MPEA to vote on strike

By DOUG O'HARRA
Montana Kaimin Reporter

Local members of the Montana Public Employees Association will convene at 12:30 today that the University of Montana and vote whether to strike. Montana Senate Majority Leader Representative committee has approved a pay proposal differ­ ent from the one offered by the MPEA, which includes the state.

Between the classifieds local of the MPEA, which includes the clerical and professional staff, and the custodians local, there are about 450 MPEA employees at the University of Montana. Gay Rittel, president of the custodians local.

The current MPEA contract expired June 30.

Tom Schneider, the executive director of MPEA, will attend the meeting and talk about coor­ dinated opposition by all state

employees to strike. A Montana House of

Work slowdown or a state-wide

meeting and talk about coor­

director of MPEA, will attend the

Schneider said, adding that lower

paid employees would receive existing pay raises. He said MPEA delegates from all over the state had wanted the lower-paid employees to receive the higher percentage raises.

While the contract negotiated between MPEA and the state will cost about $54 million, as of early yesterday, Schneider said the higher paid employees will receive larger raises.

The Montana Senate's Select Committee of Employees Pay gives the same

percentage raise to all employees.

Schneider said that the cost of the committee's proposal at about $49.5 million. But accordin­
g to Schneider and Troy

McGee, the data processing coor­
dinator of the Montana Office of Budget and Planning, the com­

mittee's proposal will actually cost about $54.5 million — $500,000 more than the negotiated

contemporary, sunny Ripplin­

del, acting legislative fiscal analy­

said, that the cost of the committee's

montana

raim

Feet, wheels and canoes entered in Trace Race

By NATALIE PHILLIPS
Montana Kaimin Contributing

College! to end the race at McCor­

Park. Runners will

begin the race by running

5.2 miles to the Grant Creek

Interstate 90 intersection where

will pass a terry­

Tory who

who will then pedal

Park. They will ride their way

River to McCormick

The reservoir was lowered about 22 feet to

the problems sediment and metal

were caused to the aquatic life.

Trout Unlimited filed the law­
suit on behalf of area sport­
men, who they claim would be denied fishing opportunities due to the

number of fish that would be killed. Future fish populations

would also be affected because rainbow trout are now spawn­

they say.

At issue in the lawsuit is a provision in the Montana Environ­

mental Policy Act that ex­

items existing facilities from fil­

for “minor repairs, maintenance or operation of existing equipment or facilities.”

Steve Felder, chief of the Water

Quality Bureau, said, “Our review of the proposed activities and its

resulting impact determined that it would not result in a major

impact on the overall human

environment.”

A spokesman for Trout Un­

limited said that provision in the environ­

policy act that allows the Water

Quality Bureau to do what is needed.

YOU ARE BEING WATCHED by the radio-TV department's new Hi-Choru color video camera. The camera is mounted with part of a $115,000 grant from the national telecommunications information administration to the department. (Staff photo by Michael Kinney.)

Cont. on p. 8

Cont. on p. 8

Work-study amendment defeated by Legislature

By CATHY KRADOLFER
and BOOER SLOTHOWER
Montana Kaimin Legislative Reporters

HELENA — The Montana Senate turned down two amendments affecting the un­

revenue budget during debate on the general appropriations bill.

An amendment that would have authorized the Board of Regents to spend up to $60,000 for work-study programs in the system was defeated.

Another amendment that would have reduced funds for summer school faculty also went down to defeat.

Dean Conklin, MPC manager of information services, said yesterday the utility company had put a lot of time and money into planning the project, and it would have rather drained the reservoir this year.

MPC had completed all the necessary state requirements and was issued a permit by the Water Quality Bureau. Last spring, MPC attempted to drain the reservoir, but high water prevented opening of the sluice gates.

In late March, the Water Quali­

ity Bureau completed a preliminary environmental review that concluded that an EIS, which requires much more detailed studies, would not be

needed.

Frank Johnson, owner of Streamside Angler, said that Trout Unlimited then had only five days from the time it received the preliminary review until the scheduled drawdown to file a lawsuit.

Johnson said that Trout Un­

limited's lawyer, William

Robscheit of Missoula, was "real­

ly pressed for time" to review the statement and prepare the law­
suit. He added that given more time, Trout Unlimited would have asked the Missoula City

Council to join its lawsuit. Last year the council passed a resolu­tion opposing the drawdown.

Cont. on p. 8

Cont. on p. 8

Drawdown controversy pits adversaries

By HYMN ALEXANDER
Montana Kaimin Reporter

Trout Unlimited's lawsuit, which has plugged Montana Power's plans to drain the reservoir above the Milltown Dam this year, pits a sportman's organization against a state regulatory agency.

Trout Unlimited is a national

sportman's organization, and the Water Quality Bureau of the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, disagrees over what impact the drawdown will have on the Clark Fork River.

In a hearing concluded late

Wednesday afternoon, District Judge John Hansen instructed MPC not to proceed with the drawdown.

