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Montana Kaimin, October 12-18, 2016

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THE YEAR OF THE DEPLORABLE

HOW THE ALT-RIGHT IS HIJACKING
CONSERVATIVE POLITICS

page 7





Leann Skach / leann.skach@umontana.edu

BIG UPS & BACKHANDS

The Kaimin's take on this week's winners and losers. Have a big up or backhand to contribute? Tweet us at @montanakaimin!

Backhands to Trump for literally describing sexual assault last week. If you still think that's okay, we're sure SARC is happy to answer your questions. **(406-243-4429)**

Backhands to Crady for getting rid of bureaucratic holds that cancel students' classes and also for releasing class schedules two semesters in advance so students can plan their year. Oh wait, is this what an effective school administrator looks like?

Backhands to Hillary for not literally backhanding Trump.

Big Ups to Ken Bone for the only moment in the debate where I felt OK. You ken bone me anytime. :)



? KIOSK

HELP WANTED

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SUDOKU

Difficulty : Medium

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

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Edited by Margie E. Burke

HOW TO SOLVE:

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answer to Last Week's Sudoku

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



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KAIMIN EDITORIAL

A message from the future : Kaimin editors envision July 2017

By **Editorial staff** editor@montanakaimin.com

As the Kaimin editorial staff sat editing Domino's Pizza-sponsored content in the recently-renamed Jeffrey Epstein Memorial Newsroom, we began formulating our plan for escape. News outlets across the country were folding after being denied access to all Trump-related events, ranging from his speeches to city council meetings. We started to look for our only way out of this hellscape: a Canadian bride or groom who could get us citizenship in America's hat.

Trump was inaugurated in January and it's gone further downhill ever since. His first act as president was to imprison Hillary Clinton, setting a precedent for ignoring our justice system whenever convenient. Within the first hundred days, towering pallets of unopened Trump Vodka were erected as a barrier on the US-Mexico border. Low-income American hopefuls now pay a sizeable entrance tax, and they have to prove they aren't rapists to privatized border patrol.

All social security and universal health care funding has been cut. It's a bit of an annoyance, because now households are paying for medical care out of pocket, leaving little room in the budget for plastic surgery, now mandatory for all women.

Delta Airlines has become the supreme airline mogul, their profit margin skyrocketing as the premier carrier of rejected refugees and "foreign immigrants" deported back to their home countries.

Russia and America are conjoined twins, with Russia siphoning off an increasing percent of American blood every second.

Last week there was a fabulous experimental art exhibit, the origins of which can be traced to the White House. It was called, "Nucleous bombe." We think that's French for destruction, but really couldn't tell you. North Korean news sites gave it five stars.

An influx of non-Christians, non-whites and non-straight people have followed our exodus to escape to Canada. It seems they cannot handle the increasingly hateful rhetoric being baked into American culture. The number of emails we receive has plummeted. It seems Trump's policy to literally never give anyone privacy has caught on. This has freed up our time to explore Canadian dating sites.

The dating sites aren't even subtle with their marketing anymore. "Maple Match" now has a tagline that reads "Making it easy for Americans to find the ideal Canadian partner to save them from the unfathomable horror of a Trump presidency." But as we got into granting the site our personal information and then went on a series of dates we started to see the light. We found a litany of willing Canadians, staged a 12-part wedding and invested in some red and white mittens.

Besides, this was our only choice. Some of us weren't all in on Hillary so half voted for Jill Stein and Gary Johnson last November. We felt it could have been a win-win. We didn't have to compromise our morals by voting for "Crooked Hillary." And there was always a chance that Gary Johnson would win New Mexico and throw the election to the House of Representatives. Shockingly, the United States did not defy 200-plus years of electoral precedent and this didn't come to pass.

If you are able to escape the Trump-troops please come by Canada and say "hi." Jill and Gary were in town the other day and told us how much they appreciated our votes. •

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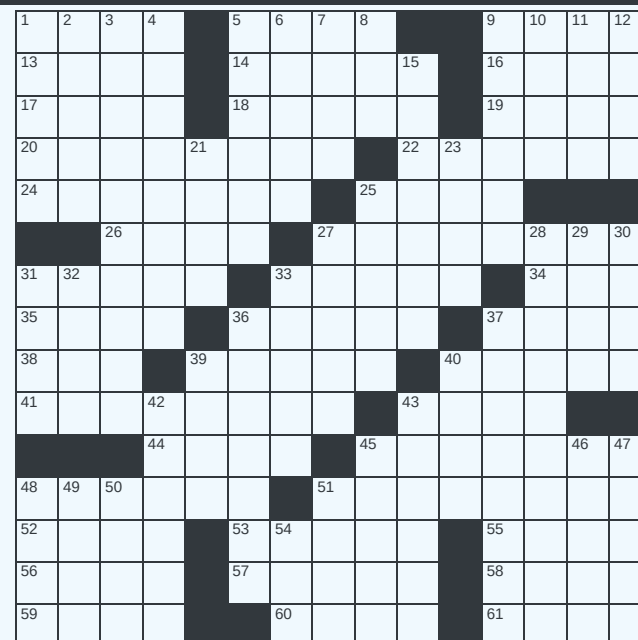
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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 1956 film, "___ All Boats"
- 5 Full of pep
- 9 Braid
- 13 Olympics event
- 14 Threesome
- 16 Choice
- 17 Flexible mineral
- 18 Melding game
- 19 Bit of dust
- 20 Countermand
- 22 Place setting item
- 24 Go in for
- 25 Indian royal
- 26 Salon service
- 27 Overly-devoted son
- 31 Minimal
- 33 Fleshy-snouted beast
- 34 Victorian, for one



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DOWN

- 1 Iron clothes?
- 2 Forge
- 3 Approval
- 4 Farm youngster
- 5 Unyielding
- 6 Bluenose
- 7 Coleridge work
- 8 Starchy tuber
- 9 Argentine grassland
- 10 Sneak a peak
- 11 2016 Rihanna album
- 12 Ferris Bueller, for one
- 15 Forceful
- 21 Diatribe
- 23 Open a bit
- 25 Part of REM
- 27 Flowing tresses
- 28 Hearty har-har
- 29 Layered cookie
- 30 Low interest indicator
- 31 Deception
- 32 Smoke, perhaps

- 33 Sculpture subject
- 36 On that occasion
- 37 Ferrous sulfate
- 39 Form-fitting
- 40 Fierstein's "Torch" Trilogy
- 42 One way to be aware
- 43 Trumpet's kin
- 45 Must-haves
- 46 Excessive
- 47 Spirited stallion
- 48 Dropped stuff
- 49 Valuable vein
- 50 "Crazy" bird
- 51 Fodder holder
- 54 Projecting edge

Answer to Last Week's Crossword:

C	R	A	B	A	P	T	A	P	L	O	M	B
H	E	R	A	L	D	R	Y	P	R	E	P	A
E	G	G	T	I	M	E	R	S	E	V	E	R
R	A	Y	D	I	V	A	E	W	E	R		
T	I	L	T	T	A	N	G	A	L	A	C	K
	N	E	A	R	I	N	N	E	R	T	O	E
		B	E	L	L	Y	U	P	V	I	C	E
N	O	B	O	D	Y	I	C	E	C	A	P	
E	U	R	O	R	A	D	I	C	A	L		
A	C	E	D	E	N	I	M	D	U	M	P	
T	H	E	M	E	T	O	M	B	M	U	L	E
	D	A	C	E	R	O	O	D	T	A	X	
P	A	I	N	E	D	A	R	R	O	G	A	N
A	W	N	I	N	G	M	A	N	E	A	T	E
L	E	G	A	T	E	A	L	E	B	E	T	A

I was wrong about Colin Kaepernick

It started with Colin Kaepernick, the af-ro'd quarterback wearing socks decorated with pigs dressed as police officers. He sat down between two Gatorade vats during the national anthem. Post-game, he was grilled with questions about his motivations. "This country stands for freedom, liberty and justice for all," he responded. "And it's not happening for all right now."

I wrote a blog post a month ago, and at the time I called Kaepernick's protest a re-branding opportunity. But now I see that Kaep's protest is neither a re-branding opportunity, nor is it what so many have deemed unpatriotic.

Kaepernick's protest turned into a movement. His impression has become his legacy.

Fellow NFL players were the first to follow his lead. Players trickled behind Kaepernick one by one. Broncos linebacker Brandon Marshall kneeled on NFL opening day. Players from the Seahawks, Dolphins, Chiefs and Patriots kneeled during the anthem days later on 9/11.

College and high school players organized protests. In some cases, entire teams participated in a kneel-down. Some raised fists, others linked arm-to-arm to showcase unity.

