill Out video posted on its Web site at www.umt.edu/umflat and clicking "vote."

"We're trying to provide opportunities for students to hear about sustainable living practices and how they can benefit or affect

greater society," Kanwischer said.

Micah Sewell, resident co-director of the FLAT, said its mission is to serve the UM community as a sustainable demonstration center where good ideas related to architecture, energy, food and community can be tried out and put into place.

"We serve not only as an experiential learning center, where students can put into practice the ideas they learn in the classroom,

but also as a community meeting space," Sewell said. "We offer our space to student groups and see our project as a catalyst for great projects. People can come here, see what we're doing, share ideas, get involved and make good things happen together."

To learn more about upcoming UM FLAT events, or to volunteer, visit its Web site at www.umt.edu/umflat.

carmen.george@umontana.edu

AID

From page 1

which bank or organization would service their loan while a combination of federal, state and local sources — depending on the college and the type of loan — would give the capital for the loan to the bank.

If a student were ultimately unable to pay back his or her loan, the federal government guaranteed to pay the bank the full amount still owed, including interest.

A 2009 study by the Congress Budget Office, widely referenced by President Barack Obama, reports that a full switch to the Direct Lending Program could save taxpayers \$87 billion over the next 10 years.

The Direct Loan Program

withdraws funds for student loans directly from the U.S. Treasury. Those loans would still be serviced by private companies given government contracts based on the quality of services they provide borrowers and eliminate the guarantee to reimburse defaulted loans.

Though the competitive nature of awarding contracts for best customer service and lower default rates would theoretically improve students' experience, some education administrators worry that smaller lenders long-associated with certain states could be left out of the picture.

Invaluable counseling assistance provided by nonprofit student loan servicers such as the Helena-based Student Assistance Foundation help lighten the load

on Hanson's already busy office.

The Foundation works closely with UM and its students to keep the loan default rate lower than the national average of 6 percent and closer to the 1 or 2 percent average from the past several years.

"There is no fear, no panic," Hanson said. He has been working closely with the Foundation's President Jim Stipcich to make sure the transition is smooth.

But in a couple years, the role of nonprofits such as the Student Assistance Foundation will ultimately depend on the content of Congress' new higher education bill and how soon it's passed.

Future legislation possibilities

Both Congress and Obama are organizing reforms that could mean students find a simpler FAFSA form, increased access to Pell Grants, raised Pell Grants values, better customer service on loans, forgiveness if students can't pay off their loans within 20 years, expanded student assistance pro-

grams on campus and increased incentives for colleges to keep tuition low.

Students with drug possession charges might become eligible for federal aid once again, while the penalties for selling illegal substances would be restructured.

Graduate students, however, might lose access to the Stafford loan program.

All these proposals, in different stages of acceptance, still must be finalized and approved over the next several months.

Hanson said the timeline for when, and if, these proposals would become policies affecting students depends on a larger national debate, but would be no sooner than 2011, after health care reform.

Because the Senate is still tied up in health care debate, it's largely left the newest piece of education legislation sit unnoticed.

The House passed its version of the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act in September

2009 with a 253-171 vote and must wait on the Senate before it finalizes the changes.

The bill adopts many of the educational ideas Obama supported in his 2010 budget proposal.

Also, Obama's 2011 budget includes proposals to increase Pell Grant funding by 92 percent and the overall funding for Department of Education by 9 percent. Both proposals must await congressional approval and largely depend on savings from the Student Aid Act caught in limbo.

But, despite the pause put on the educational bill, Hanson and UM President George Dennison have already written several letters to Congress expressing their concerns and interest in the pending legislation, specifically how U.S. lawmakers clarify the role of nonprofits in the student loan business.

"I have faith in the Montana delegation," Hanson said. "There may still be a spot for nonprofit organizations in the new legislation."

According to the Labor and Education Committee's Web site, nonprofits would be allowed a role in the new system proposed, though the details of that arrangement are not yet clear.


