NONTANA KAIMIN



Studentslettingtheycopego ofshould'vwithwhathad





OPINION Coping with graduation

page 13

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Kiosk





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We need to pay attention.



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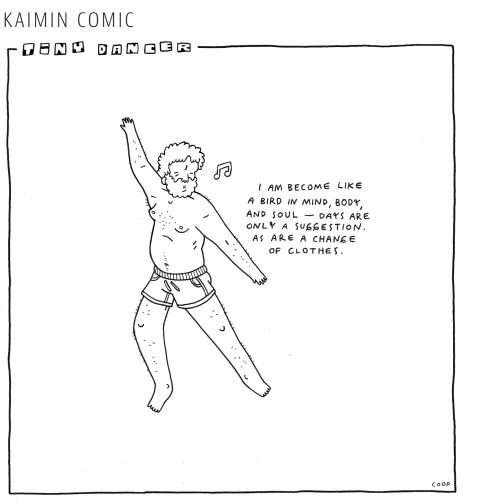
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Kaimin Editorial

Pay attention. Please, pay attention. It matters more than you know

Last week, Wisconsin held its primary elections, the first major election since the nation shut down due to coronavirus. It wasn't exactly smooth sailing. Wisconsin Democrats pushed for extended absentee ballot deadlines and even a postponement of the election entirely, motions that were blocked by Republicans. The end result meant Wisconsin voters turned out to brave long lines and large crowds — despite the danger of potential infection — all to exercise their civic rights.

Because this is our reality. Because despite everything, life continues to go on. And it is an election year. In the coming months, we will be voting in primaries. In local and state elections. We will be voting on ballot initiatives and we will be voting for a

Here in Montana, Gov. Bullock has issued a directive that allows all registered Montana voters the ability to vote by mail-in ballots for the June primary, another measure put in place to slow the spread of coronavirus in Montana. At UM, our upcoming ASUM elections will be taking place on the University of Montana app, available for

And the truth is, we're all overwhelmed. Overwhelmed by cramming six weeks of classes into four weeks, overwhelmed by fear of not being able to pay next month's rent, overwhelmed by the sadness of friends and loved ones becoming infected with a sometimes-deadly virus, overwhelmed with the new reality that we can be sure of

Lately, the news is overwhelming too, and at times, hard to dedicate time to. We don't know what will happen tomorrow or next month or even next year. In the midst of a pandemic, it's almost impossible to imagine turning out to the polling booths on Nov. 9 or giving a second thought to the ASUM elections.

But especially in these scary, troubling times, we need leaders. There are people who, like us, want our world to be put back together into one piece. That's why it's so important, now more than ever, that we are paying attention.

Pay attention to the news that UM passed over a highly qualified female candidate with institutional knowledge for another old white dude as humanities and sciences dean. Pay attention to the 63 staff UM just furloughed — but it's OK, Seth is donating some of his \$326,524 salary back to UM to make up for it. Pay attention to what the next ASUM president and vice president say they're going to do for us, the students Pay attention to the upcoming presidential election that could determine our country's recovery from a complete economic and social shutdown.

At a point in our nation's history where anything can change at a moment's notice, we need to be able to understand what our leaders are doing for us, or what they are

JOURNALISM STUDENTS! Celebrate a *virtual* **Dean Stone Night** with your faculty, staff, and fellow J-School students

More than \$200,000 in scholarships and awards will be given out on Facebook Live.

Friday, April 24, 5pm

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FACULTY SENATE APPROVES CREDIT/NO **CREDIT FOR GRAD STUDENTS**

Graduate students will be able to opt for credit/no credit grading this semester. UM Provost Jon Harbor announced April 9 that UM's Faculty Senate approved the policy change. Students will have one week after final grades are posted to their transcripts in the spring to choose whether they want to shift from a traditional letter grade to credit/ no credit. (Helena Dore)

Humanities and Sciences Dean hired The University of Montana selected Larry Hufford as the new dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences April 10 from a group of four finalists. Hufford has been a professor of botany and former interim dean at Washington State University since 1993. He was chosen by Provost Jon Harbor, after visiting campus with the other candidates in late February and early March. Hufford will begin the position on July 1. Jenny McNulty, who served as associate dean before becoming interim dean of the college after dean Chris Comer stepped down, was among the finalists. (Claire Shinner)

KEEP UMCONNECTED WEBSITE

The University of Montana created a new page on its website where students can keep track of virtual events and activities. The website, "Keeping UM Connected" can also be accessed through the UM App and includes clinics on Zoom, online yoga and exercise classes, art classes and lectures. (CS)

CHARGES FILED AGAINST MAN IN CONNECTION WITH MOUNT SENTINEL ATTACKS

A man was charged with four felonies Monday in connection with a series of reported assaults on Mount Sentinel Friday afternoon. Jared R. Kuntz was charged with aggravated assault - reasonable apprehension, aggravated assault — bodily injury, assault on a minor and assault with a weapon in Missoula County Justice Court April 13. Charging documents state that on April 10, Kuntz attacked a woman and her 13-year-old son on the M trail, then fled up the mountain. The alleged attack resulted in serious injuries on the left side of the mother's face, and UM sent out an email at 2:30 p.m. informing campus that a woman had been physically assaulted on the M trail. UMPD, the Missoula Police Department and the Missoula County Sheriff's Office started a search for the suspect, sending a Life Flight helicopter to scan Mt. Sentinel. After the initial alleged assault, the suspect attacked two adult brothers while naked further up on the mountain, charging documents state. The two brothers sustained injuries from the second alleged attack, and the suspect was stabbed at least twice in alleged self defense. Kuntz is facing up to 65 years in prison for the alleged offenses. (HD)



UM STAFF FURLOUGHED

As a result of decreased income from dining, residence halls and recreation programs, UM President Seth Bodnar announced in a Monday email that the University would temporarily lay off 63

employees, according to reporting by the Missoulian. Paula Short, UM's spokesperson, said most of those furloughed worked in campus housing and dining. Bodnar said the furloughs are planned to end on Aug. 1, and employees will still receive University benefits. Additionally, Bodnar said he would donate 25% of his salary back to the University, in part to help cover lost revenue from canceled events and student housing refunds. As of Jan. 1, 2020, Bodnar's annual salary is \$326,524, the Missoula Current reported. (Austin Amestoy)

