

MONTANA KAIMIN

KEEPING THEIR DISTANCE

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without a normal



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Cover photo
Daniel Duensing



The Montana Kaimin is a weekly independent student newspaper at the University of Montana. It does not condone or encourage any illegal activities. The Kaimin office and the University of Montana are located on land originally inhabited by the Salish People. Kaimin is a derivative of a Salish language word, "Qe'ymin," that is pronounced kay-MEEN and means "book," "message," or "paper that brings news."

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Approaching the end: Apart but not alone

A FEW DAYS AGO at 10 p.m., I sat on the phone with my partner, curled up in a blanket, petting my childhood cat and telling her about my plans for putting together the last Kaimin of the semester. We have this conversation every Sunday, usually in person, but this time it was different. This was the first time since COVID-19 canceled my daily routine, in-person classes, graduation and favorite parts of my life that it really hit me.

The last time I screamed in my car in Lot A because I couldn't find a parking spot was likely the last time I would come to campus. The last time I dragged my feet on my way to STAT 422, it was my last in-person class, ever. The

last time I sat down with my staff and told them, "this may be the last time we're all together," it was true.

These last times were bound to come. They were bound to come for all of us who thought they had time to say goodbye but didn't. But for the first time since coronavirus changed my life as a student, it hit me that I will never have the experiences I'd been imagining since I started at UM on Aug. 29, 2016.

There are hundreds of students at UM, like me, who will end their college careers without the ending we were promised. We don't get to walk across a stage and receive our diplomas, something that carries even more weight for students with a not-so-typical journey

like mine. We don't get to share that moment of accomplishment with our families and friends, many of whom were ready to travel hundreds of miles to be with us. We don't get to stand together, a UM family, who may not have all known one another, but somehow all made it to the same place.

Every day I think about how much I wish I could eat one more UC Market bagel, or read a book on the Oval or pick up the last issue of the Kaimin. For all of the seniors who are approaching the end, it's personal in its own way. The thing is, it's hard to explain what it feels like to be ready for one chapter of your life to be over while feeling frustrated you can't read the last few pages.

It isn't anyone's fault

that this happened, and there's nothing that can be done to fix it. UM's administration will try to give us an almost-ceremony, but it won't be the same. For those of you who are angry or frustrated or sad, you should be. We deserved better.

In a way, this letter is my goodbye. This paper is the goodbye of the seniors on my staff who thought there would be more. It's not what we hoped for, but it's what we have left. As you try to find your own way to say goodbye, know that we're here. We may be apart, but we're not alone.

CASSIDY ALEXANDER
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Forgive renters now and later

UM Housing has halved its vacate notice. Unemployment has skyrocketed. Class has been canceled. Thankfully, our noble Governor has suspended evictions, in a surprising turn after closing our places of employment and thus suspending our incomes for the well-being of our communities. Which was another surprising turn; given that it involved the well-being of our communities. Thankfully, due to these courageous and charitable actions, we've gone from living month-to-month to living a different-month-to-a-different-month.

Without rent forgiveness in the face of this pandemic, the students and working people of our community have simply been happily informed that the letterbomb they had been waiting to receive will be arriving later than anticipated. An entire community who have lost their incomes cannot be expected to procure said lost income out of thin air when the first of the month appears, be they out of work magicians or not. Even without the threat of eviction hanging over our heads, debts to landlords and utility companies will accrue on people who were struggling, by no fault of their own, to make a single month's rent in the first place. There is nothing to stop them from milking us, hand over fist, the moment the moratorium is lifted. For the common cow, this is an average day. For the common human being, this is not.

Well, come to think of it, for the common human living in the United States presently, it isn't too far out of the ordinary. Thankfully our federal stimulus checks are creeping in at glacial pace, and when they get here we might have enough to buy some groceries.

Dearest Landlords: if you're worried about rent not being paid, I hear the grocery stores are hiring.

We'll see you there and we can discuss our leases.