Hanson said he plans to keep speaking with Montana congressmen and other agencies about the proposals in the interest of UM students.

But in his decades at UM, he's seen a lot of changes and is optimistic that regardless of the final decisions made on Capitol Hill, students and financial aid staff will successfully adapt.

For more information on the policies discussed in this story, visit www.nasfaa.org/publications/2007/G2669Summary091007.html and edlabor.house.gov/blog/2009/07/student-aid-and-fiscal-respons.shtml.

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The University of **Montana**



The President's 2009-2010 *Lecture Series*

This year's President's Lecture Series will consist of ten talks on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers. The University community and general public are cordially invited to attend all the lectures. Admission is free.

Robert McDuffie
Violinist and Distinguished University Professor of Music, Mercer University
(accompanied by Margery McDuffie Whatley)



"The Seasons Project: The Overlapping Agendas of Antonio Vivaldi and Philip Glass"
(in collaboration with the Missoula Symphony Association)

Mr. McDuffie, who has appeared as a soloist with most of the world's major orchestras, is celebrated for his promotion and accomplished performances of contemporary American music. He plays a 1735 Guarneri del Gesù violin known as the Ladenburg. It required a consortium of sixteen investors to provide the funding for this legendary instrument. Missoula concert-goers will have the opportunity this night to hear what \$3.4 million, in the hands of a true master, sounds like.

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Crucial late season matchups loom

Matt McLeod
Montana Kaimin

So here we are: nearing the end of one road and about to embark at the beginning of another. Big Sky Conference men's basketball wraps up its regular season this weekend, with the women finishing next weekend, and teams scrambling to cement their places in the two conference tournaments. Weber State recently wrapped up the men's title, and Eastern Washington is in the driver's seat for the women's crown, but a handful of critical games will determine the final roll call in both leagues.

Men

Seven matchups are left on the schedule to decide who will join the five teams already in: Weber State, Northern Colorado, Montana, Montana State and Northern Arizona. The smart money is on sixth place Portland State, who can make it official by taking one of their final two contests. One game back, Idaho State (4-10, 7-20) and Eastern Washington (4-10, 8-20) also have outside shots to sneak in. Winners of the first round games advance to the semifinals, slated for March 9 and March 10 at Ogden, Utah's Dee Events Center.

Montana State (9-6, 14-13) at Montana (10-5, 19-18)

You couldn't have blamed coach Wayne Tinkle if he'd considered asking Gallatin County authorities to send a search party to find his team after their first 20 minutes of play against Montana State in Bozeman Jan. 23.

Or maybe a PA announcement would have done the trick. At half-time, you almost expected to hear a mechanical voice echo over the loudspeaker: "Johnson. Paging Anthony Johnson."

The Griz played arguably their worst stretch of basketball that game, coming out flatter than they have all year. By the time the scoreboard read five minutes to play in the opening half, Montana had yet to crack double digits. The normally rock-steady Johnson looked lost, missing two field goal attempts. The offense followed suit.

But as the case has been so often this season, something in the Grizzly psyche kicked in during



Grizzly freshman guard Will Cherry scores last Saturday over Sacramento State defenders Antonio Flagg (22) and Justin Eller (40). Montana will host Montana State this Saturday.

the second half. Suddenly they roared back. Down by double digits two minutes earlier, Montana had crawled back to within a point just under the three minute mark before the Bobcats finally made a run of their own to close out the game.

Since the frustrating 2-9 outing, Johnson has been dynamite — torching opponents for an average of 23 points per game, while shooting 56 percent from the field.

As the Bobcats try to wrestle third place away from their Missoula rivals, they know they'll have their hands full.

Other Grizzlies have stepped up to follow Johnson's example,

as Montana has won six of seven, their only loss coming in a 69-68 last-second thriller at Eastern Washington.

They've been stellar at home, where they've only dropped one contest all year — to second-place Northern Colorado in early December.