CITY LOOKS TO BUY AND CONVERT LOCAL HOTEL TO CORONAVIRUS SHELTER

The City of Missoula intends to use \$1.1 million in Tax Increment Financing to purchase The Sleepy Inn for use as a temporary safe shelter for people quarantining during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Missoulian reported. The 34-room motel sits on a little over half an acre at 1427 W. Broadway next to the Russell Street Bridge. The Missoula Redevelopment Agency is up to approve the sale Thursday, April 16 and the full Missoula City Council votes to approve the sale on Monday, April 20. After the pandemic passes, the city hopes to use the property to build affordable housing. (Cassidy Alexander)



Students experiencing financial hardship because of the COVID-19 pandemic can now apply for assistance thanks to UM's new Emergency Student Support Fund. Funding assistance can be used to pay for essential needs like housing, car repairs, prescribed medications, course materials or emergency medical procedures. Students are eligible if they are enrolled in spring classes and are "maintaining the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards established by the Office of Financial Aid," according to UM's Student Affairs website. (HD)

STIMULUS CHECKS ARRIVING SOON

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak's impact on the economy, Congress and the Trump administration set up a \$2.2 trillion dollar stimulus package to provide Americans financial relief. The first round of stimulus checks will be distributed to Americans via direct deposit through April 13. Those who qualify are Americans who are legal citizens and received their 2018 and 2019 tax returns. The check for heads of households who make below \$75,000 yearly is \$1,200 and \$2,400 for those who are married filing jointly who make below \$150,000 yearly. Americans who have not done their taxes are advised to go to IRS.gov to fill out information in order to receive their stimulus checks. Students claimed as a dependent do not qualify for the stimulus checks. (Daniel Duensing)



retention and recruitment next semester remains uncertain

Funding ASUM personnel, including student fees supporting on-campus services agency and ASUM employees, in response to campus closures will be an effect of the month. In response, Montana's state budget "inevitable" deficit, according to ASUM Preswould suffer. ident Abbigail Belcher. Additional waived Enrollment has dropped at the Univer-ASUM fees for students, like legal fees and sity of Montana 40% from its record high consumer debt problems, will also contribute of 10,567 students in 2011 to 6,321 students to the deficit. But Belcher is also concerned in 2019, the Montana Kaimin reported about enrollment numbers dropping, resultearlier this year. In a bill passed in January, ing in fewer fees brought into the association. the ASUM Senate wrote that the revenue ASUM Final Budgeting, a yearly allocacollected from the activity fee has decreased tion of funds for all agencies and student alongside enrollment over the past 10 years. groups apart from ASUM Transportation, is Students saw this effect in final budgeting supported by the mandatory ASUM activity this semester. fee. All students pay the activity fee every This fiscal year. ASUM allocated \$60,000 semester. The fee is the primary source of less to agencies and student groups than the funding for the six ASUM agencies and more previous year because of fewer activity fees than 150 student groups on campus. But collected. Additionally, ASUM spent \$55,000 fewer students enrolled at UM means the to backfill costs connected to asbestos levels association receives fewer funds to support closing McGill Hall last year, Belcher said. student groups. ASUM runs a daycare center in the basement UM is currently planning to welcome of McGill.

students back to campus in fall 2020, said Cathy Cole, vice president for enrollment management and strategic communication. She said the UM Enrollment Management sector, which consists of multiple enrollment and communication directors, and other UM staff are reaching out to prospective students via Zoom and social media to "help students see the options they have for this summer, this fall and into 2021."

for students to start class remotely. This also mean freshmen would get an earlier start at UM through the summer session. transition to UM when the time allows.

ing their intellectual and physical needs," Cole said in an email.

However, the University's plans for the next academic year are still largely uncertain. UM Enrollment is working to field student questions and concerns on a variety of



A naked nuisance, a sleepy student and a bold burglar

DANTE FULPULA-ANKNEY dante.filpulaankneyy@umontana.edu

APRIL 4: UNSOLICITED SERENADING

A loud group of women singing in a Lewis and Clark Village apartment were reported for a noise disturbance by a neighbor unappreciative of the serenading. Officers warned the group of girls celebrating a birthday to keep the noise down.

APRIL 5: DENY, DENY, DENY

Officers arrived at Laurin Court to shut down a loud party. A party attendee answered the door, but refused to give the officers their full name. Instead, they closed the door and fled out of a window on the back side of the house. Officers stopped the panicked partier, who then denied talking to the cops a few minutes prior and insisted they hadn't even attended the party. Officers cited the plee-less partygoer for obstructing a police officer.

APRIL 7: ...BUT MY ALARM DIDN'T GO OFF?

A concerned mother called UMPD to perform a welfare check on her son in Duniway Hall. Officers arrived to find the student res-

ident fast asleep in his dorm, perfectly fine. According to his mother, he was supposed to be at the airport.

APRIL 7: BIKING IN A BIRTHDAY SUIT

A carefree minimalist decided to take the recommendations of health officials during quarantine and exercise. However, he was reported at the Van Buren Street Footbridge by an unassuming stranger for riding his bike on the Kim Williams trail and into the valley ... naked. Officers were unable, or possibly unwilling, to locate the au naturel cyclist.

APRIL 9: 'SWIPER. NO SWIPING'

A Spider-Man-like thief decided to test his skills and scale the side of Craig Hall to gain access to a dorm room through an open window on the second floor. The attempted burglary was foiled when residents scared him off, but not before the bold burglar damaged the screen and window. Officers were unable to locate the burglar.

News

ASUM anticipates deficit and uncertain enrollment

UM is preparing for the possibility that fall classes will begin remotely, and ASUM anticipates a deficit of at least \$150,000 as student

However, if UM is unable to enroll students into courses on campus because of COVID-19, the University is planning ways could mean incoming freshmen would start school online at affiliate UM institutions like Helena College and Montana Tech. It could All of these options, Cole said, would give students the chance to start school and then "In short, we are working with students where they are, literally and figuratively, to begin an academic career at UM while meet-

platforms

"No one can predict what will happen in the fall and how this crisis will impact our future members of the UM family," Cole said

The immediate and lasting effects of COVID-19 on students and UM could include a drop in tuition revenue and fewer and dining halls, the Missoulian reported last

According to Belcher, while all of the requested funding in final budgeting was allocated, the ASUM account was left "slimmer."

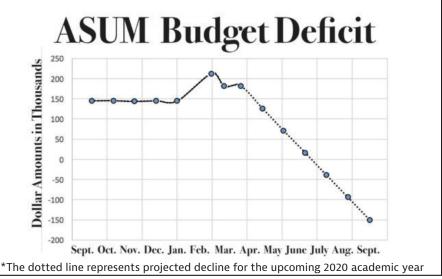
Before the rumors about UM's campus closure became a reality earlier this semester, Belcher believed the ASUM was in the clear.

"Although unfortunate, before the COVID-19 situation, I believe the budget would have been okay in the long run," Belcher stated in an email.