Megan Rapinoe, a soccer player for the

United States national team, was one of the first to join the protest. She took a knee for racial equality before a September match. "I am the same woman who has worn the stars and stripes across her chest, proud and beaming," she wrote in an article titled "Why I'm Kneeling" for the Player's Tribune. "But I cannot stand idly by while there are people in this country who have had to deal with that kind of heartache."

Players who participated received harsh ridicule from hometown fans. Some received death threats.

Kaepernick's sit-down spread throughout the entire country. He progressed the issue of racism in the United States. Critics called him unpatriotic. But, Kaepernick's protest has evolved from a trend to a movement.

Since Kaep sat down before the Packers game more than a month ago, he's ditched the pig socks. He traded his afro for cornrows. He's adopted his followers' lead of taking a knee instead of sitting down. And people are increasingly becoming less angry with his intentions.

Kaepernick is a patriot; regardless of whether people think what he did was right. His protest worked, simply by sparking a controversy.

Look at the thousands of people following his lead. Look at your news feed and see how many times a post pops up about the anthem movement. Listen every time someone has to explain why a player isn't honoring the anthem traditionally.

Kaepernick's message is spreading. Though his protest began as a cry for racial equality, he sparked unrest for overarching equality. He created solidarity among oppressed groups.

For a sports fan, it may mean little. For a kid watching their heroes stand up for something, it's a lasting impression.

Initially, I thought Kaep's protest was mostly for show. His intentions were good, but to me he had ulterior motives. After seeing what this movement has grown into, I've come to see Kaep as an unexpected leader in the crossover between real issues and sports. For Kaep, he hopes the impression will stick, so he no longer has to protest. In an article published by USA Today, Kaepernick said, "I don't want to kneel forever."

Nick Puckett is a Kaimin opinion columnist. Email him at nicholas.puckett@umontana.edu



A vote for Donald Trump is a vote for climate change

In the wake of the oncoming 2016 election, much has been said about both of the respective candidates. There's been an onslaught of questions about the trustworthiness and capability of either candidate. But, in 2016, one thing is certain: there should be no question about the reality of climate change.

Here are some genuine things that Republican candidate Donald Trump has said. In a 2012 tweet, he claimed that, "The concept of global warming was created by and for the Chinese in order to make U.S. manufacturing jobs non-competitive." In other tweets, he has often referred to global warming as a "hoax," using cold winters as justification for this theory.

Trump would like to eliminate the EPA (which he adorably refers to as the Department of Environmental Protection), withdraw from the historic Paris Climate Agreement and end support for the United Nations ongoing climate research. He's pro-coal, anti-wind turbine and there's a good chance he could become our next president.

Despite what one might have heard, climate

change is real and happening. Approximately 97 percent of scientists agree that global warming is occurring and is caused by humans. What is at stake for our world and our posterity when it comes to climate change is staggering. Rising sea levels will create thousands of environmental refugees on the coasts, wildfires will become more severe as the climate becomes hotter and drier, droughts will grow more serious and long-lasting and dangerous heat waves will become much more common place. We're looking at a massive loss of biodiversity, the very backbone of resilience in our ecosystems on this planet.

The potential consequences of this are so dire that Australian scientist Frank Fenner, a crucial figure in the eradication of smallpox, has speculated that a child born today may live to see the end of humanity as we know it.

Trump opponent Hillary Clinton's plan is not airtight by any means, but a tacit acknowledgement of climate change is better than a flat out denial, and some of her propositions show promise — such as her ambitious plan to have half a billion solar panels installed by the end

of her first term or her promise of reducing American oil consumption by one third.

A vote for Donald Trump in 2016 is a vote against all of this. It's a vote that says it's okay to ignore overwhelming scientific evidence. It's a vote that says it's all right to do nothing, a vote that says it's fine to swindle future generations out of an Earth they rightfully deserve.

Donald Trump isn't just your typical Republican climate change skeptic. The propositions he has made are downright dangerous, and the misinformation he is spreading has the potential to set us back so far that we may not have a chance to recover. He appeals to our basic human desire to find simple blanket answers to complex problems, and this is a serious roadblock to the vital progress that we need on a global level, today. This is not a red or blue issue. Extinction is forever.

Darian Dovgan is a Kaimin opinion columnist. Email her at darian.dovgan@umontana.edu



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Dovgan seems to be in favor of our mission of extending compassion towards animals. She states that factory farms "pose a huge threat to ... the animals themselves." However, she disagrees with our campaign against the PEAS Garden. What, according to Dovgan, makes it any different?

First, she claims that the pigs are "treated well." But how could that be? If someone raised dogs and cats with the purpose of killing them at a fraction of their natural life span, would we consider that a good and fruitful life?

Second, that the ultimate purpose of PEAS is to educate children about food. This defense is absurd at best and shameful at worst. While education is a noble goal, there's no reason to think that with the resources we have in our modern age, one must revert to violence to teach a lesson.

Third, that this protest does nothing for pigs in general. Saving a life is never a superfluous endeavor. By taking a stand against needless violence we hope to inspire people to do the same. We think of pigs as beyond the scope of moral concern, as inert objects to be dominated and consumed. But it's wrong to think of pigs — as intelligent as three-year-old children and as loving as any dog — that way.

And yes, of course, there are worse crimes in the world. But that will always be true. However, if we look back on those moments that changed history for the better — i.e. when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat — we'll realize how silly it is to think that any action that isn't addressing the largest conceivable evil is "a waste of time and energy." When your goal is to change the world, every single action matters, no matter how big or small.

— Kristian Cantens

President for Advocates for Animals

This letter is in reference to Darian Dovgan's column "Protesting happy pigs does little for unhappy ones," originally published online on September 16.



DENISE JUNEAU

Juneau mounts historic run for U.S. House

Contributed by **Micah Drew**

Denise Juneau's Twitter profile ends with the proclamation that she is a "54th Generation Montanan," a play on the tendency of Montana politicians to proudly claim the length of their native Montanan-ness. But Juneau is the only one of these politicians who can say she is the first Native American woman to run for Congress in Montana or any other state.

It's the latest milestone for a woman who became the first Native American in the nation to win statewide office when she was first elected superintendent of public instruction in 2008.

Her candidacy may be historic, but for Juneau, political life runs in the family. Her mother, who currently serves as a member of Montana's Senate, was passionate about educating voters and was vocal about civic life.

"She still carries around voter registration cards in her purse and pulls them out at inappropriate times," Juneau said at an event at the University of Montana. "That was the household I grew up in — it was important to be civically engaged."

That message stuck, and now Juneau is testing her record of successful statewide campaigns by taking on first-term Republican Rep. Ryan Zinke.

"The leadership for our sole congressional seat should be someone that consistently speaks up on behalf of rural America and Montana," Juneau said. "I think that's a powerful voice that can be there."

For her campaign, she is stressing Zinke's support for controversial Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, as well as her own story and record as the lead education administrator in Montana.

A descendant of the Blackfeet tribe and an enrolled member of the Mandan-Hidatsa tribes, Juneau was born in Oakland, California, but grew up in Montana and graduated from Browning High School. She received a bachelor's degree in English from Montana State University before completing a master's in education at Harvard and a law degree at the University of Montana. During that time, she had two drunk driving arrests, first in 1986 and again in 1989, episodes she said were "poor choices" but also "a long time ago."

Early on, Juneau taught high school in North Dakota and back home in Browning. She worked for the Montana Office of Public Instruction

where she was the director of Indian Education before taking the top job. While there, she developed the Graduation Matters program to bolster high school graduation rates, implementing it in 58 communities around the state.

"These are all grassroots efforts — the idea that Montanans can come up with their own solutions," Juneau said. "I've done that without the legislature; I've done that without the federal government."

During Juneau's tenure as superintendent, the Office of Public Instruction reported graduation rates reached a record 85.4 percent in 2014. It also reported a lower dropout rate since the Graduation Matters initiative began.

Eric Feaver, president of the Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers, said Juneau's track record in the state's schools has demonstrated her ability to govern.

"She has proven herself to be very agile, very intellectually engaged, down to earth," Feaver said.

But that record is something her opponent disputes. Zinke has pointed out that barely half of Montana students are considered proficient on standardized tests.

Juneau also draws fire from critics, including some fellow Native Americans, based on her service on the state Land Board, where she helped manage 5.2 million acres of state land.

Zinke has said that Juneau has not done enough to promote the development of coal and mining projects.

During one debate, Zinke pointed to a campaign donation Juneau received from the Lummi tribe, saying the tribe blocked the construction of a port on the Washington coast that could have received coal mined on the Crow Reservation.