From the look of things, the Griz have found their compass and plan on striding down a path straight to the conference finals.

Northern Colorado (11-4, 23-6) at Sacramento State (3-11, 9-19)

There's an old Big Sky proverb that says if your hopes for moving up in the league hinge on Sacra-

mento State beating someone for you, it's probably just best to pencil yourself in where you're at and move on to fight another day.

That's the case for the Griz. They need to take care of the Bobcats and pray the last-placed Hornets can somehow take out Northern Colorado Saturday in order for them to move into the second place spot. The improbable scenario would guarantee them a coveted first round bye in the tournament.

Of course, a Sacramento State upset wouldn't necessarily be a miracle of Biblical proportions, but you certainly wouldn't want to bet money on it.

Dead last in conference scoring, the Hornets' only league victories have come over fellow cellar-dwellers Eastern Washington and Idaho State. And lately the scene in Sacramento has been about as cheerful as a My Chemical Romance concert. The club's last three losses have been drubbings — coming by an average of 25 points.

Plus, as the only team going into the weekend already mathematically eliminated from the postseason, there's little motivation for the Hornets to right the ship against the overachieving Bears, who've hung with everybody on their schedule.

Against a suspect Hornet backcourt, Northern Colorado guards Will Figures and Devon Beitzel, two of the league's best, should catch fire — lighting the match in this mismatch.

Montana's long-shot wish could turn into a fool's hope early if Northern Colorado gets a mind to lay the sticks on.

Idaho State (4-10, 7-20) at Portland State (5-9, 10-17)

Lately, the rule of thumb in conference is that any home game against the Bengals should more or less be written in as a win, and it looks like the Vikings won't need to keep their erasers handy. Idaho State has only one win away from home this season, and that was against Division II Colorado Christian.

Portland State wants to RSVP their spot for a shot at the Big Dance, and they need to do it sooner rather than later. First place Weber State comes to town Sunday, and the Wildcats haven't been polite guests — with just two losses away from home, they've been the league's best road club.

That marks Friday's game against the Bengals as a virtual must-win for Portland State, a club picked to vie for the regular season title by preseason coaches and media polls.

The Vikings haven't lived up to their billing as a team, but senior point guard Dominic Waters has been all that and then some. He's put up 19 points per game, done it efficiently, at 49 percent from the field, and gotten his teammates

See Griz, page 6

Golf team opens spring season in Arizona

Troy Warzocha
Montana Kaimin

It's finally time for the University of Montana golf team to shake the dust off their clubs and the rust off their swings as they open the second half of their season this weekend at the Northern Arizona Red Rocks Invitational in Sedona, Ariz.

It has been more than four months since the Grizzlies last competed, and the team is chomping at the bit to get back on the links.

"Obviously, we're anxious to go out and play," said junior Carrissa Simmons.

For most of the last 120 days, the team has been held captive

in the Adams Center by the cold Montana winter.

Even to the casual observer, it's painfully obvious that the conditions in Montana aren't conducive for year-round golfing. However, the Grizzlies don't mind the winter break.

"(Staying fresh) is hard when you go to your first couple tournaments, but it's also nice to have the break because I think we'd get worn down pretty easily," said sophomore Lauren Howell. "(The break) would be harder for someone from California because they would be used to playing year-round."

With the weather getting a little bit warmer, the team has been able

to escape the gym and hit balls about 120 to 130 yards at the practice football field, Howell said.

"Luckily we've been able to get onto the practice football field," Simmons said. "Otherwise we get to hit in the gym with foam golf balls."

In her sophomore year, Simmons led the Grizzlies with a scoring average of 79 and also leads the team this year with an average of 76.7 through four tournaments. In September, Simmons finished second at the Gonzaga-Eastern Washington Invitational and sixth at the Washington State Inland Cup.

So far this season, Simmons hasn't had to shoulder the load alone, as Howell has meshed with

the team nicely after transferring from Washington State.