Though ASUM does not currently have a negative account balance, and probably won't as a result of the coming deficit, some accounts could run negative from the student government paying out more than it would gain in revenue, Belcher said. She declined to comment on which agencies could run negative as a result of this. However, ASUM is expected to back-fund ASUM Childcare to support employees in the coming months.

All ASUM agencies collect income from various funding sources, including donations and grants. But Childcare is the only ASUM agency that pays its employees strictly out of fees earned. Since Childcare can't offer its services remotely during the campus closure, its employees are out of work.

Funding for Childcare employees would come out of ASUM's zero-base fund account, which, as of April 8, stood at just over



CONSTANCE DARLINGTON | MONTANA KAIMIN

\$181,000. According to ASUM's fiscal policy, the zero-base account can't drop below \$100.000 to backfund agencies unless approved by four-fifths of the senate. ASUM collects unspent student group funds after each fiscal year and collects activity fees each semester, consistently adding to the zero-base budget. But Belcher said the possibility that this budget could fall beneath \$100,000 is now a legitimate concern.

Students will vote on raising the ASUM activity fee later this month. The proposed change will appear among other referenda to raise the fee from \$67 to \$70, effective fall 2020, the Montana Kaimin reported. The fee increase was intended to appear on the ballot to support existing services and student group funding, the resolution reads.

Belcher said students shouldn't see a difference in ASUM agencies because of COVID-19, but it is critical these measures pass to keep these services consistent and accessible

"Without those fees, it is extremely difficult to maintain the level of service students are used to and support our student groups," she said in an email. "We've made it work, but it's not sustainable.'

ASUM ELECTIONS ARE NEXT WEEK!

VOTE FOR WHO WILL REPRESENT YOU BEST

> HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR UM EXPERIENCE

Voting begins April 22nd at Noon and ends April 23rd at 8 PM on the UM App!



Graduation deflation: Seniors grapple with loss of in-person commencement

²⁰²⁰ I'm Sorry Your 2020 Graduation Was Postponed

AUSTIN AMESTOY

austin.amestoy@umontana.edu

With just weeks left until graduation, everything was going according to plan for University of Montana senior Trisha Bartle. The German and creative writing double major had a regular gig writing for an online publication and a finished draft of a novel going through revisions.

Her sights were set on the finish line: a walk across the stage where her degree would await her.

Two weeks after moving classes online, the University of Montana announced it would cancel the traditional commencement ceremony, scheduled for May 9, leaving seniors grappling

with the loss of a major milestone

"I'd been dreading the news," Bartle said. "I was so looking forward to walking. A lot of people say 'Ugh, I don't want to walk. It's lame.' It's not lame to me. It's a lot of work to get to the end."

Bartle's college path was

unique and challenging. After growing up in Minnesota, she moved to Missoula in 2008 and worked as a freelancer, writing web content for a number of publications. Soon, the allure of higher education became too great, and she decided

to attend the University of

Montana in 2016.

"There's only so far you can go without education," she said. "I was already a professional writer, but I wanted to get into the creative side more and become a novelist." Bartle worked her way

through the English program, eventually adding

extra credits to pick up her second major in German. She developed a regular beat writing for an online client and finished a draft of a contemporary romance novel with the advice of English department professor Erin Saldin. In late March, her client

KAITLIN CLIFFORD | MONTANA KAIMIN

reached out to her with bad news.

"Sorry — coronavirus," Bartle said, paraphrasing the message. "We can't afford independent contractors right now."

Just a week later, Bartle faced another huge loss when commencement was canceled.

Bartle described herself as shy, but during her years at UM, her friend group expanded rapidly. Outside of class, she and her friends would gather for weekly game nights, playing card games like spades and hearts. Bartle said their tradition has moved to the internet, with Jackbox Party Pack games. "Seeing how much

this has affected me - not being around people — I'm like, 'Oh shit. I'm not an introvert anymore," Bartle said. "Suddenly, everybody was gone, and you couldn't say goodbve."

Bartle's brother in Oregon and her mother in Missoula both planned to attend the ceremony As a first-generation college student, Bartle said her mother is proud of her "in that classic mom way." Now, Bartle isn't sure her brother will make it if the ceremony is rescheduled.

In the email sent to students announcing the cancelation of commencement, UM President Seth Bodnar said the University is working on plans to host a ceremony honoring spring semester graduates in September or October, complete with a procession on the Oval and a walk

across the stage in the Adams Center.

The University also intends to mark May 9, the date commencement was originally scheduled, with a video commemorating seniors and their four years at UM, according to the campus-wide email.

Finally, UM is developing a plan for the provost, several deans, Bodnar and other faculty to travel across Montana and surrounding regions to host smaller ceremonies with graduates in their own towns.

For some UM students, none of these replacement ceremonies will work.

Maryam Alwatani has lived in Missoula with her husband, Ali Alzarra, since 2015. Alzarra is finishing his last semester studying computer science at the University on a scholarship from his home nation, Saudi Arabia.

Alwatani, originally from Bahrain, said when Alzarra was deciding on a place to study in the U.S., few options appealed more than Missoula. The couple brought their 2-year-old daughter with them and have since had two boys. "Missoula is a quiet

city, not a lot of distractions," Alwatani said. "It's been a great experience living here." For the last five years, Alwatani said she's watched Alzarra study intensely. They made friends with other international families living in Missoula and studying at the University. All but one have returned to their home countries.

Alwatani and Alzarra had planned to do the same after commencement. The COVID-19 pandemic has made that goal

more difficult. Alwatani said they still hope to move back to Saudi Arabia permanently this summer, making the fall ceremony a non-option.

"Even if it's going to be postponed, he still can't attend it," Alwatani said. "People who live here, if the crisis ends, will be able to attend a ceremony. We're not going to be here anyway."

It's a frustrating situation for the couple, compounding an already trying time living in their home. With all three children now homeschooling and Alzarra working on major senior projects, Alwatani said it's a constant struggle keeping the kids occupied.

"The hardest thing is that they don't really get it," she said. "The oldest kind of understands it, but the youngest keep asking, 'Why are we stuck at home?"

The cancelation of in-person commencement also has broad implications for those aided by UM's TRIO Student Support Services.

Darlene Samson, the 27-year director of the federally-funded program dedicated to aiding first generation, disabled or low income students, said graduation is a bigger occasion for TRIO's students than others.

"The buildup to getting your college degree, most particularly for first-generation students, is a huge milestone and a huge success," Samson said. "They're trying to be resilient, but it's a huge disappointment."