Juneau countered that she stands on the side of Crow coal and has taken votes on the state Land Board that are pro-mining. She

said that is why she has earned the support of the chairman of the Crow tribal council.

But others within the Crow tribe express their doubts.

Tribal Vice Chairman Dana Wilson said, "I've seen [Zinke] at work. I've seen him go to bat for the Crow tribe in this particular issue of coal."

Still, Juneau's unique role in history as the first Native American candidate for federal office could mean many more Native voters turning out this November. Montana has the fifth-highest percentage of Native Americans in the country, and Juneau is counting on their support.

Several tribes have endorsed her, including the Salish-Kootenai Tribe of the Flathead, and she is confident she "will win Indian support."

"If [Zinke] thinks I don't represent Indian country — being an American Indian, being from a reservation, growing up in Browning on the Blackfeet Reservation, traveling the state and visiting Indian country and doing deep work in education in those areas, then that's just a goofy accusation," she said.

But there are some, including Wilson, who say heritage isn't everything.

"The issue thing is more important," he said. "Once you get in there, how do you decide who to help? There's over 500 different tribes, 500 different interests."

Even if some have their doubts, Native voters and unions like the MEA-MFT are key to Juneau's campaign. Most of the donations to her campaign come from traditional Montana Democratic groups as well as Emily's List, a national organization devoted to getting pro-choice Democratic women into office.

In contrast, Juneau noted in a debate that 80 percent of Zinke's contributions have been from out-of-state corporations.

As she makes her pitch to voters, Juneau continues to look toward her own record as an educator more than the historic nature of her candidacy to assert why she ought to serve in the U.S. Congress.

"I win on education issues because I've provided the leadership that's necessary in that arena," Juneau said. "And I can transfer that to other factors in Montana and issues that matter to us." •



Jake Green / @jake.m.green



RYAN ZINKE

Zinke says high national profile helps Montana

Contributed by **Reagan Colyer**

Montana's freshman congressman hasn't shied away from the national spotlight during his brief tenure in Washington, D.C. In the past year, Republican Ryan Zinke has weighed the possibilities of being both Speaker of the House and a potential running mate for GOP nominee Donald Trump.

Zinke said both positions are about leadership and service, two themes the former Navy SEAL Commander is stressing now that he's running for re-election as Montana's sole representative. He attributed his national presence to the fact that he is the only U.S. Representative with more than a million people in his district.

"We need a strong voice in the House, because we only have one," the 54-year-old Whitefish native said. "I work for the people who voted for me, who didn't vote for me, who will never vote for me. We all rise and fall on the same tide."

That tide, according to Zinke, is headed in the wrong direction. Zinke said that Democrats like President Barack Obama are pushing a "one-size-fits-all" approach to governing — something he said doesn't work for Montana.

Zinke said his approach is to focus on what will work for Montanans, like highlighting more balanced forest management and more extensive screening of refugees from Iraq and Syria during the campaign. The issue of whether or not to accept immigrants fleeing violence overseas has become a contentious one in both state and federal politics, and Zinke hasn't hesitated to enter the fray. He has co-sponsored the SAFE Act, which adds an FBI background check for anyone seeking asylum in the U.S. to the checks already conducted by the Department of Homeland Security, and he urged Montana to be wary of current resettlement efforts.

It is a continuation of the fairly conservative politics that he pledged he would pursue when he first ran for Congress in 2014. And, according to Bowen Greenwood, communications director for the Montana Family Foundation and former state GOP executive director, his positions fall in line with representing a rural, historically conservative state.

"I think he's voted right pretty much every time," Greenwood said, citing Zinke's 2015 vote to defund Planned Parenthood and his opposition to abortion and same-sex marriage. "We feel like on our issues, he's on the right side."

Democrats are quick to disagree, arguing that during his two years in Washington, Zinke has spent more time pursuing media attention than developing a record that helps Montanans. Democrats have attacked Zinke's opposition to increasing the minimum wage and pay equity for women, with Nancy Keenan, executive director of the Montana Democratic Party, saying his voting record "shows he is more interested in protecting corporate interests than Montana consumers."

According to some political observers, it is Zinke's choice to insert himself into presidential politics that posed some of the most difficult challenges for the freshman representative. Even as the GOP establishment debated whether to support Donald Trump as the party's nominee, Zinke threw his weight behind the divisive candidate. Back in May, he appeared on Fox News to express his support for Trump and tweeted, "We need a Commander in Chief who puts troops first & that's @realDonaldTrump - Today I'm endorsing Trump for President of the United States."

That decision complicated Zinke's run for re-election, said nine-term congressman Pat Williams, the last Montana Democrat to serve as a U.S. Representative.

"The independent vote in Montana is very leery of Trump," Williams said. "I think the large independent vote will favor Denise [Juneau]. Trump is going to cause great, angry debates within the structure of the Republican Party."

Since Trump became the GOP's official nominee, Zinke has focused less on his support of Trump and more on railing against the alternative, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

"I certainly do not agree with Mr. Trump on a lot of issues," Zinke said. "But Secretary Clinton lied to the American people on multiple occasions, and the number of lies just keeps going. America is upset over the lack of transparency, and to a degree, Mr. Trump is



Photo courtesy of Ryan Zinke

a reflection of that widespread anti-Washington rhetoric. I think we need to shake it up."

Even some of Trump's most vocal Republican critics, like former Minnesota congressman Vin Weber, acknowledge that Zinke has few choices other than to align with the nominee. However, Weber added that backing Trump does not necessarily mean Zinke will be pushing the hardline immigration and trade policies the nominee has proposed.

"Particularly in the House, they have a well-defined agenda that Speaker [Paul] Ryan

has led them in creating," Weber said. "Regardless of what they think of Donald Trump, they know nobody will sign that agenda into law aside from him. They have to follow the Speaker's lead."

And despite his public interest in higher-profile national positions, Zinke has focused on keeping his job as Montana's lone member of Congress.

"My interest at heart is supporting Montana," he said. "If you're not in it for Montana first, you should never file for the job." •

NO CUCKS ALLOWED

THE ALT-RIGHT'S RISE TO POWER

Continued on next page

By Michael Siebert / Design by Rene Sanchez / Photos by Rabeca Keith



To understand the modern American political landscape, one must have some familiarity with Pepe the Frog. In 2005, cartoonist Matt Furie introduced the world to Pepe, a smiling, anthropomorphic frog, in his absurdist webcomic “Boy’s Club.” The original Pepe was goofy, a character whose laid-back attitude and stoner vibe made his image infinitely reproducible in the form of memes. His signature catchphrase, “feels good, man,” solidified his appeal.

Variations on Pepe abounded. Though his initial popularity as a meme was apolitical, earlier this year a sect of conservative social media users began using him as a vehicle for right-wing ideologies. Pepe began repping anti-immigration policy and Donald Trump. He continued to go even further right, and conservative trolls and genuine neo-Nazis alike began using him for jokes and propaganda.

By September, he had been designated a hate symbol by the Anti-Defamation League. His signature grin grew sinister as images of concentration camps and riots

ultranationalists.

The alt-right is not the traditional Republican Party and may, in fact, signal the death of the GOP as we know it. It eliminates the prudishness and undercurrent of Christianity in favor of shock humor and internet trolling. It is built largely on anti-immigration policy, American nationalism and a profound disdain for so-called political correctness, though the specifics change from person to person. While it’s difficult to determine demographics, most analysts agree that it is largely young, white and male.

The alt-right’s focus is largely national, rallying support around Donald Trump rather than local or state politicians. They found a home on social media, particularly on websites like Twitter, where ideas can be communicated simply. The alt-right often dominates discourse on websites like 4Chan, where the politics subforum rapidly became a breeding ground for far-right dialogue.

Many media outlets have associated the alt-right with white supremacy, and while this is true of many of its members, it is not necessarily representative of the move-

Donald Trump’s presidential bid and has only grown in visibility since. Its key players — Twitter pundits, bloggers, podcasters — have gained massive audiences. Conservative news outlets like Breitbart, authors like Milo Yiannopolous and bloggers like Roosh V have refined alt-right ideology for mass consumption.

The alt-right is the polar opposite of old school conservatism, which veiled its bias with genteel language and pocket handkerchiefs.

The alt-right’s use of Pepe and other memes perfectly summarizes its modus operandi. Its members are crass. They value political incorrectness. Above all, they relish in taking the piss out of almost anyone, whether liberals or establishment conservatives. They are the new-school right wing, and they are quickly becoming a national force.

Conservatives and I have traditionally not played well together, despite the fact that I used to be one. A quick perusal of my (very public) social media accounts would reveal a wealth of posts criticizing both the GOP and the alt-right. I have engaged in plenty of arguments, online and in real life, over a wide variety of issues. All of these conversations have been very public.