Howell played in all four events in the fall and had a top finish of fifth at the Gonzaga-Eastern Washington Invitational in September.

A native of Spokane, Wash., she made her choice to transfer after deciding that she wanted to focus on school as well as golf, and didn't like the pressure of playing at a Pac-10 school.

"At Washington State, you're expected to go to the next level after college," Howell said. "There's not quite as much pressure (at UM) and it actually helps me play better to not have all the pressure."

This season there's a little more pressure on the Grizzlies as they

were picked in the 2010 coaches' preseason poll to finish third.

Results so far have been a mixed bag for Montana. They finished second (out of 14) at the Gonzaga-Eastern Washington Invitational, seventh (out of 13) at the Washington State Invitational, 14th (out of 17) at the South Florida Invitational, and eighth (out of 15) at the Xavier Invitational.

With the Grizzlies' wild fall schedule behind them, Howell is expecting big things for the team when conference season heats up.

"I definitely know in our last couple tournaments we could have played a lot better, but I know we're going to do a lot better in the spring," she said.

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Griz
From page 5

in on the action, averaging nearly five assists per contest.

Waters, who delivered a lackluster nine-point performance in Portland State's 88-80 overtime loss at Idaho State Jan. 23, must assert himself early and often if the Vikings expect to vanquish the Bengals a second time around.

Putting the clamps on Amorow Morgan wouldn't hurt either.

The Bengals' leading scorer had a banner night in the first go-round with the Vikings, dropping 30 points on 11-16 from the floor. As he and Waters go toe-to-toe in the City of Roses, the matchup could very well spell the tale of the tape and determine if Portland State survives to fight another day.

Women

How's the situation shaping up for the women's conference tournament? Grab a pencil and take a seat.

Nobody but Eastern Washington (10-3, 17-9) has clinched a spot yet. The Eagles can guarantee outright dibs on a crown with one win this weekend, while Montana (8-5, 13-12) can get in with a win over Montana State. Portland State (8-5, 14-12) can settle an appearance with a win in either of its two games this weekend, or if Northern Colorado (5-8, 13-14) loses either of its two games. Sacramento State (7-5, 12-13), Montana State (7-6, 14-12) and Idaho State (7-6, 12-14) all cling to legitimate hopes to keep their seasons alive the last two weeks, while Northern Colorado needs a miracle to advance.

Montana State (7-6, 14-12) at Montana (8-5, 13-12)

The prequel to the men's game, the Lady Griz-Cat clash is an afternoon undercard bout, but don't think it's any less important.

With three games left on both teams' schedules, just one win separates their records. The Cats have the chance to erase the gap Saturday, while in the process nullifying the tiebreaking advantage the Lady Griz picked up in a 76-67 win in Bozeman.

Montana is virtually assured of a spot in the postseason, but need to regain their confidence. Montana State, tied with Idaho State for fifth and two games clear of seventh place Northern Colorado, can help secure their spot in the conference tournament if they manage to pull off the road upset.

It's a distinct possibility.

The Lady Griz are reeling after giving up 108 points to the Hornets, and Montana State has won three straight road appearances.

The Cats are riding on the coattails of Erica Perry, a 5-foot-4 senior guard who plays far bigger than her size. Teammates call the Big Sky Player of the Week "Tiny," but opponents just call her good. Perry was in her usual form when the Cats knocked off Sacramento State last week, scoring 18 points on 7-of-10 from the field and 4-of-4 from the foul line.

Still, if the Griz can get a repeat performance from freshman Kenzie De Boer, who went for 20 points in 21 minutes the last time around, they should get back on track.

Fighting for second with two weeks to play, the Griz find themselves sitting in a position most teams would be happy to settle for.

They're not. On the heels of compiling 53 wins and two Big

Sky titles in as many years, coach Robin Selvig's club has shown chinks in the armor this season. Last week they lost to Sacramento State for the first time in the history of matchup.

The Cats have also been middle-of-the-road this year, with a string of streaks - winning runs and losing skids - telling the story of their season.