Samson added that potential online replacements for commencement pose problems for the

students her organization serves, as many already struggle with remote learning due to unreliable internet or lack of access to computers. One of her immunocompromised students even fears leaving the house for groceries, Samson said.

Ultimately, Samson said, TRIO is working on a plan to celebrate its graduates independently.

"I hope that students will feel like their accomplishments are being recognized and that we're happy for them," she said.

While other Montana universities have joined UM in canceling in-person commencements, some have developed other ideas for recognition that go beyond delayed ceremonies.

Montana State University graduates will be mailed "Spring 2020 Commencement in a Box," according to an email from university president Waded Cruzado. Boxes will contain a degree cover, tassel and balloons for graduates' personal "balloon drop moment."

A degree will be mailed to each student at a later date.

For Alwatani and her husband, a plan for recognition like MSU's would be welcome, especially in their situation. "That is a really joyful idea," Alwatani said. "At this time, we would appreciate any creative idea."

University of Montana Registrar Joseph Hickman said the University is surveying graduates on commencement replacement options, but noted the manufacturers of UM's degree covers and graduation attire are under shutdown orders.

Paula Short, director of communications at the University, added that more concrete plans will likely be announced around April 15, the day the survey closes. She said individual schools and colleges at UM are formulating their own plans to recognize graduates.

"Our goal is to honor and celebrate each and every UM Graduate, though we realize the logistics around in-person events are likely limited to the campus-based event and the regional gatherings," Short said in an email. "However, we have alumni across the country and around the world! Perhaps we can work together to facilitate smaller events in other places as well."

Hickman also said he was aware other schools around the state have plans to mail out commencement regalia when it becomes available.

Regardless of how the University proceeds, Alwatani said when they informed family back home of the cancelation, they told Alzarra to bring his graduation robe back with him so they could celebrate together.

Despite simmering disappointment and hardship, another theme emerged from the graduating seniors: gratitude toward the University's earnest efforts to recognize them. Speaking from her Missoula home, Bartle said she knows the cancelation is just one symptom of a much bigger crisis.

"It's easy to say, 'Woe is me, I'm not going to walk," she said. "But there's bigger things happening. It's uplifting that the University has a plan."

NEED TO **RETURN REGALIA?**

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Contact Tim McClughen with Herff Jones at trmcclughen@ herffjones.com.

News

To-go boxes complicate UM's composting model

GRIFFIN SMIT griffen.smith@umontana.edu

The transition to grab-and go dining on campus after spring break is halting UM Dining's food-waste composting even with its compostable to-go food containers.

"UM is definitely on the path toward getting compost to all of our food outlets," said Eva Rocke, sustainability coordinator at UM. "But for the time being, UM serving food and drinks in compostable containers and not composting all of that stuff isn't particularly helpful."

Students who are still on campus and using their meal plans at the Food Zoo are offered biodegradable and compostable containers and utensils, Rocke said After they leave with their food, they normally end up throwing their containers into the trash.

UM Dining has been composting at the Food Zoo for over a year, the Kaimin reported in February. Now that students are rarely disposing of their food waste in the Food Zoo, the on-campus dining hall only composts leftovers and packaging the food arrives in.

"Campus Dining continues to compost some appropriate pre-consumer waste," said Byron Drake, interim director of UM dining. "We have no way of currently collecting post-consumer waste.'

The number of campus residents has continued to decline each week since UM opt-



A student's to-go box stuffs a trash can in the Knowles Hall lobby. Students who eat at the food zoo have no other option but throwing compostable boxes in the trash. **GRIFFEN SMITH I MONTANA KAIMIN**

ed for remote learning to prevent the spread of COVID-19. UM spokesperson Paula Short said 86 students lived in dorms on April 10, lower than the roughly 150 students the University anticipated would stay, according to a March 23 Missoulian article. Lily Mercer is one of the few remaining students. She staved on

campus to keep working at her job at Walmart and uses the Food Zoo every day for dinner and sometimes breakfast. "It's a good idea, but

the fact that you have to get a new box every time

our staff is constantly sanitizing the environment."

you go there feels waste-

Before the transition

students reusable boxes

for food, but it no longer

allows students to bring

personal containers in

cafeteria as sanitary as

possible, according to its

students themselves and

we take their safety very

seriously," Drake said.

"We are maintaining

good control of social

distancing, everyone

is wearing gloves and

an effort to keep the

"Many of these

[dining] workers are

website.

ful to me," Mercer said.

to grab-and-go only,

the Food Zoo offered

UM uses the company Earth Choice for its to-go containers. According to its website, the containers are made of materials like molded fiber and polylactic acid (PCAs) Rocke explained that these materials do not make containers better for landfills.

"Our waste management process involves sending our 'waste' to a landfill — a place that's lined with plastic, covered in dirt, and not given water or air — both

required ingredients for natural decomposition," Rocke stated in an email. Research conducted by Elsevier, an Amsterdam-based journal, found that while compostable to-go items are biodegradable, they can take over 100 years to break down in a landfill. Other reports, like a 2016 study from the University of Florida, concluded that as PCAs break down, they can release significant amounts of methane in a

like UM's to-go boxes

Rocke. The University

have to be commercially

composted, according to

sends its compost to Sean's

Missoula Compost Collec-

tion, where it is heated to

the correct temperature to

service off campus, but

there is no public compost-

another place on campus

for students to dispose of

compostable materials, no,

"It's all 'behind the scenes'

at the UC market, UC food

court and the Food Zoo."

there's not." Rocke said.

"In terms of there being

Students can pay for this

get it to decompose.

ing site on campus.

is a powerful greenhouse gas. Compostable items

sealed landfill. Methane

MAZANA BOERBOOM mazana.boerboom@umontana.edu

insecurity among students. More than 64,000 Montanans, about

ployment rate in February.

Aaron Brock, director of the Missoula Food Bank & Community Center, said about 30% more people have sought food at the food bank per day since mid-March. Some, he said, are people the center used to regularly see, but many are first timers who have lost their source of income. Brock said the pantry dramatically changed its operations in order to meet the high demand for food and limit person-to-person contact.

the center is only accepting monetary concerns about sanitation.

new donors.

The bank doesn't ask any questions when visitors come for food. Instead, workers let visitors take a pre-packed box, bag and package of meat, then hustle them out. He said the bank gives out about 400 bags, 200 boxes and 200 meat packs per day.