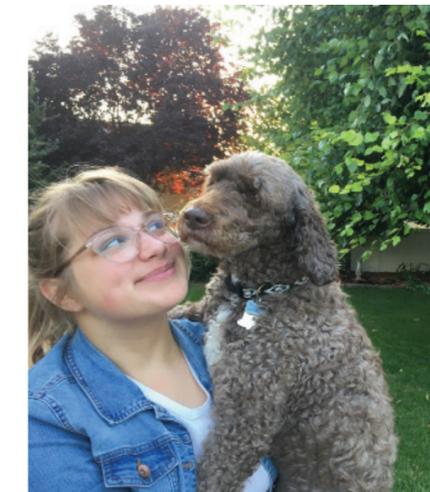
BY TYSON GERHEART

MEET THE 2020-2021 KAIMIN LEADERS



ERIN SARGENT, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
SENIOR, JOURNALISM

I'm a Montana native and I've been lucky enough to call Missoula home for the past three years. I've loved working here at the paper ever since I was hired as a news reporter, throughout all of my time working as the Arts & Culture Editor, and here now finishing off my college experience by leading the Kaimin. I'm passionate about keeping our work student-focused and reporting on what matters to you, our readers, whether that's reporting on the University of Montana administration, our new favorite local band, or the countless student-led projects all around campus. The Kaimin works to cover our campus and our community. And I'm excited to get started.



CASSIE WILLIAMS, BUSINESS MANAGER
JUNIOR, POLITICAL SCIENCE

I moved to Missoula at the beginning of this year and have loved getting to know the area. I am passionate about being involved in my local community, so I am very appreciative of the opportunity to work for the Montana Kaimin. As the Business Manager, my vision is to foster employee passion and dedication, connect and unite the student body and increase reader engagement throughout the broader Missoula area. My academic interests include understanding how communities function and exploring the intersection between economics and public policy. In my free time, you can find me at the piano, in my garden, or playing with my cats. I look forward to collaborating with my team at the Kaimin to deliver an excellent year of local news coverage.

CLASS OF 2020
Congratulations on earning your degree.
And to all UM students, especially our J-School crew, we're proud of you for making it through the semester.
See you in the Fall!
School of Journalism

CLASSIFIEDS

COMMUNITY



ANYONE INTERESTED in in-depth Bible lessons, heart-felt contemporary worship songs, and weekly communions — all packed into a 1 1/2-hour service (10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

We are Echo, a new-start church, 20 to 25 strong, meeting every Sunday morning at City Life, 1515 Fairview Ave. (behind Montana Club on Brooks). Check us out — hot coffee and a warm welcome await you!

Contact: Pastor Don Partain at donpartain49@gmail.com

HELP WANTED

Cheap Charley's Mini Storage now hiring: customer service, maintenance, truck rentals, indoor-outdoor position. Job description and application available in the office at 6400 Kestrel Ct, MSLA-8, (406) 721-7277

Summer job opportunity at Wind River Canyon Whitewater. Located in Thermopolis, WY. Looking for outdoor enthusiastic employees for our whitewater and fly-fishing guide staffs.

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FOR RENT

Cheap Charley's Mini Storage, Griz Discount: Option 1) Full month free with 3 months up front. Option 2) 5% Griz Discount off regular price with Free signup fee! Moving truck rentals also available. (406) 721-7277



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4/11 A BURGLAR'S BLUNDER

A resident in Rimini Courts left their house for 24 hours and returned to scrapes and dents on their door where someone seemed to have unsuccessfully tried breaking in. UMPD was not able to locate the lousy looter.

4/13 INDISCREET DESTRUCTION

A rock flew through a window of the UC, shattering it with precision and power. The rocket-armed rock launcher's escape was foiled as UMPD caught up with them. The delinquent was cited for criminal mischief and trespassing.

4/15 UNAPOLOGETICALLY PRODUCTIVE

A resident of Helena Court reported a noise disturbance late at night, the sound of power tools were keeping them awake. UMPD was unable to hear the power tools or locate the restless worker making the most of the stay-at-home order.