The injunction, re­

quested by Trout Unlimited, was granted pending the outcome of the lawsuit.

MPC has scrapped the draw­

down this year because the law­
suit will not be decided in court before summer. And the Water Quality Bureau won't permit the drawdown after spring runoff because mid-June is thought to be insufficient to flush the reservoir

Spaced

Space invaders, asteroids and pong are all common names for the computer game.

Video wizards have replac­

ed pinball wizards as Missoula's favorite game, and the local champ is in intergalactic enter­

tainment. Today's Montana

Reporters report.

Ray Stripp, a close look at video games.

Cont. on p. 8
letters

More about Bob
An open letter to Northern Regional Forester Tom Coston:

Once again I write to you to express my thoughts concerning the proposed seismic exploration in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. I feel the whole idea of even considering allowing Consolidated Geophysical (CGG) to do this is ludicrous. I must say I am not aware of the reasons behind the mineral exploration clause in the Wilderness Act of 1964. However, I am well aware that the ‘philosophy’ behind the Act itself concerned the preservation of a small piece of this country from all development so this generation and future generations can have the opportunity to see and study how the land appears and operates in its natural state.

There is oil below the Bob and Great Bear, and CGG will prove this. These are oil thirsty times in this country. It is ridiculous to think when CGG lets the word of this proof out, that the oil companies will not use this country’s predicament and their mighty power to influence the law-makers to allow drilling operations in the Bob that will benefit from this? Not the oil and gas consumer in this country. The oil and gas that lies below the Bob is a drop in the ocean of oil we consume. Certainly not the people who love the Bob. Only a very few who capitalize on that oil, and spell disaster for that beautiful piece of Montana will benefit.

Because of this paradox something must be done. The Bob Marshall is emblematic of our government’s tribute to the people. The Forest Service is responsible for managing this emblem as the people see fit, not as the oil companies see fit. The people do not want the Bob bombarded; this is evident. As Region (one forester) you must be in a position to make this clear to the hierarchy in the federal government. A precedent must be set to provide some safeguard for the Bob Marshall and all the wilderness areas in this country. Turn down CGG. Thank you.

Paul Council
senior, resource conservation

MontPIRG caution
Editor: With all the posters and petitions being circulated around for and against Mustang, I am more interested in how many students are aware of the attempts to form MontPIRG. I would like to offer a few words of caution to the students before they undertake such a venture.

In light of the present conservation movement at this time, Montana’s college and university students might be putting their already injured reputations “on the line,” as would the research group itself, with Montana Legislature and the citizens of Montana. The timing of this kind of student activity might be in a practical sense, politically dangerous. Another thing students need to consider is who would do the research and reporting, and to what end this work would lead. Also, how would we know if this research is needed; it might be a dead issue or an issue that already has been studied ad nauseum.

Cost is certainly something that must be considered, even with the fear of sounding conservative. Could this be one more step in “saying and doing” students are being asked to death? The proponents of MontPIRG are quick to tell us that this work is refundable. This is fine, but it should be considered that once this organization will need continual funding. It is also possible a great number of students would request a refund. Where would MontPIRG be then? Finally, what I object to most is that this organization of the college and university students would be a lobbying organization, claiming to represent me, although not in fact, but in its nature. What will they be lobbying for or against? Do you know what their position will be?

(A letter to the editor) in Wednesday’s Kaimin mentioned that Oregon’s PIHIG defended the state’s bottle bill. Although I support this type of legislation, I know many college students who are opposed to it. Whose interests would be supported?

Be sure that this group represents your interests before you support its formation, regardless of its funding.

Cregg Coglin
junior, political science

Shroud of Turin
Editor: "The Silent Witness," a documentary film tracing the history and recounting the scientific investigation of the Holy Shroud, will be shown Palm Sunday, April 12, at 2 and 7 p.m., in the Montana Rooms 801, 802.

Through the means of current technology, we are given scientific evidence verifying the first century gospel account of Christ’s resurrection. It is our hope to stimulate thought and dialogue for the sake of friendship.

Shalom!

Christ Brotherhood
Box 2458, Missoula

fond

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fond
The Montana Legislature should not be condemned for its handling of initiatives 84 and 85, Thomas Payne, professor of political science, said yesterday.

However, Harry Fritz, chairman of the University of Montana history department, said that he disagrees with the way the Legislature handled the two initiatives.

Payne and Fritz, two commentators on KUFM's "Legislative Week in Review" program which is aired Monday at 5:30 p.m., were interviewed separately yesterday.

Initiative 84, the nuclear-waste ban, and Initiative 85, the lobbyist disclosure measure, were passed by Montana voters in the November 1980 election.

"The initiative process is an important one," he said, "but it is meant to be only one vehicle for legislative enactment." An initiative should be able to be amended just like any other law, Payne said.

Payne said that his position would probably not be a popular one, but he defended his stand by saying that the initiative process is not as good as the more orderly process of legislative review and debate.