The UM Food Pantry is doing what it can right now, even though its doors are closed, said Americorps VISTA Sarah Poole. Grab-n-go food bags and hygiene products are restocked outside its doors in the UC twice a week. The UC is only open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, and a Griz Card is required to get in.

mean eating ramen every night or not be-The pantry is also part of a Food Security Task force made up of multiple organizations around Missoula, including family's ability to afford nutritious food. the Montana Food Bank Network, the If you feel you are facing food insecuri-Poverello Center, UM Dining, Missoula ty, you can seek resources at the UM Food County, Missoula Aging Services, Missoula Pantry and the Missoula Food Bank. You Food Bank, Animeals and the YMCA. can also apply for the University's emer-The University has also put together an gency student fund and the Supplemental emergency support fund for students. Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), "The University of Montana Emerwhich provides approved applicants with gency Student Support Fund has been grocery money. established to help enrolled students with

News

Food insecurity rises with unemployment from COVID-19

COVID-19 precautions have resulted in a rise in unemployment, increasing food

12% of the workforce, have applied for unemployment insurance since March 15, Montana Public Radio reported. That is more than three times the state's unem-

All the bank's programming is canceled, donations and no volunteers are working. It doesn't accept food donations because of

"We've seen kind of an amazing outpouring of support," Brock said. He said past donors have been donating more, and they've received support from over 200



A shelf empty of On the Go! Meals outside the food pantry at the University Center on Saturday, April 4, 2020. On the Go! Meals provide bags of free food and other necessities for those who use the food pantry. DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN

unexpected crisis or hardship created by COVID-19," its website states.

Only currently-enrolled students in good academic standing can use the grant. It can go toward paying for various essential costs, including groceries, medical costs and technology and connectivity needs for online classes.

Even before the novel coronavirus shut down campus and closed the doors of businesses across Missoula, many students were at risk for food insecurity.

According to a 2019 #RealCollege survey done by former food pantry student coordinator Kat Cowley, nearly 60% of UM students experienced some form of basic needs insecurity during the previous year. And nearly 40% of students had experienced food insecurity that month.

Food insecurity doesn't just mean skipping meals or going to bed hungry. It can ing able to consistently afford healthy food options. It's measured by an individual or



Building Youth Capacity through Basketball

Extended application deadline: April 28

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Apply at: umt.edu/mansfield

This exchange will only be held when the global health situation is deemed to be safe. The Mansfield Center and the U.S. Department of State will continue to assess these August dates and will postpone to a later date if needed. If you are interested in this exchange, please apply now with the knowledge that the exchange may occur later than August 2020.



News

UM moves summer classes online

CAMERON KIA WEIX

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UM moved all in-person summer classes to remote instruction amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Provost Jon Harbor announced in an April 8 email.

The decision was intended to provide clarity for students, faculty and staff who asked what to expect, Vice Provost Nathan Lindsay said.

Current summer registration is somewhat lower than this time last year, according to ASUM Vice President Ethan Hanley, a member of UM's summer academic council. Summer session had more than 3,000 students last year, according to a press release.

"My biggest concern is there's probably going to be quite a few course cancellations," Hanley said.

UM will consider canceling summer courses due to low enrollment on a case by case basis, according to Grace Gardner, director of UM summer programs. She said there have been a few cancellations so far, unrelated to enrollment.

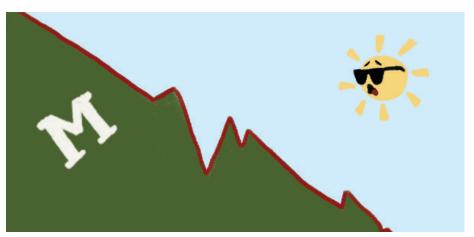
"If students are interested in taking summer courses, they shouldn't wait. They should register now," Gardner said. Summer session's new budget model pegs

the rate paid for summer classes in advance, according to the faculty's salary, the Kaimin reported. Changes to the faculty contract in fall 2019 allowed faculty to negotiate a lower summer salary to keep classes with low enrollment.

College deans could also make exceptions regarding low-enrollment courses, like keeping classes students need to graduate, according to a memo from the provost last December

The provost's email distinguished between remote instruction, where classes still meet over Zoom, and online classes, where students can submit assignments on their own schedule.

Online classes have an additional online course fee of \$48 per credit. That's \$144 for a three-credit class. In-person summer classes would automatically switch to remote with no online fee, according to Lindsay. There could be exceptions where classes move online with the fee later in the summer,



LILY JOHNSON | MONTANA KAIMIN

on a first-come first-served basis, according to UM Housing's website.

UM could still offer summer classes in person if the situation improves regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Lindsay. He said the University hopes to offer fall classes in person, but it has not decided yet.

Summer session housing is available in Craig Hall and Duniway Hall starting May 9

for which students would receive advance

Experiential learning, like internships,

over summer are considered on a case-by-

tacting their faculty adviser, Gardner said.

case basis, and students should start by con-

ASUM resolution pushes for paper towel composing

notice.

ΗΔΝΝΔ CAMPRELI

hanna.campbell@umontana.edu

ASUM passed a resolution calling for paper towels located in bathrooms to be composted instead of disposed of in a landfill on April 1.

The forestry building and the fourth floor of the Clapp Building are currently the only buildings on campus that compost paper towels. Since the two buildings started composting their paper towels eight months ago, they diverted 940 gallons of paper towels along with 240 plastic trash bags from the landfill, according to the ASUM resolution. ASUM Senator and resolution author Adrianna Medina stated that if paper towels were composted campus wide, 1,400 fewer gallons of paper towels would enter the landfill per month.

According to Medina, ASUM advocates for sustainability efforts through the ASUM Sustainability Committee, the Zero Waste Board and the Kress Revolving Energy Fund (KRELF) — a fund set aside for student-run sustainability projects. In November, ASUM passed a resolution to make the ASUM sustainability fee mandatory, which would start next fall. Students can vote on whether they want the fee to stay optional or become mandatory during the online election on April 22 and 23. The paper towel composting program is one step ASUM has made to further sustainability efforts on campus.

"In initiating this [paper towel composting] program campus wide, UM will become a step closer to making small acts of sustainability as our standard element within the campus," Medina said.

However, there are many barriers that have to be addressed before the resolutions can be implemented, according to Emma Kiefer, chair of the Zero Waste Board.

According to Kiefer and Medina, UM's custodians have a contract with the University that specifies what they clean and when. The custodial union would have to vote on whether workers should set aside the paper towels for composting in every bathroom on campus. For the resolution to be put into effect, the janitorial staff and the University of Montana would have to reach an additional agreement about raising workers' salaries to reflect the increased labor.

If the student body passes the resolution and the custodial staff approves of it, the resolution then goes to UM's administration. If approved, it then would go into effect. Medina said that the Missoula Compost Company has agreed to compost the paper towels. This would cost each building approximately \$48 a month. Funding for composting would be sourced from Facilities Services. However, Medina said she would push for UM's administration to subsidize the costs for the Paper Towel Compost Program.