Sacramento State (7-5, 12-13) at Northern Colorado (5-8, 13-14)

Needing three straight wins coupled with a slew of losses to keep their postseason dreams alive, and facing a team still in the thick of conference hunt, it would be easy to assume Northern Colorado has already cashed in their chips and rolled over.

Not exactly. Just ask Portland.

The Bears showed their vital signs in a 56-54 upset road win over the Vikings last weekend, when a bet by Northern Colorado assistant coach Paige Sauer went horribly wrong for her, and gloriously right for her team.

Portland State plays at the tiny Stott Center, a 1,500 seat gym wedged in a campus recreation facility that has a pool separating the locker rooms from the court. As her girls walked past the water, Sauer told them she'd plunge into the water with all her clothes on if they beat the Vikings.

The watery promise came true, thanks to Bears guard Whitley Cox, who contributed 23 points, including a game-winning baseline jumper that guaranteed a trip into the deep end for Sauer.

Meanwhile, Sacramento State was busy thrashing Montana - putting 100 points up on the Griz with a school-record 15 three-pointers.

It was a burst that wasn't all that hard to see coming. The Hornets' offense has been sensational of late, with multiple 90-point scoring nights spurring wins in eight of their last nine games.

How will the Bears motivate themselves to stop the senior trio of Charday Hunt, Erika Edwards and Ashley Garcia? Northern Colorado's rec center has a pool. Head coach Jaime White might want to leave the house in something waterproof.

Portland State (8-5, 14-12) at Idaho State (7-6, 12-14)

Montana will keep an eye on what happens Friday, as second place Portland State heads to Idaho State in a crucial battle for the Griz.

Sitting in third, Montana trails the Vikings by half a game, and having beaten Montana twice this year, Portland State holds the tiebreaker. That means Montana's hopes rest on Idaho State, who will try to buck a recent trend.

The Vikings have taken the past five games between the two schools and seven of the past nine. Four of their last five wins have come by double digits.

If they're to make it six in a row, chances are Portland State's Claire Faucher will have a hand in the process. Faucher became the league's career assist leader earlier this season, and continues to add to her total. The senior point guard's 12 assists against Northern Colorado bumped her total up to 783.

Idaho State's offense has been consistently two-dimensional all year, with forward Oana Iacovita and guard Andrea Videbeck shouldering the scoring load game in, game out. The Bengals welcome back guards Morgan Wohltman and Chelsea Pickering from injury, which should help them spread the court out this week.

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ACLU attorney to discuss human rights and types of torture

Shanda Bradshaw
Montana Kaimin

A teenage boy has sat alone in solitary confinement within the walls of Montana State Prison since March 2009. The inmate, known as "Robert Doe," was incarcerated when he was 16 years old and has since suffered through conditions equivalent to torture.

Tonight, American Civil Liberties Union staff attorney Steven Watt will discuss the lawsuit filed by the ACLU of Montana on behalf of the teenager. His lecture is titled "CIA Rendition and Torture

in Montana." Watt will touch on how this case and many others essentially impede on basic human rights.

Doe, who suffered extensive abuse in childhood and was diagnosed with depression and PTSD, was put in a state juvenile facility for assault when he was 15. While there, he fought with corrections officers and was sentenced to five years at the state prison, where he was deemed a discipline problem and placed in solitary confinement.

Since then, he has been "taser-

ed, pepper-sprayed, stripped naked in view of other inmates, deprived of human contact and disciplined through tortuous 'behavior modification plans' that deny him proper bedding, clothing and recreation," according to the ACLU. He is also on lockdown in solitary for 23 hours a day and denied any family visits or phone calls. Doe has already tried to kill himself twice by biting into the veins on his arms.

"What it is, is plain and simple torture," Watt said.

Watt is helping the Montana

team frame the claim and highlight the extent of Doe's torture.

Watt will also discuss CIA rendition and how this program violated not only U.S. civil rights but also international laws.