The initiative process can be used effectively by any group" with enough money to capitalize on the public's interest, or lack of interest, on any particular topic, he said.

The careful writing of bills, committee discussions and floor debates of the Legislature are preferable to propaganda campaigns that occur in initiative elections, Payne said.

Payne said that most legislators will not lose their seats because of the way they handled the initiatives, explaining that many districts voted against the nuclear waste ban. The representatives from those districts have a duty to their constituents to vote as the same as they did, he said. Legislators' loyalty is to their districts, not to the whole state, he added.

However, Fritz said that the handling of the nuclear waste ban and lobbyist disclosure bills could hurt the Republican majority next election. He added, "the party in power is always in danger of losing that advantage, especially the Republicans, since Montana is a strong Democratic state."

Fritz said that the Legislature's handling of the nuclear waste ban initiative amounted to an "outright repeal" of the wishes of Montanans. Fritz and Payne agreed on some of the other bills passed this legislative session.

Both professors thought that the drug paraphernalia bill would likely be ruled unconstitutional if challenged in the courts.

"The law would just about make toilet paper illegal," Fritz said.

Payne said that the paraphernalia bill is a "non-issue," saying the bill is poorly written.

Both called the bill that could allow UM security guards to carry guns from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. unnecessary. Fritz said that there is no comparison of the UM campus to that of smaller cities or towns in Montana because "the campus doesn't have any bars, and most small towns have at least a dozen."

**County may sue BPA**

North Boulder Protective Association, the Valleys Preservation Council and several private landowners.

( ) — Missoula County apparently will file a lawsuit against the Bonneville Power Administration over the agency's handling of the nuclear waste ban. The representatives from those districts have a duty to their constituents to vote as the same as they did, he said. Legislators' loyalty is to their districts, not to the whole state, he added.

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Plains Resource Council, the City of Missoula, the Northern Districts, not to the whole state, he said.

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**County may sue BPA**

North Boulder Protective Association, the Valleys Preservation Council and several private landowners.
Beer sales still brewing

By MARK SMITH
Montana Kaimin Reporter

Promoter Bob Harrell said yesterday he would continue to seek the county commissioners’ approval for beer sales at a proposed Memorial Day rock concert on the Missoula County fairgrounds, even though he has been unable to gain similar approval by the county Fair Board.

Harrell said the board has approved a concert without beer. The commissioners’ approval is needed to overturn the board’s prohibition on beer sales.

The promoters presented their concert plans and problems to the commissioners Monday, but were denied approval of beer sales unless adequate security measures could be arranged for the concert. The security problem was compounded Monday when Sheriff Roy Froehlich said he would not allow his officers to work at the concert if beer were sold.

Cpt. Doug Chase, of the Missoula City Police Department, said it would take a combined effort of the police and sheriff’s offices to provide the needed 40 officers for security.

The concert sponsors, ASUM Programming, KYLT radio and the Top Hat bar, plan to look to at least one nationally known performer for their decision on beer or other alcoholic beverages.

Curtis Ritter, of the Top Hat bar, said he was unable to gain similar approval for beer sales at the fairgrounds, even though he has been approved to sell beer at the Top Hat.

If the sponsors are unable to gain approval for beer sales, the commissioners, he said, would consider other options such as letting people bring their own beer to the concert or allow sales of beer tickets rather than canned beer. The sponsors have not booked any other foods or beverages.

When local law enforcement agencies declined to provide the security at the concert, Harrell yesterday said that he would rent the fairgrounds race track by the sponsors. The security problem is being compounded by the sponsors’ plans to sell beer for the concert which would last from noon to 10 p.m. on May 30.

The commissioners, he said, are more inclined to let beer be served at the concert, while Commissioner Barbara Evans opposes beer sales.

Harrell said the sponsors planned to order 1,500 cases of beer for the concert which would last from noon to 7 p.m. on May 30. The sponsors, he said, are more inclined to let beer be served at the concert.

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Hunsdon deadlines nearing

The deadline for joining the only honor society open to University of Montana freshmen, Alpha Lambda Delta, will be Monday.

Alpha Lambda Delta, which is open to freshmen who have a 3.0 G.P.A., now has 67 members, according to Margaret McGuire, the society’s adviser.

Unlike Missoula’s earlier benefit Aber Day leggins spon­ sorred by the Missoula Liquid Assets Corporation, all proceeds from the proposed concert will be split by the sponsors.

Commissioners Bob Palmer and Germaine Cowen support the sale of beer at the concert, while Commissioner Barbara Evans opposes beer sales.

Harrell said the sponsors planned to order 1,500 cases of beer for the concert which would last from noon to 7 p.m. on May 30. But as of yet the sponsors have not booked any groups.

When local law enforcement agencies declined to provide the needed 40 officers for security, Harrell yesterday said that he would rent the fairgrounds race track by the sponsors. The security problem is being compounded by the sponsors’ plans to sell beer for the concert which would last from noon to 7 p.m. on May 30.