Both Medina and Kiefer are hopeful the paper towel composting program will be implemented within a year, Medina said



CONSTANCE DARLINGTON | MONTANA KAIMIN

"There are still a lot of barriers and hurdles to jump over, particularly with the custodians contract with the University, but we're hoping that some type of compromise can be reached," Kiefer said.

All we wanna do is *bang* *bang* *cash register noise* find the motivation to get up and put on real pants.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Save an arsenal of Zoom backgrounds to your computer. Keep a stash of flour for various baking projects. Take a Facebook Live workout class. Do what you need to do to cope.

them up for failure.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE

20): That set of brass measuring cups sure is tempting, but do you *need* to put in another order on vour Amazon app?

> CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22):

There's only so many combinations of Ramen toppings you can use before you'll have to break down and cook starting with vegetables.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): We know this

once. Sometime soon, preferably.

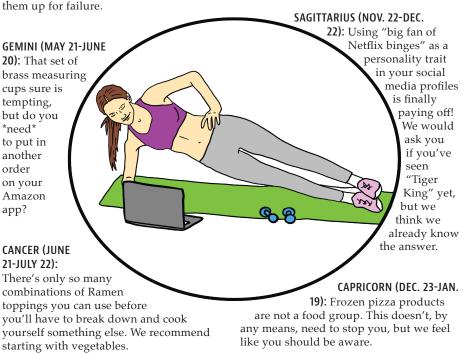
something!

Life at home, baby

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Dear God, do your roommates know what dish soap is? How can they when you keep washing their piles of dirty dishes? You're setting

LIBRA (SEP. 23-OCT. 22): Sorta feels like the time to scroll through *insert dating app here* until you find your ideal partner? Just make sure you pace yourself. It's gonna be a minute before you can meet vour future soulmate face-to-face.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): Pro tip: Anything is a mixer if you're bold enough. Leave quarantine with enough bartending skills to drop out of school and become a professional mixologist. It just sorta feels ... right, va know?



semester is starting to feel entirely optional but — and this is incredibly important it is not. Log into Moodle. Like. At least

VIRGO (AUG 23-SEP. 22): We're proud of you for managing to stay motivated, but the world isn't gonna end if you close your laptop for five freaking minutes. Take a break and make a damn smoothie or

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): DEAR GOD

STOP BUYING HOUSEPLANTS TO SUPPLEMENT YOUR NEED FOR INTERACTION, YOU ARE PHYSICALLY RUNNING OUT OF SPACE.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Turn off all the lights, open a cheap wine and decide which perfectly-crafted text to send to your Zoom crush during the next online lecture.

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62 Hitchcock title

63 Something in the

Tutors take Study Jamming to Zoom

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University of Montana senior Heidi Abresch starts her mornings at 8:45 a.m. with a cup of coffee, gearing up for a long day of classes, work and tutoring.

By the end of each week, she estimates she's logged over 20 hours on Zoom, UM's distance learning solution in the age of social distancing. Why so many hours? She's using to Zoom for more than just classes.

"I do seven straight hours of chem tutoring on Mondays," Abresch said. "Good thing I like it — it doesn't feel like work to me.

Abresch is one of 24 student tutors leading UM's Study Jam, a free program offering group tutoring on many common undergraduate courses, from chemistry to music theory.

The transition online posed a unique set of challenges for the Study Jam program that Abresch and others have taken in stride, trying to maintain "a sense of normalcy" in a very abnormal time.

Abresch, finishing up dual degrees in microbial ecology and genetics and evolution, is no stranger to loaded schedules. The 25-year-old added chemistry tutoring at the start of fall semester 2019 on top of research work in UM's cyanobacteria lab.

"I'm one of those people who always needs something to do," Abresch said over a Zoom call from her Missoula home.

After taking chemistry courses as an underclassman, Abresch participated in a peer-leading program, becoming "a baby T.A." in her chemistry class. When a Study Jam position as a chemistry tutor opened, her professor recommended her and she eagerly accepted.

With a semester of experience under her belt, she said she enjoys every minute of her 2.5 hour-long sessions each Monday and Wednesday.

"I've always been that person who's really freaking excited about everything," she said. "Seeing students get excited about chemistry is great."

Abresch has maintained that excitement, een as her Study Jam sessions migrated to Zoom alongside her classes and lab work.

"We're getting used to it pretty quick, but it's less organic," she said. "I can't look over someone's shoulder to see what they're doing."



University of Montana senior Heidi Abresch. Abresch is a second-semester Study Jam tutor working toward a double-major in microbial ecology and genetics & evolution.

On Zoom, students have to express verbally when they need help. But that barrier aside. Abresch said Study Jam was well prepared to make the jump.

Shannon Janssen, associate director of the Office for Student Success, oversees Study Jam and said she couldn't be more proud of her tutors, all of whom made the jump from physical to online without complaint.

"I was definitely a little nervous about saying, 'I know I didn't hire you for this, but can we change everything about how we do tutoring?" Janssen said. "They took it as a lovely challenge and an opportunity."

While numbers have declined slightly, Janssen and Abresch said plenty of students have rejoined them over Zoom.

Before classes moved online, the administration had contacted Study Jam and said they'd like to see tutoring continue. Janssen agreed fully.

"We really wanted to be there to support our students," Janssen said. "We were definitely nervous, but we felt we had a great team and structure in place."

The first Monday after spring break, all Study Jam tutors met for a Zoom training session. Abresch said the tutors divided into smaller rooms and tried to "break" them, creating technical problems so they'd know how to solve them in future sessions.

"I knew more about Zoom than everyone else right off the bat," she said.

The next day, Study Jam was back up and running.

Additionally, Janssen said they made an effort to ensure the tutoring schedule from before spring break was kept the same on Zoom.

"We felt some stability and consistency was probably a good move," she said. Ultimately, Abresch said tutoring has

many misconceptions surrounding it, which she hopes to dispel.

"People kind of shy away from tutoring because it implies you're falling behind in class, but really, the best students in class are the people you see in Study Jam all the time," Abresch said.

Janssen said Study Jam has something for every student and is an even more important resource in the age of remote learning

"We're happy to talk about whatever issue you're having in that class, or if you want to drop in to see a friendly face, that works for us, too," Janssen said. "We're still here and we're waiting for you."

Study Jam tutoring is free and offers group sessions for more than 35 courses at UM. Visit *umt.edu/study-jam to find schedules, classes* and more.

MAZANA BOERBOOM

hadn't left my bed.