As part of the war on terrorism, the CIA's program of "extraordinary rendition" involved the practice of nabbing terrorist suspects abroad and transferring them without legal process to a third country — often one where torture is commonplace — for detention and interrogation.

"My job is to bring a measure

of accountability to courts in order to hold those at the highest level responsible for these actions," Watt said.

Watt, who specializes in international law, started his work in human rights by representing men who were detained at Guantanamo Bay. Originally from Scotland, he said he decided to work in the U.S. because it is the home of human rights.

Watt will give his lecture at 7 p.m. in room 101 of UM's Law School Building.

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Philosophy Forum addresses role of myth in politics

Carmen George
Montana Kaimin

Myths often work as anxiety reducers for a culture, helping people naturalize differences within their culture to keep it together, said William Stearns, a visiting political science professor from Babes-Bolyai University in Romania.

Stearns, who spoke at a philosophy forum at the University of Montana yesterday as a visiting fellow of graduate faculty of Transatlantic Studies, used an old myth to illustrate the idea.

To justify the marginalization of gypsies, myths were propagated. A common story told was

that there was a gypsy who stole the fourth nail that was supposed to be driven through Christ's other foot, which was used to rationalize and cement the gypsy's role in society as a thief. Stories such as these were created to give "divine sanction to their suffering," Stearns said.

The forum was organized in honor of Claude Lévi-Strauss, an influential French anthropologist who died at the age of 100 last November. By studying myth in various cultures, Lévi-Strauss showed that the human mind rationalizes the same way, regardless of origin. He's well known for helping to debunk the way society once viewed

"primitive man," showing that the systems of logic used in primitive mythology were no different from their modern counterparts.

The forum highlighted various examples of how myths are created in a culture and why. The talk also explored ways people try to make sense of the world. Two other speakers were scheduled to talk in the forum, but were unable to attend.

Stearns said myths often develop to help people rationalize what is too overwhelming for them to understand, such as the idea of death.

The belief in angels is one example of this, he said. An angel

serves as an anomalous figure, something that functions as a mediator between two stark differences, such as man and God.

When these differences become too terrifying and incomprehensible, they have to be controlled by the mind either by being made sacred or by becoming taboo, he said. Taboo mythical characters include werewolves, vampires and zombies.

Another example of a created taboo is the biblical reference to

the snake in Genesis as being neither beast of the land, or fish of the sea, he said. Because the snake couldn't be clearly defined as either one thing or the other, the human mind had to deal with it either by turning it into a sacred thing, like an angel, or a taboo thing, which is what happened.

"Meanings are culturally specific, but the ways of making meanings are universal to all human beings," Stearns said.

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UM English department to offer new film minor

Mike Gerrity
Montana Kaimin

“There’s a lot of really interesting issues you can mine in the zombie films.”

What does a shopping mall teeming with flesh-eating zombies have to say about our consumer-driven society? Can Marxism be interpreted through the undead trying to bite through your jugular?

Such paradoxes were explored in Sean O’Brien’s “Headies and Deadies” course last fall, a class dedicated to the brain-munching genre. It is one of several new focuses offered through the English department’s film studies option, and even more are on the way now that they can contribute to a film studies minor at the University of Montana.

While the film option is only available to English majors, students majoring in any other discipline of study at UM can pick up

the minor and a few new classes that will be coming along with it.

Next year, individual courses will be available to cover the Coen Brothers, David Lynch, surrealist film and women’s studies, as well as a new twist on the winter session standard “Film and the Criminal,” which aims to cover Martin Scorsese and Francis Ford Coppola.

“The curriculum is growing rapidly,” O’Brien said.

The first go around last fall with the zombie class was so popular, O’Brien said, that many students were turned away. Those who stayed, she said, were able to dive incredibly deep into the historically bloody subject.

“I think it was probably the most intelligent class we’ve ever had,” O’Brien said. “There’s a lot of really interesting issues you can mine in the zombie films.”