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Sports
Griz host track meet today

By CLARK FAIR
Montana Kaimin Sports Editor

If you’re interested in Universi-
ty of Montana Grizzly track, you’ll want to be at Drumblad Field today at 2 p.m.
The UM men’s and women’s teams will host their only scored contest of the season this af-
fternoon.

The men will be competing against Eastern Washington Uni-
versity, Spokane Community College, Montana State Universi-
ty, and Northern Montana College.

Competing against the UM women today will be MSU, Flathead Valley Community College, Eastern Washington, Spokane Community College and Rocky Mountain College.

Men’s Coach Larry Heidebrecht is cautiously op-
timistic about his team’s chances.

“We’ve got four or five people short of being in contention for the Big Sky championship,” he said. “But I think we can do OK. We want to do well, and we have a lot of good talent.”

He said that this has been a good recruiting year for his team, and that a lot of work and some more experience could make it a contending unit. But he believes that next year will be the year for his athletes.

But still he said, “We’re going to give it our best shot this time.”

And to help Heidebrecht with his best shot are some real stand-
douts and some good prospects.

Sophomore Eric Rollenberg, a recruit from the Netherlands, is a strong high jumper, and his fellow countryman, Jan Harland, is exceptional in several events.

Harland was sixth in the pole vault at the Big Sky Indoor meet in Pocatello, Idaho, Feb. 27 and 28. He also placed fifth in the long jump in Pocatello and set a new Big Sky record for the 55-meter hurdles. He will be running one leg of the 400-meter relay today.

Senior Dave Gordon is probably the team’s best per-
former. He is the Big Sky champ in both the 3,000 and 5,000-meter runs and is currently third in the United States in the 10,000 meters. He holds the school record for 10,000 meters with a time of 29:09.9 in the same event also qualified him for the competition.

Other top performers for the Griz are Mike Deden, owner of the school record for the outdoor high jump with a leap of 6-foot-10 ¼; Bruce Browning, who runs in the 1,500 and 800-meter events; Mike Brady, who runs in the 1,500, and 5,000 meters; and Shawn Wilks, a high school state champion last year at Billings Senior who runs the 800 meters.

Women’s Coach Dick Koontz said his team will do well. He said that he has fewer athletes than the other Division I teams in Region IX, but that he has some quality women to work with.

“Our strong points,” he said, “are in our sprinting.

Sprinters Lori Chaki, Judith Wildy, Shelley Morton and Carrie Koontz, make up the 400-meter sprint relay team. They have broken the school record twice in the last two weeks. The team’s newest record is 48.6 seconds.

Koontz holds all of UM’s indoor hurdle records and Wildy holds the school record for the 400 meters.

A standout in the long-distance category is Bridgette Baker. She holds the school record in the 3,000 meters with a 10:13.1 time, in the 5,000 meters with 16:57.86 and in the 10,000 meters with 35:01.2.

BRAD NEWMAN, SENIOR in journalism, and vocal second baseman for the Philadelphia Police Department intramural softball team, takes off from first during a contest with the Solar Freaks. The Freaks led the entire game, but were forced to go into extra innings to pull out a victory. (Photo by Clark Fair.)
Donald Habbe—coordinator

By MIKE DENNISON
Montana Kaimin Senior Editor

Habbe chaired the Academic Program and Review Committee, which oversaw the six-month process and consumed 70 to 80 percent of his time during that period.

In a characteristically calm, almost understated manner, Habbe offered his assessment of the task: "It was very difficult."

Eldon Baker, professor and chairman of the interpersonal communications department and a member of the committee, put it somewhat differently: "No new academic vice president could ever have afforded the opportunity to learn a new campus culture—given such awesome and traumatic circumstances as Donald Habbe."

Despite these difficult circumstances, Habbe called the process a "terrific education" that gave him an extensive overview of UM.

Baker also praised Habbe as an excellent taskmaster and a skilled cross-examiner on the committee. "His follow-up questions made a few people squirm," he said. "Habbe had a fantastic ability to predict when someone was not disclosing the full data about a program or exaggerating a program to make it seem better than it was."

The process also drew Habbe and other administrators—criticism for not expounding publicly on the damage being done UM. "All we heard was that this was an operation, and that we'd eventually recover," said one faculty member.

Habbe dismissed this criticism, saying, "It depends on your perspective. I knew that the basic decisions had been made (by the Legislature) and that it had to be done."

Helping decide where to cut faculty positions was nothing new to Habbe, for he had experienced it at the University of South Dakota, where he was dean of its College of Arts and Sciences before coming to UM.

Before Habbe was hired, UM had its problems keeping or finding an academic vice president. Three persons held the job over two years, 1975-77, and four candidates for the job turned it down in 1976 and 1977, because of the low salary, then $36,000. Salary for the job has risen to $43,135.

Despite the low salary and pending faculty cuts, there was much about UM that Habbe found attractive and persuaded him to take the job.