I picked up the phone and called my mom in Utah. I started sobbing. I was mad that coronavirus ruined my spring break plans to go home and see my family. I was freaking out about a huge assignment for class I had procrastinated. And I was blaming myself for being lazy and unproductive.

After a couple minutes of me sobbing at my mom over the phone and her trying to console me, she told me what I needed to hear. She told me to stop. She told me to get up, to find a mirror and to tell myself to get my shit together.

I muttered an incoherent "OK," rolled out of bed, found a mirror and looked at my red puffy face and matted hair. "Get your shit together," I told myself. I was quiet and half-hearted.

"Say it again," my mom said.

it with a little more gusto. "Keep saying it," she told me. And I did. I said it over and over again until the tears stopped and then I took some deep breaths and actually got my shit together. I got dressed, went for a run,

ate some food and stayed up half the night finishing my assignment.

et, and I'm left alone with myself.

Out" just so I would cry harder.

I had to delete most of my social media for a while, because I spent hours scrolling, comparing myself to everyone else

Opinion

Keep telling yourself to 'get your shit together'

mazana.boerboom@umontana.edu

It was well into the afternoon. I still

"Get your shit together," this time I said

My name is Mazana Boerboom. I'm a journalism and geography major and a news reporter for the Montana Kaimin. One day, I want to become a writer for National Geographic. I like climbing and skiing and sometimes I nerd out for a round of Dungeons and Dragons. I'm also a resident assistant and one of the few remaining occupants of Miller Hall. Only two of my residents are still on campus. The halls here are eerily empty and qui-

I go through waves of productivity. At my peak I've deep cleaned my room, started journaling and even practiced voga. But I always crash. I lie in bed watching TV until 3 a.m., then sleep until almost noon. And there's a decent bit of crying too, usually about how stressed or homesick I am. At one point I watched "Inside

who seems to have their shit together. "Get your shit together."

Lots of people seem to use their newfound free time to find a new hobby or go for tons of hikes or start cooking for themselves. Even though I know social media isn't always what it seems — it's easy to pretend to have a flawless life on Instagram — I still felt like there was something wrong with me because I wasn't so put together. I've mostly used this new free time to binge-watch "Critical Role" and "Parks and Recreation."

I realized that making myself feel inferior wasn't going to change anything. And it's okay to not find some hidden talent or rediscover an old hobby with my free time. it's awesome if you can.

But this stay-at-home order is an intense transition period for all of us. Thousands of people have lost their jobs, lost loved ones or lost plans for the future. We are all stuck in this time of grief and uncertainty we haven't faced as a society in our lifetime.

So, if you're struggling with online classes, if you are going stir crazy or you find yourself in a slump, don't blame yourself. It's okay to struggle. But it's not okay to let yourself sink into the stress or fear or grief and let it drag you down.

So, here's my challenge for you: When you find yourself crashing, get up, look yourself in the mirror and tell yourself to get your shit together. Then find something that gives you some joy (while still practicing social distancing of course). It can be anything, like long baths or rereading a favorite book. It doesn't always have to be productive.

My joy has been getting outside and sitting on the Oval. I soak up the sun while I eat my lunch, or do my homework, or just observe others from afar and remember I am not alone.

One day at a time, I'm getting my shit together. So can you.

Curry Health Center is offering distance-counseling services in lieu of faceto-face services. Call (406) 243-4712 during regular business hours to schedule an appointment, including urgent counseling appointments.



LINDSEY SEWELL | MONTANA KAIMIN



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Sports

PUMPING UP WITH MONTANA Which UM Athlete has the best pregame jam?

JACK MARSHALL

jack.marshall@umontana.edu **MEGHAN JONAS** meghan.ionas@umontana.edu

Since the fall of 2019, the Montana Kaimin has been asking UM athletes and coaches about their pregame music. We chose some of our favorites and asked arts and culture reporter Meghan Jonas and sports reporter Jack Marshall to review each pump-up song.

SAMORI TOURE, FOOTBALL: "HOT (REMIX FEAT. GUNNA AND TRAVIS SCOTT)" BY YOUNG THUG JACK MARSHALL: Samori told me that this was his pump-up song in the fall when this song was just topping the charts. I think the song has a good beat and I can see how he got hyped up enough to break records for the Griz in their home playoff game. 8/10

MEGHAN JONAS: To be totally honest. I was expecting something a lot more hype here, especially for a football player. The song itself is pretty slow, but the beat makes up for it, I guess. It also feels a lot longer than it actually is. 6/10

SAYEED PRIDGETT, BASKETBALL: "BANDIT (WITH YOUNGBOY NEVER BROKE AGAIN)" BY JUICE WRLD

JM: I was told by a few basketball players that Sayeed often got to pick the music played in the locker room pregame. I didn't expect Saveed to be listening to Juice Wrld because I always thought of his music to be kind of sad. But this song isn't terrible, so ... 6/10

MJ: This is what I was expecting to be on most people's playlist. The speed of the beat and the lyrics does a lot more to get listeners excited than something that's super slow. The production on this one feels more thought through. 7/10

KENDAL MANUEL, BASKETBALL: "EVERYTHING IS GOOD" BY SIAOSI

JM: Kendal really caught me off guard when he told me his preferred pregame music is usually reggae. He was always really mellow in his demeanor on the court, so I think this song really fits him. Even though I was taken aback at first, I think this is a

14 April 15, 2020 montanakaimin.com

perfect song to calm the nerves. 9/10

MJ: Okay wow, this one is out of left field, but it might be one of my favorites. I think it illustrates the different ways our student athletes get ready for their games really well. Some people want to get their adrenaline pumping, but other people, like Kendal, just want to chill. This is going on my playlist. 9/10

OLIVIA OOSTERBAAN, TENNIS: "STRONGER" BY KANYE WEST

JM: When I asked Olivia what her pump-up song was, she consulted her teammates and came up with this song. On nearly every sports pregame playlist, this song can be found, including my high school basketball plavlist. I've heard "Stronger" a little too much, but it's still solid 5/10

MJ: Catch me reminiscing about high school with this one. I was a cheerleader (because of course I was), so I would hear this song constantly for our pre-games. This song really does pass the test of time. 7/10