That specific class was structured around comparing classic zombie horror films to philosophers. In a short essay she wrote for the class, UM student Hannah Spry compared how Big Daddy, a psychologically advanced zombie from George A. Romero’s “Land of the Dead,” fit the profile of Freud’s theory of the Superego, arguing that, despite the fact that an average zombie’s desire for food is always stronger than the human taboo against eating people, Big Daddy’s mindset was more sophisticated.

“Big Daddy does exhibit both anger and indignation at the maiming of another zombie and empathy when he dispatches it,” Spry wrote. “This action suggests that he considers this ‘wrong’ and he goes so far as to seek revenge on the humans and retribution is not an action motivated by seeking pleasure nor avoiding pain.”

Romero’s better-known film,

“Dawn of the Dead,” has also been argued to contain metaphors of consumerism, centering around a small cluster of survivors hunkered down in a shopping mall that is later overrun by the walking dead who compulsively seek to re-familiarize themselves with their materialistic habits from life.

Spry analyzed this setting in another essay in which she pitted the movie against philosopher Slavoj Zizek’s concepts of “the real,” the “symbolic real” and the “real real” when Francine rejects Stephen’s marriage proposal while trapped in the mall and acknowledges that the symbol of marriage is meaningless without a society to act as an audience.

“If reality is an illusion that only becomes real in its performance, then the reality created by the survivors in the mall is flawed in that they cannot perform without an audience,” Spry wrote. “In the film, months pass and acting in the farce that is their ‘life’ in the department stores has taken its toll on each of them. Perhaps having seen the ‘real real’, the primal and indescribable horror of the dead

reanimated, the survivors can no longer return to what they now recognize was always a fantasy construction.”

On top of the new minor, new opportunities will be available to film students seeking internships or other opportunities to get practical experience outside of UM to further their education.

“We’re lining up internships now,” O’Brien said.

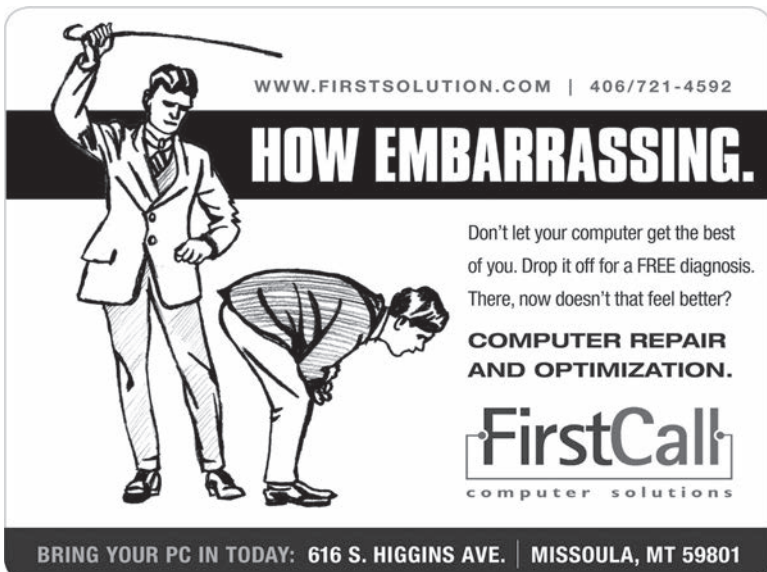
By class registration time this spring, O’Brien said she hopes to have opportunities available for students to intern at film festivals and also do some work with local high schools and senior citizens.

She noted that many film students have been finding opportunities to practice their theory by learning how to make films in classes offered by Media Arts, and vice-versa.

“Their practitioners are getting some good theory behind them, and our theorists are getting some good practice,” O’Brien said.

The film option was added as a focus for English majors in the fall of 2007, and the minor became available last semester.

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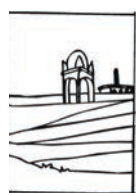
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