Habbe likes the formulation of
of diverse needs at UM

Donald Habbe

Habbe said, "It goes with the territory. UM, traditionally, through luck — it certainly is not through good salaries — has been able to attract good strong people."

Habbe also said the occasional volatile environment at UM makes his work more interesting: "It's like walking through a mine field. It's challenging — I'm constantly being pushed."

Despite the time his job consumes, Habbe refuses to categorize himself as a workaholic: "I don't believe in working all the time — those who do become dangerous to themselves and others."

Habbe plays handball at noon on weekdays "to keep my sanity," and ski, sail and recreate with his wife, Lois Anne, and their four children. "My family is very important to me," he said.

"I really believe in vacations. You have to get away from the job because after a while you lose your perspective, your sense of humor, you get ground down."

One of his biggest regrets as academic vice president is what he sees as a failure of the administration to persuade the Montana Legislature to adequately fund UM in the last few years.

"It is disappointing to gather all the evidence, feel you have a really good case, and then you don't make it.

He also is disappointed that faculty members sometimes perceive him as a poor advocate for acquiring funding. Habbe cited the Faculty Senate's vote of "no confidence" in UM President Richard Bowers in 1979, a vote Habbe applied to the entire administration.

But, like many faculty and administrators, thinks the funding situation will improve next year. And, if the new administration is willing, Habbe will still be around next Legislature to help argue the case for UM.

It is impossible to enjoy idling thoroughly unless one has plenty of work to do."

—Jerome Klapka Jerome

Call no man a foe, but never love a stranger.

—Stella Benson

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AND HIS BAND

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY
MPEA...

Cont. from p. 1
proposal is being double-checked, and that she isn't sure exactly what it would cost. She said that the figures given to the committee are rough estimates. The final estimates should be made by some time today, she said.

McGee said the reason for the discrepancy is that the Legislative Fiscal Analyst's office works from estimates while the budget and planning office works from "very, very accurate" personnel files. Rippindale said she isn't sure why there was a discrepancy.

Schneider said the MPEA had expected the committee to approve the negotiated contract.

Drawdown...

Cont. from p. 1
The Water Quality Bureau stated in its preliminary review that "we have anticipated that any major impact will be extremely short term in nature."

Feet...

Cont. from p. 1
fastest total times will be the winners.

Teams are entered under seven divisions open (any combination of men or women), mixed (at least two women), female masters (40 years or older), juniors (high school age or younger) and solos.

According to Mike Johnson, assistant director of the race, there are about 35 teams entered but about 20 more teams are expected before the midnight deadline on last night.

Each team paid an entrance fee of $5 per member and found a sponsor to pay $10. Proceeds will be given as prize money.

Last year's event drew more than 3,000 spectators and the first place team was awarded $225.

People interested in watching will find the action at the wristband hand-off points and in East Missoula at the Brick Yard Hill fishing access, according to Johnson. Last year nine canoes tipped over because of the turbulent water near the fishing access.

Johnson said that the first canoeists will probably arrive at McCormick Park at about 3 p.m.

Work-study...

Cont. from p. 1
But Sen. Gary Akeysted, R-Shelby, said that teaching in the summer, at whatever salary, "makes a good summer job for a lot of professors."

So did Sen. Regan, D-Billings, countered that summer school faculty teach the same number of hours, and that the same class load as those who teach during a normal 10-week quarter.

Kris Roby, president of classified local, who is also a secretary in the foreign language department, said yesterday that it is important for MPEA to take action before the Legislature adjourns. Since the proposal still has to be approved by the full House, and then be signed by Gov. Ted Schwinden, she added. Howard Reinhardt, president of the University Teachers' Union, which negotiates a separate contract, said "we think legislation ought to fund good-faith, collectively bargained contracts."

The UTU is presently negotiating its contract with the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. The current contract runs out on June 30.

Union solidarity is important, Reinhardt said, and the UTU will take "appropriate action," which could include either writing letters to the governor and legislators, or honoring legitimate picket lines.

Weather or Not
Out of the bottomless pit of Dag's pocket came his sandwich press. He set it at 4.8 inches, slipped it over his hook, rolled up his sleeve and rang the counter with his steel digit.

"Set that ole bomber right in that press, there." Joe dusted the last slice of Limburger with mustard, slapped on some rye and eased the bomber into Dag's epicurean contraption. Dag tightened the vice, raised his hook and chomped.

"When you get that thing, anyway?"

"Had it made about a week after my hand."

"Why not use your other hand?"

"Simple. One day I was sitting in Oil Can Harry's, drinking schnapps, eating a hot dog and watching the five o'clock news. We'd just finished that Dalton case — the guy who went guns and ganged to death on a ham sandwich. I found the suicide note that proved he did it on purpose, so the insurance company mixed the policy settlement.