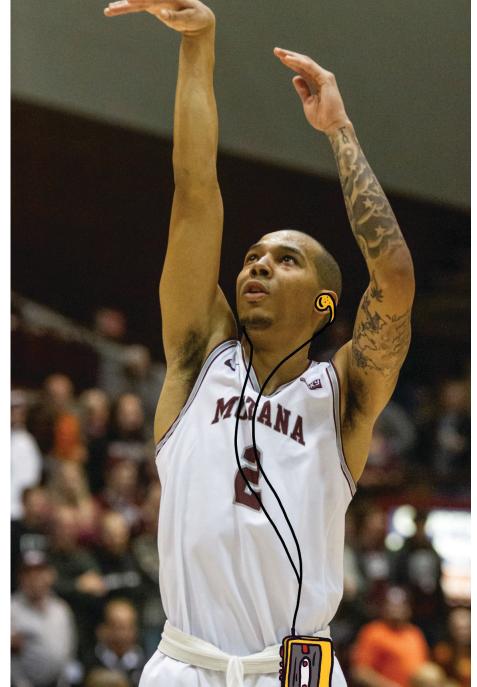
MICHAELA HOOD, SOFTBALL: "BLOWN AWAY" BY CARRIE UNDERWOOD

JM[.] This ace pitcher listed a few songs that she likes to listen to before a game, but she was timid to tell me this was one of them. I think that there has to be an athlete that listens to country music pregame at UM because well, it's Montana. I can totally get behind listening to Carrie Underwood, and this song is no exception. 7/10

MJ: Michaela, if you're reading this, let's be friends. Carrie Underwood, and this song in particular, slaps. Underwood really does have a different kind of energy and it makes total sense that this song would hype up a star like Hood. 8/10

AIDAN DIGGS, TRACK: "WORD ON THE STREETS" BY KEY GLOCK

JM[:] Unlike most of the upbeat hip-hop songs athletes told me they listened to, I had never actually heard this song. But I can definitely see how Diggs uses this song to get hyped up for the pole vault or another event in the decathlon. It has a pretty unique beat and I liked how Key Glock said he'd never put a



University of Montana senior guard Kendal Manuel shoots a free throw during the game against Eastern Washington University, Thursday Feb. 6, 2020. Manuel scored 18 points and had four rebounds and four assists for that game. DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN





girl before his mom. 8/10

actually listen to them. 7/10

MATTHEW O'DONOGHUE, FOOTBALL-"WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE" BY GUNS N' ROSES

JM: This fan-favorite long snapper said he can always get hyped while listening to GNR. My high school football team always warmed up to this song, so I can definitely see it's allure to O'Donoghue. But I've been to one too many football games where "Welcome to the Jungle" was played, so it's lost a little of its charm. 6/10

MJ: Another classic I totally love. The guitar,

MJ: I don't listen to rap lyrics 90% of the time. I mean, most of the time they're super disrespectful to women. They usually just make me annoyed, so it's better for everyone if I just focus on the general feeling of the song. This is a pretty typical rap song except for the lyrics, which I don't hate when I

drums and Axl Rose's raspy voice combine to make a rock hit. No matter how many times I hear this song, and it's been a lot, I don't get tired of it. 8/10

ASHLEY WARD, SOFTBALL: "ROLLOUT (MY **BUSINESS)**" BY LUDACRIS

JM: Ward was hesitant to tell me she listened to this song because it was explicit, but it is not different from a lot of the songs on this list. I feel like this song is a great team motivator because Ludacris often belts out "me and my homies roll out" on the track. If the song was a little shorter I might like it better because I heard "rollout" a little too much, but this is still a quality song. 7/10

MJ: Ludacris is hilarious. I don't know if it's on purpose, but listening to him always makes me smile because he's so goofy. This is a great song for team sports because it really is just about being with your homies. But it's still too long. 6/10

court as the Griz struggle to keep pace with Montana Tech during the second half of the game. The Griz had three turnovers in the last minute-and-a-half of the game. SARA DIGGINS | MONTANA KAIMIN RIGHT: Aidan Diggs in the Grizzly Hall of Champions at the Adams Center. CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN

TRAVIS DECUIRE, HEAD BASKETBALL COACH: "AMBITIONZ AZ A RIDAH" BY 2PAC

JM[:] Coach DeCurie told me that 2Pac was always the go-to back in his playing days. It's easy to imagine him pulling up his tall striped socks as he prepared for a game back in the '90s while listening to this song. This song is definitely a hip-hop classic and I feel like I'm ready to win a Big Sky Championship after listening to it. 9/10

MJ: I can always get hyped to 2Pac, and this is no exception. This song was released right after 2Pac was released from prison, and it sounds like he was on top of the world. It makes listeners feel like they're on top of the world too. 9/10

UM FOOTBALL ASSISTANT COACHES: "BRASS MONKEY" BY THE BEASTIE BOYS

JM: During football practice, the coaches take turns picking out music, so it varies between country, rock n' roll, old school rap and many other genres. There were some great songs played at practice on the particular day I heard Brass Monkey, including "Big Pimpin" by JAY-Z, but this was my favorite. It is a funky track, and I would listen to it before I wrote an article to get pumped up. 10/10

MJ[·] Full disclosure, I love the Beastie Boys. This isn't what I was expecting to be on a hype-up playlist, but it did more to get me hyped than any of the other songs on this list. When you combine the weirdness of this song with the beat, it really does the most. 10/10

Sports

A lonely campus following the COVID-19 outbreak

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During spring break, the population of students at the University of Montana shrank as most packed their suitcases to head home and finish their courses online. In the weeks that followed, the once crowded campus parking lots, where free spots were scarce, gradually became more empty.

As of Saturday, April 11, parking lot H, which has over a hundred parking spaces, had less than twenty cars parked in it. At nearby Pantzer Hall, a cold wind blew snow on a group of residence hall chairs stacked on the sidewalk. Nearby, a large dumpster held mattresses and wooden dressers from residence hall rooms, filling the container to the brim. With most of the halls now vacant, these items were trashed for renovation and sanitation purposes.

At the far end of parking lot H, freshman Ben Schwaller and his mother carried a couch from his room to load in a van. Schwaller left to go home to Kalispell shortly after in-person classes were canceled, but returned to campus to retrieve some items. Nearby, the frame of a bicycle remained locked to a bike post. Its wheels were gone, leaving the bike chain pooled in a clump on the concrete.

There was no bustle of students in the courtyard that intersects Miller, Duniway and Pantzer halls. No laughter or music could be heard from a dorm room. It was completely empty.





TOP: A bicycle, stripped of its wheels, remains locked to a post outside of Pantzer Hall. Since online classes started, a large number of bicycle thefts, not limited to the stealing of wheels and gears, have occurred on campus BOTTOM: University of Montana freshmen Ben Schwaller, right, and his mother Mona Cuthbert transport a couch from Schwaller's dorm room to their car. Shortly after online classes began in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, Schwaller left campus to live with is family in Kalispell, MT. He and his mom made a trip to Missoula on Saturday to retrieve a few of his valuables.