HUNDREDS IN HELENA PROTEST COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Around 600 people gathered outside the Capitol building in Helena on Sunday, April 19 to protest Gov. Steve Bullock's stay-at-home order and COVID-19 restrictions, according to KRTV MTN News. Many protesters at the "Montana Liberty Rally" said the restrictions infringe on their constitutional rights. Several people brandished flags and signs with statements like "freedom not fear," "all work is essential" and "open up now." According to reporting from the Helena Independent Record, Helena Police Chief Steve Hagen said he didn't believe everyone at the rally practiced social distancing, but none of the rally participants were cited. (MAZANA BOERBOOM)

BULLOCK ANNOUNCES CONDITIONS REQUIRED FOR 'PHASED REOPENING' AFTER APRIL 24

Gov. Steve Bullock announced April 17 that he and a Coronavirus Relief Task Force are formulating a tentative plan to reopen the state in phases after his stay-at-home directive expires April 24. "We have flattened the curve and we have saved lives," Bullock stated in an email. "Because we acted early with input from public health and emergency response experts, Montana has a significantly lower rate of infection per capita than many of states that did not act as aggressively." Bullock listed three conditions that must be in place for a reopening to occur. There must first be "a sustained reduction of new cases" in Montana for at least two weeks. In addition, hospitals must be equipped to treat all new patients, including those who have not contracted COVID-19. Last, state and local public health officials must be able to test all Montanans with symptoms of the virus and "conduct active monitoring of newly confirmed cases and their contacts," Bullock stated. (HELENA DORE)

MONTANA INMATES MAKE PPE FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

In an effort to help, inmate workers at the Montana Department of Corrections have been commissioned to make Personal Protective Equipment for healthcare workers.

As of April 17, they have created around 5,300 cloth masks, 1,400 face shields, 350 shoe covers, 350 head covers, 400 gowns and 300 mask covers, according to a press release. As of April 20, there are 40 positive cases of COVID-19 with 26 recoveries and one death in Missoula County. In the entire state, there have been 433 confirmed cases, 243 recoveries and 10 deaths from the virus. The Missoula City-County Health Board passed a face cloth recommendation on April 16 to protect essential workers and the public who come into contact with each other. The Health Board hopes this recommendation will be widely accepted, but wearing a face mask is not a requirement. (DANIEL DUENSING)

MEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYER CAMERON PARKS TRANSFERS TO UM

Former Sacred Heart University guard Cameron Parker announced on April 18 he is transferring to play for UM. During the 2019-2020 season at Sacred Heart, Parker broke the NCAA record for assists in a game with 24 assists. He also had 16 assists in a different game, which was tied for second-highest in the NCAA in 2019. Parker is the second transfer to commit to Montana Men's basketball in 2020. Northern Arizona guard Cameron Satterwhite committed to UM on April 1. Satterwhite will be immediately eligible to play for UM because he is a grad transfer. It is unknown whether Parker will have to sit out for a season. (JACK MARSHALL)

UM LAUNCHES INITIATIVE TO HELP SMALL BUSINESSES RECOVER

The University of Montana's Business Emergency Assistance and Recovery (B.E.A.R.) Initiative is connecting small businesses across Montana to the individuals, programs and organizations that can help them during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Missoula Small Business Development Center at UM is helping businesses access loans through the Small Business Administration or CARES Act. The Blackstone LaunchPad and Accelerate Montana Rural Innovation Initiative are also offering webinars and coaching sessions. So far, 25 businesses have used the B.E.A.R. Initiative program, according to an email sent to UM employees on April 20. (SYDNEY AKRIDGE)