"So I'm sitting there, schnapps in one hand, weenie in the other, and his wife comes in and says, 'Mr. Woodley, you deserve to die.' I say, 'No I don't.' She says, 'Yes, you do,' and pulls out a .45 and fires. I ducked, but not before she blew off my hand. Now, if I'd've had one hand free, I could've grabbed my .45 and blown her hand off. From that day on, I vowed never to have more than one hand tied up with food.

"What happened after she blew your hand off?"

"I dunno. I took one look at that stump, and passed out. The last thing I remember is Terry Knight saying partly cloudy with a chance of rain or snow showers, high of 45 and lows about 30."
Invasion of the video games: a player's tale

Elbowing past loud, jean-jacketed eighth-graders, I make my way into the cacophony of sound and light that is Aladdin's Castle.

Salesmen in three-piece suit play piat and ballyboys try their luck at the shooting gallery games, their dates standing close as if expecting to win a big, pink, stuffed dog. Bored parents help their young children with the intricacies of electronic games. Kids are crammed everywhere, as if all the grade schools in Missoula were located across the street and this was the corner grocery store. But it's games like Galaxians and Gorf that await their allowance money, instead of penny licorice and Bazooka Joe bubble gum.

At this particular purveyor of video blips, the machines operate on tokens which are dispensed, four for a dollar, from a machine. This machine is the last bastion between the squandering of several dollars on a half hour's pleasure, and the investment of those same dollars in some more practical manner. It doesn't give in easily.

There is almost as much skill involved in threading a dollar bill into the token machine neatly and with no bent corners as there is in playing one of the more sophisticated video games. Eventually, the machine capitulates and cranks out four gold tokens. They should really be disregard for the infinitely wiser things in threading a dollar bill into the token slot, position my finger on the Right-Turn, Left-Turn, Fire and Thrust buttons, and nestle my forehead against the top of the machine, my eyes glued to the screen.

This Asteroids game really is a pretty simple business. You are in command of a triangular spaceship and must destroy dozens of asteroids as they hurtle past you. Through judicious use of your thrust and firing capabilities, you can eke out a score by blasting the rocks into smaller pieces and usually destroying the smallest of them. You get three ships for your dollar, and with every 10,000 points a new one is added to your fleet.

The long-term goal, of course, is getting your name on the top 10 scores list. This goal can be seriously frustrated, however, by colliding with an asteroid or getting shot by an enemy spaceship, the deadliest of which have an uncanny ability to dodge your fire while laying down a devastating salvo of their own.

My personal best score is 33,000, which I achieved Christmas night at the Billings Corner Pocket. I did it without using the thrust, just slugging it out in the middle of the screen, sort of a Thin Red Line of outer space. I haven't come anywhere near it since.

But I'm using the thrust now, as the first wave of asteroids moves in on me. Scoot a little to the left, shoot, rotate, keep shooting until anything dangerously close is destroyed, then look for new targets. The first wave is usually pretty easily annihilated, although surprises can occur, like the large spaceship suddenly bearing in on my right.

I know from experience that these babies generally aren't very accurate, so I concentrate on wiping out the closer asteroids before dispatching it. Just two small asteroids left. One is quickly put away with another salvo. Now comes the hard part, the crowding infamy of the ones, the shame of space — I am an Asteroid hunter.

You see, with just one small asteroid left, the smaller and more dangerous enemy space ships come out gunning for you. But they are worth 1,000 points if destroyed — compared to 100 points for the highest-priced asteroid — and thus make tempting targets for the daring player with no scruples.

There is a degree of disdain reserved for lurkers like myself by my fellow asteroid hunters. It's kind of like taking advantage of the machine, and certainly not in keeping with the heroic tradition of Flash Gordon, Buck Rogers or Captain Kirk, not to mention Luke, Han or Chewie.

I promise myself silently that I will only lurk until I reach 10,000 and get an extra ship. My score is now 2,160. Using the thrust to hover on the edge of the screen where the little ships appear, and keeping out of the last asteroid's path, I man age to nail the first three that emerge. Then disaster strikes, as the fourth little devil pops out about one-fourth of an inch away. Thrashing out of its way, I collide squarely with the last asteroid on its rambling path.

I expect the screen to light up with, "Lurkers never prosper!"

Well, I did get 3,000 points out of the deal and my score is now 5,180 as the second wave of asteroids appears. The key here is to stay alive and wipe out this wave, luck for 1,000 or so, and then coast through the third wave until I reach 10,000.

The early going bodes well for a good score. The asteroids cluster together, allowing me to get the drop on them by aiming into just one area of the screen, a field of fire with impressive results. I also concentrate on breaking the big asteroids into smaller ones, then relentlessly chis­ling down the survivors.

At this point, my whole world revolves around that screen. My forehead is slick with sweat as it slides back and forth across the top of the machine. My fingers are starting to tense up from being splayed out across the various buttons and being in constant motion. I occasionally apply a little body English in hopes of willing my shots toward greater accuracy.

Action on the screen is fast and furious enough for any fan of swashbuckl­ing space opera. My ship skips and dodges, laying down streams of shots as asteroids explode everywhere.