I also grew up spending a lot of time on the internet, and so the proliferation of right-wing kids spewing racial slurs, misogyny and xenophobia for shock value is nothing new. I am an ex-4Channer, and were it not for my own gender identity exploration, I would likely still be calling everyone online a fag.

Though I am now a dyed-in-the-wool leftist, I am also extraordinarily fascinated by, and often impressed with, the alt-right. Despite great variation in its members’ political views, their ideas are communicated with simplicity and relatability. Their use of modern culture, like memes, absurdist humor and the internet at large, is practically unparalleled. They have taken the language of millennials and warped it for their benefit.

Jeffrey Greene, a professor of political science at the University of Montana, said the alt-right was likely born out of the vacuum left by increasingly polarizing partisan politics.

“The establishment sort of took over the Republican Party,” Greene said.

He believes that as liberalism began to dominate the political landscape in the post-Bush years, conservatives began to push back. However, the new right found itself no longer aligning with establishment conservatives, due to disagreements over

social issues and its more “rambunctious” attitude.

“It’s a backlash against both the establishment in the Republican Party and the quick growth of rapid progressive liberalism among the left,” Greene said.

Greene sees a direct connection between liberalism in academics and the development of the alt-right.

“We have one voice speaking, and we don’t have the other voice so much anymore,” Greene said. “Academics kind of went down the tubes heading to progressive liberalism, and that got lost.”

This left libertarian and conservative students without a significant voice.

It doesn’t help that establishment conservatism has not traditionally appealed to young voters. Jocelyn Kiley and Michael Dimock reported for the Pew Research Center in 2014 that roughly 40 percent of millennials identify as primarily liberal. Only 15 percent claim they are primarily conservative.

Though many young students believe in conservative ideals, the Republican Party has failed spectacularly at youth outreach. The GOP infamously created an ad series in 2014 featuring a man named “Scott G.,” a hip Republican who sported a leather jacket, designer glasses and espoused the virtue of lowering gas taxes. This kind of pandering has never appealed to millennials, a generation known for its keen sense of irony and political engagement.

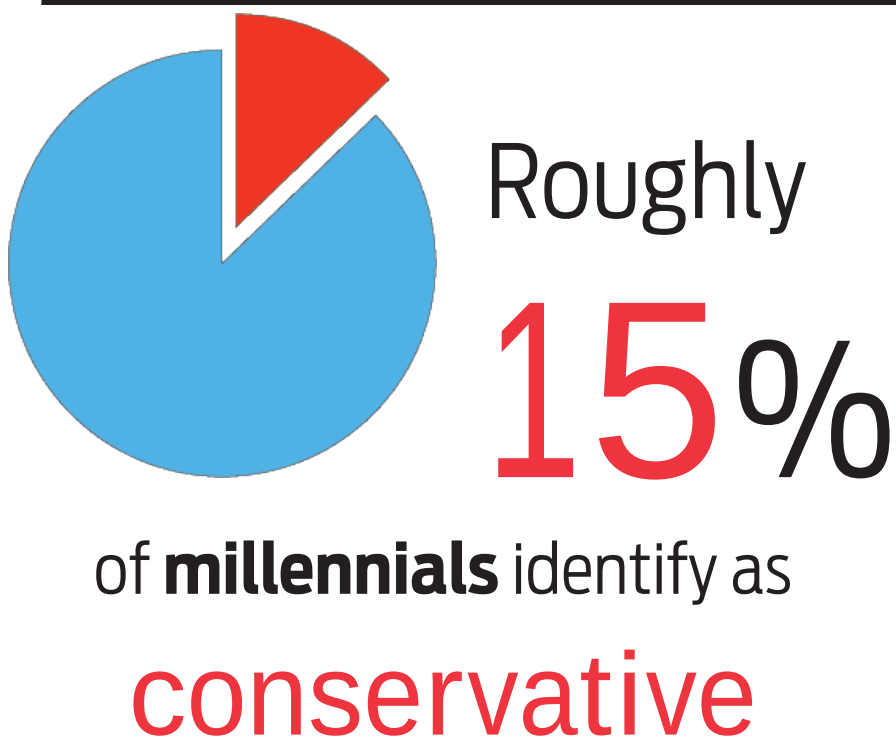
“There’s this generational gap where ... [conservatives], they don’t have any fluency in irony or humor,” said Felix Biederman, a contributing writer for Deadspin and co-host of the leftist podcast “Chapo Trap House.”

Biederman argues that this is the key difference between run-of-the-mill conservatives and the alt-right.

“If you look at this generation, they kind of know how to write jokes,” Biederman said. “They kind of know how to be ironic. They know exactly how to fuck with members of the media.”

This is why the shock value of their jokes is so important. The anti-semitic, racist and misogynistic attitudes underlying much of the alt-right’s rhetoric are ultimately just internet gallows humor. But it does communicate genuine ideas — disdain for feminism, race politics and political correctness on college campuses among them.

For a specific kind of person, though, this brand of humor is a large part of the alt-right’s appeal. Leftist politics have traditionally dominated the comedy world — one only needs to look at the late night talk show circuit’s coverage of this election



were placed in the background.

Pepe’s use by these groups was so widespread that he is now inseparable from a burgeoning political movement. He has become a symbol of the “alternative right,” a loose conglomerate of young conservatives who call the internet their home base, who run the spectrum from snotty moderates to

ment as a whole. It is difficult to determine whether that kind of rhetoric is genuine or merely intended to shock.

The alt-right was developed from a simultaneous disdain for perceived weakness in the GOP and leftists (referred to pejoratively as “social justice warriors”). It mobilized most significantly at the start of

for evidence of this. The alt-right, though, eschews the need for mainstream representation by creating its own edgier and more provocative content.

"When you adopt this sort of absurdist or ironic detachment, then you get people's guard down," said Ricky Vaughn, a conservative Twitter pundit recently suspended from the website. Vaughn uses a pseudonym, naming himself after Charlie Sheen's character in the 1989 baseball comedy "Ma-

say these hardcore statements and totally get away with it?" Grant said. "Don't act all angry when the alt-right turns back and does the same thing, because this is very new from the right wing — going to that level that the feminists have been going on for decades."

The use of the left's perceived tactics are central to the alt-right's effectiveness. Mike Cernovich, 39, a conservative Twitter pundit and author of the men's self-help book

said. "Somebody who calls out the media hoaxes and media lies."

Trump's unapologetic disdain for pleasantries has earned him the support of a wealth of conservatives. No one, though, loves him more than the alt-right. Though Trump does not explicitly support the movement, he did appoint the former executive chairman of Breitbart News as his campaign's chief executive officer. The Southern Poverty Law Center describes Breitbart as the "media arm" of the alt-right.

Trump's brand of rhetoric, too, bears remarkable resemblance to the trolling tactics of the alt-right — in a lot of ways, he would fit right at home on 4Chan or the more conservative parts of a website like Reddit.

Biederman thinks that this could be the future of politics.

"He was just savaging these shitty career politicians," Biederman said. "The times when he would tell the truth and do it in a fucking brutal way — I think that's the future."

Biederman believes that Americans will likely no longer value politeness from their politicians.

"If I would have to tell one thing to anyone, one type of politician who's wanting to succeed," Biederman said. "'Just be really fucking mean.' Because people really like that. I think aggression and putting your neck out there to shit on somebody, that's the future."

Hillary Clinton publicly denounced the alt-right in a speech given Aug. 25. The New York Times shared a tweet from user @LordoftheEdge that simply stated, "Thanks for the free PR Hillary. The #AltRight will long remember the day you helped make us into the real right."

For the alt-right, any publicity is good publicity. Its members relish any opportunity to have their views relayed. They absorb their bad

reputation like ballistics gel, wearing the insults hurled at them with pride. A recent trend has seen many alt-right Twitter users updating their display names and bios to include the word "deplorable," after Clinton used that word to describe "half" of Trump's supporters.

"Attention is influence," Mike Cernovich said. "The alternative right is now the right."

Ricky Vaughn sees this election as a tipping point. The weakness of the parties that the alt-right rallies against, he believes, will soon go by the wayside in favor of confrontation and brashness.

"The Republican Party and the Democratic Party are going to have to start paying attention to the national interest again, or they're going to lose," Vaughn said. "We're going to see the end of this elitist neoconservative, neoliberal agenda no matter who wins the election."•

THE ALT-RIGHT WAS LIKELY BORN OUT OF THE VACUUM LEFT BY INCREASINGLY POLARIZING POLITICS

for League."