M TRAIL ASSAULT UPDATE

The mother of two who survived an attack on the M Trail April 10th is receiving treatment at a Salt Lake City hospital. A Gofundme started to cover the cost of her injuries with a goal of \$45,000 passed \$50,000 April 20. Missoula prosecutors charged Jared Robert Kuntz with multiple felonies for as-

sault after he allegedly attacked the woman, her son and two other hikers on the M Trail. Kuntz was booked into Missoula County Jail April 19 after receiving treatment for two stab wounds. Kuntz' brother, Jacob Kuntz, published a message on Facebook April 14. He wrote that he and his family witnessed Kuntz's mental health deteriorated during the month prior and called the Missoula Probation and Parole and Missoula police office to report his behavior. He also said he offered to drive his brother to the ER for mental health treatment, and he refused. "Our hearts go out to all the victims, their families, friends and the community of Missoula, MT for this truly senseless tragedy that could have been avoided," he wrote. (PAUL HAMBY)

HOUSING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR MT FAMILIES

Some families who have suffered substantial financial hardship from COVID-19 are eligible for rental and security deposit assistance, Montana Public Radio reported. Applicants must have at least one child under the age of 18 and a substantial loss of income. The Montana Department of Commerce said applications should be reviewed within 5 to 10 days and once approved, the rental payment or deposit will be paid directly to the applicant's landlord. Gov. Steve Bullock prohibited landlords from evicting tenants earlier this month but the Montana Landlord Association is working to overturn the directive. (CASSIDY ALEXANDER)

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION UNCERTAIN

A federal judge canceled a key permit for the Keystone XL pipeline on April 15, but the ruling does not shut down work already in progress at the U.S.-Canada border crossing in Montana, the Associated Press reported. The hearing was part of an ongoing lawsuit the Fort Belknap Native community and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe brought against TC Energy and President Donald Trump. The tribes say the pipeline, which is expected to stretch 1,200 miles from Canada to Nebraska, violates historic land rights and could bring coronavirus into the area with an influx of workers. The project to build the pipeline began less than two weeks ago and Judge Brian Morris of Great Falls said he will make a judgment about the pipeline's construction in due time. (CASSIDY ALEXANDER)

UM responds to Zoom security concerns



LINDSEY SEWELL | MONTANA KAIMIN

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Zoom, the group meeting software used for UM classes, clinics and meetings, is raising security concerns, according to UM's chief information officer.

UM has relied on Zoom for remote classes during the COVID-19 pandemic. CIO Renae Scott said she sent the April 8 email in response to concerns from faculty and articles about security issues, as well as Zoombombing — when trolls disrupt meetings with graphic content.

The number of daily users on Zoom grew to more than 200 million last month compared to the former maximum total of 10 million, according to Reuters. As the service has experienced increased use in schools at all levels, it has received numerous reports of intruders disrupting classes and meetings, the Washington Post reported. Some school districts have banned the service, including the New York City

Department of Education. Scott said she had not heard of any cases of Zoombombing at UM.

UM has subscribed to Zoom's enterprise version for at least three years, which has several features the free version doesn't, according to Scott. These include encrypting the data transmitted, giving users the option to record meetings and requiring participants to sign in with their Net ID.

Scott recommends hosts use passwords for meetings, share links sparingly and use the virtual waiting room feature, where participants must wait for the host's permission to join a meeting. The FBI's Boston office additionally recommends restricting screen sharing to just the host and ensuring users have the updated version, which has better security.

Zoom's iOS app also sent analytics data to Facebook without addressing it in the privacy policy, according to analysis from the website Motherboard. The app sent

Facebook information like the user's city, device, carrier and a unique advertiser identifier. Zoom updated the app to stop sending the data last month, and it now faces a class action lawsuit regarding the matter, Bloomberg reported.

UM can view aggregate data about the number of meetings and number of users on Zoom in a day, but nothing about individual users, according to Scott. She said the service does not share individual information as far as the University is aware.

The University also has access to a HIPPA-compliant version of Zoom, according to Jonathan Neff, director of IT for the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences. He said clinics on campus like the UM Physical Therapy Clinic and the DeWit RiteCare Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic use the service to contact patients.

Curry Health Center started using the newer version of Zoom for appointments on March 23 and has seven users, accord-

ing to Medical Director Jeff Adams.