One of my favorite tricks, and one I enjoy using in front of an audience, is waiting until one of the little asteroids hurls right up to the nose of my ship, and then blasting it at the last second. What skill, what daring has this proud hawk of the ether, this sharpshooter of the spacrplanes! I'm positive those in the audience all say that to themselves.

Except when I screw up royally, as I just did, shooting a big asteroid when it was too close, and having its survivors double back into my ship. My score is now 7,180.

My third and last ship flickers onto the screen, surrounded by the remnants of the second asteroid wave. There will be no luck, no hot-dogging it now, just straight-shooting Asteroids played close to the vest.

I dispose of the second wave rather easily. My score is now 7,800. The third wave slinks onto the screen and the grim work begins anew, my mind now filled with a sober resolve to reach that 10,000 point plateau.

Hello! What's this? One of the deadly little enemy ships has put in an early appearance. Frantically, I hit the thrust and wend my way through a stream of darting asteroids. Then, emboldened, I do the unexpected! I spin around and charge the enemy, firing all the while and attempting to lead it with my shots. After the second salvo of four shots, my tactics result in its destruction. Hurrah!

Flushed with victory, I mentally tote up my score and place it somewhere around 9,000, just a dozen or so shots away from the magic number.

But my elation turns to terror, as I realize that my favored attack has placed me in a decidedly crowded corner of the screen, where even now a large asteroid is bearing down upon me. My ship's nose, from which the shots come, is facing away from the hull, so it's with a lightning-fast hand that I hit the hyperspace button.

Any good work of science fiction must have a great mysterious weapon. Un­stable and untested, it is the only thing that has a snowball's chance in hell of saving the earth.

It is in this realm of desperate devices that I find my only possibility of salva­tion.

There are those in the know who will tell you that the odds don't favor players who frantically push the hyperspace but­ton. They will tell you that the odds are about one in five that the move will not whisk you safely away to an empty part of the screen; instead, they will say, in that one instance your ship will be destroyed in the twinkling of an eye.

The odds in my case could have been one in a thousand. Whatever they were, I had the distinct displeasure of watching my last ship dissolve into dots and lines just 600 points away from the elusive 10,000 mark.

Even as I pondered this grand mis­adventure, this cosmic calamity, I remembered hearing rumors of a Deluxe Asteroids game making the rounds of the city's video emporiums. Perhaps in that more sophisticated and infinitely more dangerous world, there would be room for a little wolf like me, aarker and a hyperspace gambler.

And hey, don't I have three more tokens left, anyway?

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COUPON

Chatter on the asteroid belt
• “Oh wow, are you going to
play that game? Can I stand
behind you and go ‘oooh’ and
‘aaah’?” Drifter's Billings
• “Hit the thrust! Hit the
thrust!” Heidelhaus.
• “Hey, you got good rocks,
partner.” Corner Pocket, Billings.
• “It’s not luck. It’s knowing
how to maneuver.” Connie’s.
• “Hah . hah! You got shot by
one of the dopey ones!” Universi-
ty Center Recreation Center.
• “Tonight we conquer Deluxe
Asteroids!” Heidelhaus.
• “Hey man, did you see that?
The thrust blew up an asteroid.
That’s really rare, man.” UC
Recreation Center.
• “I hate this game and I’ll
never play it again!” Cattle
company, Billings.

Don't let the clock on Centre Court".

There's no reason to be down, our
stock of lofty diversions is
ballooning. Come in and see
what's up.
114 E. Main, Missoula

COUPON

Video
Look what a quarter will buy:
• a battle to the death with
tiller robots who call you
“chicken” if you attempt to run
away.
• a winding road race in a
Datsun 240Z.
• a chance to save innocent
cities from an enemy missile
attack.
These and countless other
diversions can be had at the drop
of a coin. For a quarter a person
can be transported for a few
minutes to a world of fast action
and split-second decisions.
That world is the rapidly grow-
ing one of video games, operated
by skilled artisans that The Who
used to call “pinball wizards.”
Pinball is still a major attraction
at arcades, but it is becoming
more of an electronic event with
digital score read-outs and glitter-
ing pictures that talk back.
Video games are also in the
forefront of home video entertain-
ment equipment. Atari, one of the
major producers of video games,
has transformed many of its
successful arcade games into
popular home video versions that
can be played on a television set.