"Nowadays, nobody holds anything sacred. They are very detached from sincerity," Vaughn said. "It no longer works to be extremely sincere. You have to use the language of the day, which is memes and internet culture."

Vaughn is known for his brash commentary on political issues. He helped popularize the term "cuckservative," a combination of "cuckold" and "conservative" referring to GOP members as weakly bowing to the liberal agenda. The phrase attacks masculinity, implying that any man who doesn't fight for his country's values may as well be letting his wife sleep with other men.

This harshness is par for the course among the alt-right. Vaughn says that words like "cuckservative" are designed to provoke and expose conservative weakness without worrying about sensitivity or political correctness.

But for those unfamiliar with internet culture, these jokes are much less easily written off. The proliferation of phobic rhetoric in alt-right speech caused a public denunciation from Hillary Clinton and frequently causes them to be labeled as white supremacists and neo-Nazis.

For members of the alt-right, though, that's merely part of the fun. They view what they do as using the tools of modern leftists against them. Christian Grant, a 25-year-old University of Montana student, points to what he sees as "kill all men"-style feminist rhetoric as an example of a double standard held by leftists regarding extreme speech used to make a point.

"Why are they the only ones who get to

"Gorilla Mindset," has a certain admiration for liberal brashness. He cites mockery of George W. Bush's speech mistakes — termed "Bushisms" — as particularly effective.

"Was it fair? Well, it's politics," Cernovich said. "Nothing's fair."

Cernovich said that the alt-right is doing something very similar this election cycle with Hillary Clinton.

"Every time she sneezes — hey, I wonder if she's about to have a stroke," Cernovich said. "That's what the left has done for decades. Now we're using the same tactics." (Cernovich mentioned that he believes Clinton is afflicted with some sort of neurological condition, namely Parkinson's disease.)

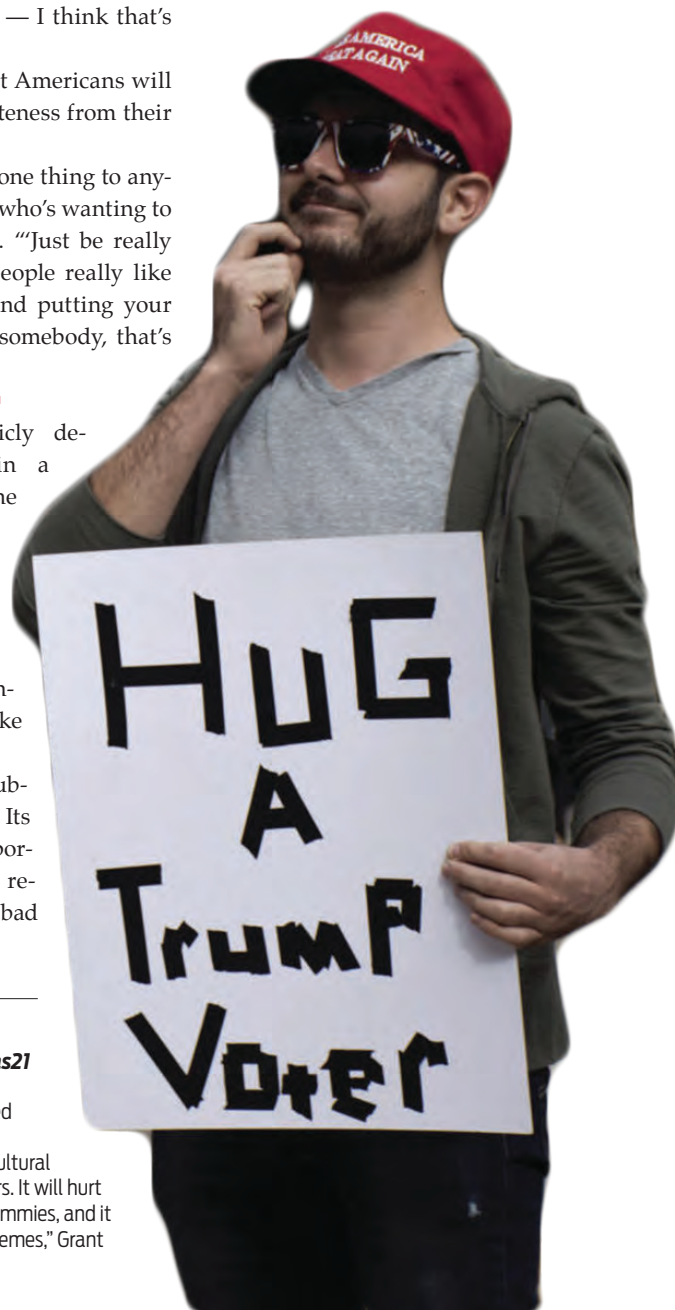
His admiration for the left's tactics, though, does not extend to an admiration for their ideology. Cernovich and the alt-right believe that American morality has been defined largely by liberal beliefs and policy — hence the disdain for political correctness.

"We define good or bad based on the left," Cernovich said. "If I say something offensive, stop right there. What do you mean when you say something offensive? Offensive to whom?"

"We reject political orthodoxy," Cernovich said. "We reject all status structures ... created largely by the left."

This is perhaps why the alt-right has rallied around a central political figure: Donald Trump. Cernovich said it is Trump's lack of respect for the institution he is trying to break into that makes him so appealing.

"Pushback, actual fighter, somebody who's not gonna let the mainstream media bully them like Mitt Romney," Cernovich



Rebecca Keith / @beccasauras21

Christian Grant, a self-proclaimed right-wing comedian, poses like Pepe the Frog. "Alt-right is the cultural response to social justice warriors. It will hurt your fee-fees, it will rustle your jimmies, and it will save the West using dank memes," Grant said.



GREG GIANFORTE

In race for governor, Gianforte banks on business experience

Contributed by y **Andy Bixler**

Greg Gianforte was all smiles in early August, as he walked around a Missoula luncheon where he was about to give a speech. Dressed in his standard blue blazer, blue jeans and cowboy boots, he introduced himself to nearly everyone in the room before he explained to the crowd why he wants to be Montana's next governor.

"The current administration isn't working," the Bozeman Republican said. "The reckless spending and lack of accountability have pushed our state to the brink."

That's the meat of Gianforte's pitch, in which he presents himself as a businessman who has brought high-tech jobs to a state whose economy has historically been based on natural resource development and tourism.

The luncheon was one effort to introduce himself to Montana, perhaps the most important goal for a candidate with little name recognition who has never held elected office.

Gianforte, 55, told listeners that he and his running mate, Phillips County Commissioner Lesley Robinson, were an economically minded shift to the right, away from the policies of his Democratic rival, Gov. Steve Bullock of Helena.

Gianforte has positioned himself as a job-creator who has made a living outside government. Bullock, he said, has been integral to the gridlock and partisanship that have angered so many voters this cycle.

Gianforte's supporters point to his successful business career as proof that he's ready to manage Montana's government.

"He brings that experience of creating jobs averaging over \$90,000 a year, over 500 jobs created in Bozeman, and this ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship that's starting to spread," U.S. Senator Steve Daines, who once worked for Gianforte, told the Helena Independent Record earlier in the campaign.

Gianforte also points to his endorsements, which include business advocates and pro-gun groups like the NRA, as proof of his Republican bona fides.

The founder of RightNow Technologies in Bozeman, Gianforte earned much of his fortune when tech giant Oracle bought the business in 2012 for more than \$1 billion. RightNow, Gian-

forte told his Missoula audience, helped other companies provide a better consumer experience. Nike and Motorola were among its clients.

Gianforte's success has fueled his campaign too. According to records, he has contributed over \$3 million of his own money to the effort.

However, not everyone thinks being a successful businessman prepares one for public office.

Susan Carstensen, a former executive at RightNow, wrote a guest editorial for the Great Falls Tribune that was critical of Gianforte, saying he won't keep school funds in public schools, and that his business model was to help other companies outsource jobs.

"I don't believe that his success in business translates to success in public service," she wrote.

Gianforte counters that he wants high tech outsourced jobs to come to Montana.

Technology represents something of a silver bullet for Gianforte. An electrical engineer who graduated from New Jersey's Stevens Institute of Technology, Gianforte said it is perhaps the best way to bring high-wage jobs to Montana, something, he said, the state sorely lacks.

High-tech jobs and luring telecommuters to the state will help fix that, he said. The other fix? Deregulation.

Gianforte traces his economic philosophy to the late economist Milton Friedman, who emphasized free markets and minimal government interference. The candidate said he would seek to eliminate "thousands" of regulations on small businesses, such as licensure rules or paperwork.

"A strong economy creates opportunity for people of all stripes," Gianforte said.