HIPPA, a federal law protecting patient privacy, requires data to be encrypted in transit and in storage, among other conditions, according to Neff. To comply with HIPPA, this version of Zoom has certain settings to prevent the company from accessing the personal health information it transmits, according to the company's website. These include not allowing recording to the cloud, Neff said.

Neff said faculty who need access to this version submit a request to him. The next time they log in, the service asks to confirm that they want to switch. From then on, they can use the HIPPA-compliant version. The college has about 75 users on this version, Neff said.

UM announced April 8 it would move all in-person summer classes to remote instruction over Zoom, the Kaimin reported. It had not yet decided whether fall classes would be remote or in person.

COVID-19 closures push climate change activism online

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A student-run campaign to cut the University of Montana's energy consumption by more than a third is inching forward after the global COVID-19 pandemic pushed activism online.

"One thing COVID-19 is going to tell us is if you ignore science, people die," said Melody Hollar, student activist and president of the UM Climate Response club.

Two weeks before classes went online, Hollar was tabling on campus to spread the word about a campaign she's spearheading with fellow club members called, "35% Less Energy By 2025." The campaign aims to reduce energy consumption on campus in order to fight climate change.

More than 300 signatures have been gathered in support of the goal so far, but Hollar said she does get pushback.

"The bigger challenge is the title isn't exactly sexy. Because it's small, it's palatable to the administration, but maybe not to the people who want everything to change right now," Hollar said. "Everything does need to change. It's just, can we actually do that?"

Although the request is less daunting than eliminating all UM's fossil fuel consumption or forbidding the use of plastic, it's still ambitious. Accomplishing such an energy reduction goal could take millions of dollars, according to UM Sustainability Coordinator Eva Rocke.

On Sept. 5, 2019, UM completed a successful bond sale of \$146.8 million. The bond sale generated approximately \$63 million, which UM's administration intends to invest in student-serving infrastructure.

Campaigners for 35% Less Energy By 2025 aim to pivot that money toward their goal.

Last fiscal year, UM spent about \$4 million on energy at the Missoula campus. Electricity and natural gas were the energy sources used.

According to Brian Kerns, an engineer from Facility Services, the University spent about \$837,000 on natural gas to heat buildings with steam during the 2019 fiscal year. Over three times as much (about \$3 million) was spent on electricity to power other facilities.

The carbon cost of the University's energy consumption during the 2019 fiscal year was approximately 23,500 metric tons of CO₂, according to an ASUM senate bill. That's equivalent to the carbon emitted from 5,000 vehicles driven over a year or about 300 tanker trucks' worth of gasoline, according to the EPA Greenhouse Gas Equivalency calculator.

UM's options are limited when it comes to decreasing its carbon footprint via energy consumption.

The University is a NorthWestern Energy customer by default due to a 1998 state legislative decision that gave UM a one-time opportunity to choose how it would purchase electricity. Now, the University can't purchase electricity from any company other than NorthWestern. This leaves the University with little authority over how the energy it consumes is produced, and UM can't know whether it is consuming coal, natural gas or solar energy.

"Until that status changes, the levers we have for changing what type of power we use and how much are limited. We can either reduce our energy use on campus or build energy projects on campus, but we can't buy electricity from other places," Rocke said.

Overall, Rocke said two-thirds of UM's greenhouse gas emissions come from energy consumption – that's everything from plugged-in iMacs to ventilation systems. The remaining third of emissions come from other sources, like campus transportation, lawn fertilizer and waste management.

According to Rocke, UM lacks the data to understand how individual buildings' energy systems perform. When people fiddle with thermostats, leave windows open or even change lightbulbs, energy systems become less efficient.

"We don't have enough staff to monitor building performance. There's a lot of potential to miss something," Rocke said.

Because of its inability to monitor energy consumption in buildings, unknown inefficiencies could be costing UM money and contributing to the global carbon budget.

"If we really want to meet aggressive goal setting and cap our emissions when we start Fiscal Year 2021, we would have to potentially invest millions in our buildings. That's significant, and it's hard to compete with other things we have to spend money on," Rocke said.