But it is the arcades, pool
rooms and taverns filled with
chattering and flashing
machines that capture the im-
agination and epitomize the

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phenomenon. It is in these places that one observes the wide range of people who are attracted to the games — teens, working men and businessmen all rub elbows in their single-minded pursuit of the high score or the placing of their initials on the top ten scores list. Atari's Pong, which hit the market in the early 1970s, was the first major video game. It was simple in nature — basically just an electronic ping-pong game — but it was a quick hit in taverns throughout the country. Although it is generally outclassed by superior technology of today's games, Pong has been immortalized above all others in song and film. Jimmy Buffet mentions it is "Livingston Saturday Night." Dom DeLuise and Marty Feldman played it on a heart monitor in "Silent Movie," and it was played on an airport control tower's radar screen in "Airplane!" With the advent of "Star Wars" and the general growth of popular science fiction a few years ago, video games grew tremendously both in variety and popularity. While examples of non-science fiction games can still be found — such as video shuffleboard or road racing — it is in front of science fiction games that arcade customers cluster in droves. Space Wars came on the scene at about the same time as the movie adventures of Luke Skywalker. It is still popular with aficionados who appreciate its choice of skill levels and various devices, such as hyperspace, black holes and negative gravity. But it was Bally's Space Invaders in 1978 that really captured the video market for science fiction games. It is based on the simple premise of a player-controlled laser base versus row upon row of alien invaders. The game also includes an eerie heartbeat sound effect as the aliens get closer to the base and satisfying explosions as they are destroyed.

The game became very popular in a very short time. National tournaments have been held and fund-raising marathons have been staged resulting in scores in the millions. But success in the video market can be as short-lived as a player's laser base.

In December 1979, Atari came out with Asteroids, a game that...
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The ink of the scholar is more sacred than the blood of the martyr.
—Mohammed

The only good in knowledge, and the only evil is ignorance.
—Diogenes Laertius

Words are the only thing that last forever.
—William Hazlitt

The desire to take medicine is perhaps the greatest feature which distinguishes man from the animals.
—William Oster
Arts Enrichment Program for kids starts tomorrow

The Fine Arts Building will be swarming with children ranging from 'tots "right out of diapers" to high school-age kids tomorrow morning with the start of the Saturday Arts Enrichment Program.

Under the direction of University of Montana students, the enrichment program, which is held every quarter, will provide Missoula children, ages three to 14, with activities that will include music composition, dance, writing, drama and painting.

The children will concentrate on individual areas of interest for the next eight Saturday morning sessions.

Associate Professor of Art Richard Reinholtz, director of the program, said about 150 children participated in the program Winter Quarter, and that he expects at least 50 to 100 children to sign up for Spring Quarter's session.

About 12 art or general education majors will teach the children while earning three credits for an art education methods class, he said.

Reinholtz, who started the program at UM 14 years ago, said it was a good opportunity for education majors to gain experience in working with children.

In addition, he said the program tries to offer "alternative education" for children.

"Public schools are basically geared to turning out technicians." The arts program tries to encourage creativity in children and to help them find meaning in the arts, he said.

The arts program will be supplemented with presentations by visiting artists such as the Patchwork Puppets, musicians, mimes and dance troupes, he said.

Registration for the arts program will be held in the Fine Arts Building at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Coffee will be served with the start of the program. The children will concentrate on individual areas of interest for the next eight Saturday morning sessions.

The children will be charged 99 cents per session or $7 for all eight sessions. The fees will go towards paying for materials the children will use.

CLEVELAND (AP) — Punk rock star Wendy O. Williams blew a kiss to jurors yesterday after they acquitted her in Cleveland of an obscenity charge stemming from a concert in which she and three women who found her flamboyant lead singer for the Plasmatics, thanked the five men and three women who found her innocent of pandering obscenity.

Williams dressed for court in tights, black leather pants and a tiger-striped tank top, chains about her neck and ankles. Her hair, dyed black and blond, was cut in a Mohawk style.

Prosecutors said Williams was nude after the shaving cream melted and that her gyrations with a microphone were depictions of masturbation. They termed the show obscene.

Innocent of pandering obscenity.

Plasmatics, thanked the five men and three women who found her innocent of pandering obscenity.

Fans in the courtroom applauded as the 31-year-old Williams, flamboyant lead singer for the Plasmatics, thanked the five men and three women who found her innocent of pandering obscenity.

She had said her First Amendment rights were violated and called her two-day trial in 1984 battle continues in Legislature

HELENA (AP) — The war over uranium mining and control of radioactive wastes in Montana is headed for a conference committee of House and Senate members following overwhelming rejection by the House yesterday of Senate amendments calling for another public vote on the issue.

The Senate amendments provide for a referendum on whether to repeal Initiative 84's ban last year on disposal of radioactive mill tailings in Montana and replacing the voter-approved initiative with a comprehensive regulatory system.

The amendments were rejected by a paradoxical coalition of House members who support the change and those who vigorously oppose it. Both sides apparently believed they could better their cause — either remove the referendum provisions or kill the regulatory system entirely — in a free conference committee.

The Senate's version was rejected on a vote of 56-5.

Rep. Thomas Conroy, D-Hardin, the sponsor of the bill, said a conference committee could react best to what he said has been the considerable "misinformation" about uranium mining and the initiative process which opponents of his bill have presented.


You can never plan the future by the past.

— Edmund Burke

Better honor than shameful wealth.

— Eustache Deschamps

Montana Kaimin • Friday, April 10, 1981—13