But he wouldn't change everything.

One act that Bullock touts is the passage of a Medicaid expansion bill in the 2015 Montana Legislature. Gianforte said he wouldn't immediately reverse the bipartisan legislation that extended health care services to thousands of Montanans.

"I'm not going to pull the carpet out from anybody," he said. "We have an obligation to take care of people, but I do have some concerns about paying for it."

That doesn't exactly fit with a flier sent out by Americans for Prosperity – Montana, a



Jake Green / @jake.m.green

Republican Greg Gianforte speaks with a small group of people at Highlander Brewing in Missoula about how to bring jobs to Montana. Gianforte is running for Montana Governor against incumbent Steve Bullock.

pro-Republican political action committee that backs Gianforte. The flier criticizes Bullock for "reckless spending" and for approving the Medicaid expansion.

So far Gianforte's focus on the economy has worked to distance him from his stands on social issues, such as abortion and the treatment of Montana's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender residents.

His foundation, the Gianforte Family Charitable Trust, has donated money to a creationist museum, to pro-life groups and to anti-LGBT efforts, including fighting against a proposed LGBT anti-discrimination ordinance in Bozeman.

Last March, Aaron Flint, the Gianforte campaign communications director, told the Billings Gazette that it was "inappropriate" to compare Gianforte's charitable giving with his potential policies as governor.

Those tensions were present at the Missoula luncheon as well. During question time, a young woman asked Gianforte about his stance on Planned Parenthood and women's reproductive rights.

"I haven't put any specific proposals out," Gianforte responded. "But I am pro-life, I want to be clear about that. I will defend life here in this state."

As the August Missoula luncheon wrapped up, Gianforte lingered to talk with people, even as his staffers reminded him he had another campaign stop later in the evening, where he would discuss ways to boost Montana's coal industry.

As he moved toward the door, someone asked about Donald Trump, the Republican presidential nominee and rival to Democrat Hillary Clinton. Gianforte pointed out the similarities between that race and his own.

Like Trump, Gianforte is a businessman running for office for the first time, setting his sights high. The choice for president is not a hard one, he said.

"Between a business guy who says some outrageous things at times, and a career politician who says they're going to put coal miners out of work and take our guns away, the choice is easy to me," he said. •



STEVE BULLOCK

Gov. Bullock defends record, vision for Montana in re-election campaign

By **Kasey Bubnash**

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Steve Bullock wants his job back.

After two legislative sessions as Montana's Democratic governor with a Republican legislative majority, the 50-year-old incumbent is back for more.

But this time, Bullock has a reputation.

He has been repeatedly criticized for campaigning on a plan to improve roads, sewers, buildings and bridges in 2012, then vetoing a bill that would have done just that in his first session.

His Republican opponent, Greg Gianforte, has attacked Bullock for vetoing more bills than any Montana governor, only to pass bills that expanded health coverage to 50,000 Montanans in support of Obamacare.

Gianforte charges that under Bullock's leadership, Montana is 49th in the nation for wages and dead last for income. Gianforte says his business savvy will help Montanans more than Bullock's political know-how.

Yet to Bullock and his supporters, the incumbent's last term was largely considered a success. The compromise he backed to pass a new infrastructure bill failed by one vote.

Still, Bullock points to his successes. He said he worked with Democrats and Republicans to lower Montana's unemployment rate by 4.2 percent and has made Montana top in the nation for entrepreneurs.

Bullock also said Montana isn't really 49th in wages, because the calculation doesn't include income from farmers, ranchers, entrepreneurs and some telecommuters.

"By excluding them because they don't have W-2s, it makes it all look like we're making less," Bullock said.

Montana has the sixth fastest wage growth in the country, according to the latest Department of Labor and Industry report. Bullock said he has expanded job-training opportunities that allow graduates to get good-paying jobs.

Bullock said more Montanans are working now than ever before. Some 20,000 jobs have been created in the last several years, according to labor reports.

Montana's unemployment rate is nearly a full percentage point under the national average, Bullock said, and the state has been named the nation's top state for entrepreneurship for three years running by the Kaufman Foundation.

But recently, the state legislature's finance staff predicted that the \$300 million budget cushion Bullock insisted on last session would shrink by almost two-thirds this summer due to falling revenue, mostly from taxes on income, oil and gas.

This has given Bullock's critics an opening to question the governor's fiscal oversight. Administration officials defended their budget management, saying despite the falling numbers, the surplus has kept the state solvent so far.

Bullock is perhaps proudest of his achievements made with help from legislative Republicans. These show his ability to compromise, his supporters said.

Sen. Jim Keane, a Butte Democrat, said Bullock is known around Helena for working in a more bipartisan way than his predecessor, Gov. Brian Schweitzer, also a Democrat.

"I've heard a lot of Republicans say, 'Wow, this is way better because we have access to the governor,'" Keane said. "They like that he listens to officials on both sides of the aisle."

Other achievements Bullock touts include record investments in Montana's public schools, which pushed high school graduation rates to a new high.

Still, Gianforte has criticized Montana's public education system, noting the state ranks last for daily attendance.

But education remains an issue Bullock repeatedly turns to as he campaigns.

"This isn't political to me," Bullock said. "It's deeply personal."

Born in Missoula and raised in Helena, Bullock attended public schools before graduating from Helena High School in 1984. Bullock attended Claremont and McKenna College and eventually earned his law degree from Columbia Law School.

Today, Bullock has three children, two girls and a boy, who he said inspire his political aspirations.

"That's why I got into politics," Bullock



Jake Green / @jake.m.green

Gov. Steve Bullock speaks at a small gathering in Missoula in early September. Bullock is the Democratic incumbent running against Republican Greg Gianforte.

said. "I want to make Montana better for my children than it was for me."

In early September, Bullock spoke about education before a small Missoula crowd, which also heard speeches from local teachers and the Democratic candidate for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

"While I think the public school system is a great equalizer, my opponent thinks it's a failed experiment," he told listeners.

Bullock mentioned a \$37 million preschool proposal called Early Edge, which would create the state's first public pre-school system. Bullock said Montana is one of only four states that haven't invested in early childhood education.

"I talk to employers on a daily basis," Bullock said. "They need highly-trained employees, and that's why we are trying to improve education. I always aspire to do what we can to move our state forward."

To Bullock, moving forward includes protecting access to streams and public lands.

Mitch Godfrey, president of the Tenderfoot Trust, worked with Bullock on the Tenderfoot Creek Land Acquisition, which made land along the Smith River public.

"He drove up there and donated his time and energy, and we prevailed," Godfrey said. "He's all about keeping bridges open and keeping people fishing."

As attorney general, Bullock successfully defended Montana's stream access law, and he frequently attacks Gianforte for suing the state of Montana over an issue with public access on his own property.

In Montana's first gubernatorial debate this summer, Gianforte called himself a huge proponent of public stream access and said he even lets the public access his own land.

He looked to Bullock and said, "Governor, I've invited you to come out and fish, but you haven't shown up yet. You're welcome."

Bullock replied, "Thanks for the invitation, but the beauty is that's a public right of way. I don't need your invitation."

Despite the testy campaign and the probability that the next legislature will again be under Republican control, Bullock is confident he can accomplish more in a second term.

"I'm really pleased that we have been able to put the partisan politics aside and get things done," Bullock said. "We're moving the state forward." •

Advocates push I-182 to increase access to medical marijuana



By **Kasey Bubnash**

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Montanans have been voting on ballot initiatives about the medical use of marijuana since 2004. This year will be no different. Initiative 182 would reverse recent restrictions limiting medical marijuana providers to just three patients, which all but eliminated access for more than 12,000 Montanans who have state permission to use the substance.

But the initiative faces intense opposition from Safe Montana, a group that failed to get its own initiative on the ballot. Safe Montana was pushing Initiative 176, a measure that would have banned all legal use of marijuana in the state. The group refocused on stopping I-182 after the secretary of state rejected their original initiative because of problematic signatures.

Supporters of expanding medical marijuana

access gathered more than 24,000 signatures in 58 days to put I-182 on the ballot. Its supporters want to reverse the series of legislative and legal actions they say have made it impossible for medical marijuana providers to run viable businesses.

"I just don't think there are that many good Samaritans out there," said Jeff Krauss, treasurer for Montana Citizens for I-182. "It's really saying cancer patients or MS sufferers have to learn to grow medical marijuana and research what plants help which diseases most. It's really a return to prohibition."

The restrictions, Krauss said, made criminals out of 12,000 sick people.

Krauss said I-182 would lift those bans, while also requiring providers to obtain licenses and submit to unannounced, yearly inspections. It would allow for product testing ensuring safety, consistency and accurate dosing. The proposal would also allow sales of medical marijuana to veterans and other patients diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

"We're not just rolling back to the laws we had before," Krauss said. "It's an improved law."

Katie Mazurek, a 33-year-old Bozeman attorney who is battling breast cancer, said she is looking forward to voting for I-182 in November. For Mazurek, medical marijuana seems like the safer option when compared with the large amounts of

addictive pain pills she is prescribed.

"Chemotherapy takes such a physical and mental toll on me," Mazurek said. "Some days are hard, and medical marijuana helps me to deal with the side effects of the chemo."

Krauss said he and other I-182 supporters are spreading the word about the initiative through rallies and letters of support. Krauss said he's hoping to see Missoula, Helena, Bozeman, Great Falls, Butte and Billings lead the way in support of I-182.

Yet billboards opposing I-182, paid for by Safe Montana, have popped up across the state. Krauss doesn't like it.

"After I-176 failed to qualify, they spent money to sue and tried to get back on the ballot," Krauss said. "What they have done instead is form a ballot committee to oppose I-182. We've filed a complaint because they're using the same ballot committee that supported I-176 and using it to attack I-182."

Krauss said it should be illegal to use one committee for multiple purposes.

Steve Zabawa, director of Safe Montana, said the complaints filed against his group are "frivolous and silly."

While he said it's true that the same ballot committee working against I-182 was the same group supporting I-176, he and the committee sought approval for doing so in July, he said.

Zabawa also said although Safe Montana is anti-recreational marijuana, it is a pro-medical marijuana organization that wants the legislation done differently than I-182 supporters.

"We want medical marijuana laws modeled under a normal medical situation where it's prescribed by doctor with warning labels about the side effects," Zabawa said. "We want simple things like regular testing of marijuana so everyone knows what he or she is getting."

Zabawa said under I-182, medical marijuana patients won't need a doctor, there will be no monitoring nor collecting of data, and it won't allow unannounced police visits.

He said the last thing he wants is for Montana to end up like Washington or Colorado, where he said "18-year-olds are reaching their hands into jars and telling you about the marijuana's fragrance."

This year's initiative puts Montana on the same road as those other states, Zabawa said. Instead, he wants voters to reject expanding the old law and instead build a new medical marijuana program run by pharmacists and doctors, who only prescribe marijuana to people with clear illnesses.

"I don't think anyone has ever been turned down for a green card," Zabawa said. "If you can fog a mirror, you can get a green card." •

Montanans will consider banning trapping on public lands



By **Rebekah Welch**

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A call to the phone number for Footloose Montana, the organization behind the initiative to ban trapping on Montana's public lands, yields only an automated voice requesting you state your name for approval. Only if Footloose accepts your call will you be directed to organizer Chris Justice. The system was implemented after a series of anonymous death threats.

The phone security is one of the first hints of the intensity of the debate over Initiative 177. It's also a fight that has been going on since a couple founded Footloose in 2007. The group has mounted two failed attempts to get I-177 on the ballot. This year, after nearly a decade, Justice and the group gathered enough signatures to qualify for the ballot.

Although a central argument against trapping is the negative effect on protected and endan-

gered species, Footloose's campaign has focused less on wild animals and more on domesticated ones.

Just how big of a threat traps pose to pets is a point of contention between the two sides, but many proponents of the issue are people who have had their own pets injured in traps. Betsy Brandborg, who investigates complaints against lawyers for the Montana State Bar Association, is one of those advocates. Brandborg's Airdale terrier, Polly, was trapped by leg-hold snares on three separate occasions near Helena.

The second time, Brandborg reported the incident, hoping the state inspection would lead to some "common sense reform." Instead, she got a call from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, requesting she pay a \$300 ticket for springing two traps near the one that caught Polly. The state was unwilling to address the issue through reform of trapping laws.

It was only after they dismissed her offer that Brandborg focused her efforts on I-177. She understands that trapping is a Montana tradition, pointing out that her grandfather, father and brother trapped. But she makes a distinction between a Montana tradition and the type of trapping she sees in Helena.

"Make no mistake, this isn't your grandfather's trapping. Your grandfather didn't drive a four wheeler or \$30,000 truck up the drainage and

set dozens of traps in every direction," Brandborg said.

Jason Maxwell, the vice president of the Montana Trappers Association, said he hates hearing stories like Brandborg's. He has two dogs, a boxer and a wolfhound. He contends that trappers are not hoping to catch pets, and many traps that catch pets were illegally set in the first place.

For Maxwell, the solution is not a ban but rather requiring trapper education classes. Idaho has adopted this rule, and it has led to significantly fewer accidental deaths and injuries and, as Maxwell hopes, fewer "misconceptions that give trappers such a bad reputation."

But Maxwell and Toby Walrath, the president of MTA, see I-177 as more than just a limit on trapping. Walrath sees it as an attack on Montanan's access to public lands. He argues that the measure is the latest in a series of attacks by animal rights activists, adding that many other states that have faced similar measures and that restricting bear and mountain lion hunts followed.

It is not only the 5,500 Montanans who purchased a recreational trapping license in 2015 who oppose the initiative. The Montana Stock Growers Association, a non-profit organization that aims to protect ranchers' rights, opposes I-177, saying it is too broad to allow ranchers to effectively protect their livestock from predators. Jay Bodner, the organization's director of natural resources, said

that although ranchers usually deploy traps on their own land, there are certain times of the year, like during calving season, when it is critical to be able to trap on nearby public lands.

For some who support the ban, many of the ranchers' arguments miss the point. Dave Pauli of the Humane Society of the United States points to a three-year study performed by the environmentalist group Defenders of Wildlife in Idaho that found the use of flags, guard dogs, increased human presence and scare devices, such as spot lights and alarms, was highly successful in preventing livestock loss.

Bodner, who grew up in a ranching family near Great Falls, is not convinced. He said ranchers need to be able to use a variety of tools against predators, and many members of MSGA already employ non-lethal methods. But sometimes that's not enough.

The proposal includes exemptions for ranchers, but Bodner noted that the rancher must prove they have already exhausted all other options. By that point, Bodner said, a rancher will have likely already lost a great deal of stock.

The complex questions raised by the initiative are now in the hands of voters, and for Justice, that in itself is an accomplishment.

"No matter what happens, I'm just glad Montanans finally get a chance to vote on it," Justice said. •

TAKE A SHOT *for your country*

Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump will have their final debate on Wednesday, Oct. 19th in Las Vegas with Fox Anchor Chris Wallace serving as moderator. To make things even more interesting than the first and second debate, we have designed the greatest presidential debate drinking game that ever was. It will likely be a mess, so it's time to drink.

Always drink (and vote) with caution.

- ★ Take a sip every time one candidate interrupts the other. This will happen a lot, so these should be really, really small sips.
- ★ Take a sip whenever either candidate mentions China. Take an extra sip if Trump practically yells about how they're taking our jobs. Take a shot if Trump literally yells about it.
- ★ Take a sip and maybe cry a little bit every time you miss Bernie, regardless of your politics.
- ★ Drink every time a candidate talks over the anchor. This won't happen super often, but we should drink in solidarity with the poor anchor. He's trying his best.
- ★ Speaking of anchor, drink whenever you realize that Chris Wallace has completely disappeared from the debate. Lester Holt got a lot of criticism for how little he interfered during the first debate, but this is Trump and Clinton we're talking about. They will talk when they want and for however long they want.
- ★ Drink whenever Clinton says something about being "the first female president." Not to downplay how exciting it is that we're catching up with the rest of the world by nominating a woman to lead the country, but we get it.
- ★ Drink whenever the candidates talk about fact-checking. Then, do some fact-checking yourself and take a drink every time a candidate says something completely made up. Take a shot, though, if either of the candidates suggest you check their websites for fact-checking. How could that possibly be biased? Check NPR's website — which uses an automatic transcriber and experts on standby so they could fact-check what the candidates said almost instantly. Alternatively, check Twitter. Is it more reliable? No. But is it faster and more entertaining? Absolutely.
- ★ Chug your drink whenever Trump says something along the lines of "I never said that" when he definitely, definitely did.
- ★ Drink whenever you catch yourself thinking about what else you could be doing with your time, instead of watching the debate. This is only about our next president — there are more important things to do, right?

By **Kathleen Stone** / kathleen.stone@umontana.edu
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Movie review:

Rawhide story: HBO's new hit "Westworld"

★★★★★

By **Drew Novak**
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With news that HBO's uber hit "Game of Thrones" will end after its eighth season, the premium cable network's bigwigs are undoubtedly looking for its replacement. The likeliest successor is science fiction drama "Westworld," based on a film Michael Crichton wrote and directed in 1973. While his original film had its hokey charms, the updated series strips away any humor and goes straight for the Emmy Award-baiting jugular.

"Westworld" showrunners follow "Game of Thrones'" lead and sink an absurd amount of cash into the project. The first ten episodes were given a budget of \$100 million, and it shows. Gor-

geous vistas, futuristic sets and a top-notch cast are all money well spent.

One wouldn't be surprised thinking that HBO put all of that money into the striking title sequence, an eerie combination of Björk's "All Is Full of Love" music video and plastinated bodies stripped of skin, scored by "Game of Thrones" composer Ramin Djawadi. If that sentence doesn't intrigue you, maybe this show isn't your thing.

Stripping the story down to its basics, you're left with a theme park populated with state-of-the-art robots meant to serve human guests, known as "newcomers." Dr. Robert Ford (Anthony Hopkins) built Westworld 30 years prior and has continually updated his synthetic characters to become more lifelike, becoming essentially in-

distinguishable from the real thing.

These robots, or "hosts," include wide-eyed farm girl, Dolores Abernathy (Evan Rachel Wood), her charming beau, Teddy Flood (James Marsden) and jaded madam of the local brothel, Maeve Millay (Thandie Newton). If these characters sound like clichés, it's because they're intended to be. Hosts are made exclusively to appeal to park attendees' sense of adventure and their baser instincts, and this sort of cultural shorthand makes it easier for visitors to adjust.

What makes Westworld troubling is that visitors aren't limited to merely rounding up cattle or searching for outlaws. The park is no Disneyland; part of the appeal for the human characters is that they can do practically anything and the hosts can't fight back. Unsurprisingly this leads

less savory newcomers to darker behaviors like rape and murder. The creators of the park exploit this for profit. After all, the hosts aren't people, they're entertainment. Much like someone playing the video game series Grand Theft Auto, ethics apparently don't apply. This is especially true for the mysterious Man in Black (Ed Harris) who seems hell-bent on committing as many atrocities as possible during his stay.

"Westworld" is one part "Ex Machina," one part "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly," with a dash of "Jurassic Park." It's a marriage of classic western and dystopian sci-fi thriller. HBO has another hit on its hands with this psychologically engaging series about the next step for humanity.



Griz blow out Mississippi Valley State, 67-7

Photos by Will Mcknight / @WillMcK_Photo

Griz quarterback Brady Gustafson makes a pass to wide receiver Colin Bingham during the third quarter at Washington-Grizzly Stadium on Oct. 8, 2016. The Griz won the game 67-7.



Griz wide receiver Josh Horner catches a touchdown pass during the third quarter at Washington-Grizzly Stadium on Oct. 8, 2016. The Griz outscored the Mississippi Valley State Delta Devils by 60 points.



Members of the crowd dance during a first quarter timeout at Washington-Grizzly Stadium on Oct. 8. Both fans and players wore pink to raise breast cancer awareness.

Athletes who got political

By **Taylor Featherman**
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The 2016 election is drawing near, and while competitions between your favorite sports teams may seem life-altering, the results of this race will actually impact the lives of people in America. The competitive nature of both politics and sports got the Kaimin thinking about former athletes who made a career in politics. Here are the power rankings.

5. Heath Shuler

As the quarterback of the Tennessee Volunteers in the early 1990s, Shuler set nearly every single passing record possible. In Shuler's senior season, he finished second in Heisman voting to Charlie Ward. After his time in college, Shuler was selected with the third overall pick in 1994 NFL Draft by the Washington Redskins. After a short



NFL career, Shuler went back to school and became a real estate agent. Not long after, Shuler moved to North Carolina and ran for the United States House of Representatives for North Carolina's 11th District and won. Shuler, a Democrat, held his post as Representative of North Carolina until 2013.

4. Lynn Swann

Swann was a unanimous All-American and National Champion in 1973 as a senior at USC. In 1974, Swann was selected in the first round of the NFL Draft with the 21st selection to the Pittsburgh Steelers. With the Steelers, Swann won four Super Bowls and the 1976 Super Bowl MVP. After his NFL career, Swann went on to broadcast football for ABC Sports, and was also George W. Bush's Chairman of the United States Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. In 2006 Swann threw his name in the hat for the governor of Pennsylvania's office. Swann, a Republican, lost with 40 percent



of the vote. Swann now serves as the athletic director of his alma matter USC.

3. Tom Osborne

After a brief three-year stint in the NFL, Osborne joined Bob Devaney's Nebraska coaching staff in 1964 as the offensive coordinator. Devaney stepped down in 1972 to focus all his efforts on his duties as athletic director of Nebraska, and named Tom Osborne as his successor. Osborne served as head coach from 1973 to 1997, finishing with a career record of 255 wins, 49 losses, three National Championships and 13 conference championships. After walking away from football, Osborne announced in 2000 that he would run in Nebraska's House of Representatives 3rd District. The Republican won the election and held office until 2007.

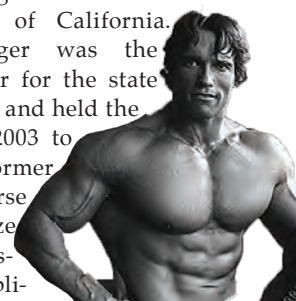
2. Bill Bradley

During his time at the University of Princeton, Bradley was named the AP College Player of the Year and was also a two-time consensus 1st Team All-American. After college, Bradley went on to play for the New York Knicks where he won two NBA Championships in 1970 and 1973 and earned an All-Star game appearance.

Bradley's jersey now hangs in the rafters of Madison Square Garden and in the Basketball Hall of Fame. After Bradley stepped off of the hard wood, he served three terms in the United States Senate for New Jersey. Bradley also ran for, and lost, the Democratic Party's nomination for president in 2000.

1. Arnold Schwarzenegger

After a career as one of the most well known body builders of all time, and one of the biggest stars in Hollywood, Schwarzenegger ran and won the office of governor of California. Schwarzenegger was the 38th governor for the state of California, and held the office from 2003 to 2011. The former Mr. Universe and Mr. Freeze was a registered Republican and a supporter of the Bush family. •



Views from the 406: Why LeBron's endorsement matters

Newspapers across the country are sending forth their presidential endorsements as Election Day draws near. The Los Angeles Times and The New York Times headline a number of papers endorsing Hillary Clinton. The Chicago Tribune, and others, endorsed Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson. The Washington Post publicly came out against Trump, and a major editorial board has yet to endorse him.

All of these endorsements are important, but another recent endorsement gained a lot of traction on the internet early last week. LeBron James, a three-time NBA Champion, wrote an editorial for Business Insider in which he endorsed Clinton.

In it, James says winning a title was only one of his missions upon returning to Cleveland. James discusses his experience growing up as a poor child with a single parent. In his life, basketball became an escape for him, but he has started foundations that are set up to make sure that no kids in

Akron, Ohio, his hometown, fall through the cracks. He then made the following statement:

"Only one person running truly understands the struggles of an Akron child born into poverty, and when I think about the kinds of policies and ideas the kids in my foundation need from our government, the choice is clear. That candidate is Hillary Clinton."

Athletes are in a strange area regarding politics currently. They are role models for youth, and often are encouraged to make a stand on what they believe in. Sometimes that stand creates controversy, as Colin Kaepernick's anthem protest has demonstrated.

Kaepernick's protest also started a discussion about the political climate in America right now, and many other football players joined him in the first weeks of the season. The NBA preseason is just starting up, and teams like the Toronto Raptors and

Boston Celtics have already made a stand in unity by linking arms during the anthem. These peaceful protests create much-needed dialogue.

This is why James' endorsement is so important right now. The heat is on for athletes, whether they like it or not, to give an opinion. James has made headlines in the past for taking stands, most recently at the 2016 ESPY Awards. He took the stage, alongside Dwyane Wade, Chris Paul and Carmelo Anthony to speak on injustice in America.

His editorial articulates his opinion, provides insight on his beliefs and shows why he believes the United States will be better off with Clinton in the White House. It had nearly 500,000 views after just three days online, and quotes from the editorial flew around Twitter after it was released.

Athletes, especially stars as big as James, have a massive influence on the young people in America. It is particularly important for the stars from a league like the NBA,

which is made up of nearly 75 percent black players, to take a stand on social issues and have a voice in the election.

James concludes the editorial with the following passage:

"We need a president who understands our community and will build on the legacy of President Obama. So let's register to vote, show up to the polls, and vote for Hillary Clinton."

He is not only giving his opinion, but encouraging the community that he came from, that he cares so much about, to register and show up at the polls. In a controversial time for the political views of athletes, LeBron James is setting a shining example. •

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