The Associated Students of the University of Montana is now involved in 35% Less Energy By 2020. During a Zoom meeting on April 1, the student senate unanimously passed a resolution endorsing the initiative.

Noah Durnell, an ASUM senator who co-sponsored the resolution, said the next step for the campaign's supporters will be to meet with administrators and advocate for the bond sale money to go toward energy conservation. Durnell said activism and ASUM support can not finalize UM's financial campus commitments alone.



The University of Montana's central heating plant uses steam from natural gas to heat buildings on campus. GENEVA ZOLTEK | MONTANA KAIMIN

"It's the admin's decision whether it becomes practice or not," Durnell said.

Durnell also said the novel coronavirus has complicated the initiative's progress.

"Initiatives on campus have been on the back-burner because COVID-19 needs to take precedence," Durnell said. "As soon as the pandemic slows down, I want to see this initiative taken up at a quick pace."

While campus is adjusting to the new paradigm of social distancing and online learning, the administration is not ignoring the continuing pressure to become more sustainable.

At a Sustainability Campus Committee Zoom meeting April 13, Rocke announced about \$200,000 will be spent for a partnering engineering firm to assess building efficiency — a step forward in uncovering unknowns



TOP: University of Montana junior Melody Hollar stands next to the Griz statue on the Oval with a campaign sign for "35% Less Energy By 2025." Hollar tabled there for the first two weeks of March collecting signatures.



surrounding energy use on campus.

McKinstry, the Seattle-based firm, will be paid to perform an energy audit on campus over the summer. That analysis will include recommendations to increase energy efficiency with estimated savings in UM's budget. McKinstry has worked with the University of Washington and University of Idaho on other energy efficiency projects.

Rocke later said via email that UM administrators weren't ready to confirm specific costs prematurely, and will have a more precise number by the end of the summer.

UM Vice President Paul Lasiter declined to comment on the feasibility of the student-proposed energy goal or how it would be weighed against other financial priorities. As for Hollar and the other Climate Response



Club members, the COVID-19 outbreak has put signature gathering and face-to-face activism to a defining halt.

"I'm bummed out. I was just starting to get strength to the movement. Then COVID-19 happened and everything went online. Now I feel like I have to completely change my tactics," Hollar said.

However, Hollar is optimistic and is work-

BOTTOM LEFT: Climate Response Club president Melody Hollar tables in Eck Hall to gather signatures for the "35% Less Energy By 2025" campaign.

BOTTOM RIGHT: A whiteboard set up in the University Center by the Climate Response Club, of which Hollar is president, polls students on their conservation priorities.

KEEPING THEIR DISTANCE

Missoulians try to find a new normal in a world without a normal

The Montana Kaimin asked our photographers to capture life at a distance. At a time when we are hardly asked to step out of our homes, these are the new moments created by COVID-19.



A message of encouragement on the Roxy Theater billboard, early April 2020. The Roxy was scheduled to preview 75 films as part of the International Wildlife Film Festival, which will now be held online, April 18 to 25. **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Victor Mendoza, left, and Miguel Angel Olivas, right, wait to take orders at the El Cazador food truck located on West Front Street, Saturday, April 18. Since the El Cazador dine-in restaurant shut down because of the COVID-19 outbreak, the business took to the streets by serving customers out of a food truck. Olivas, a graduate student at the University of Montana, was saddened all his theater performances for spring semester got canceled. To help pay his bills, Olivas, who has worked in the food truck before, happily took the gig when his boss Alfredo Hernandez offered him a position. "I was full of anxiety because I didn't know how I was going to pay rent," Olivas said. "With that said, I'm thankful for Alfredo opening the doors for allowing me to come back to work. The stimulus [check] helped me and the taxes did too, but with the popularity that's been given to us with what we're doing and how we're doing it, people have been coming out more." **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Two people drive through Missoula with face masks during the Corona Virus pandemic. **EMMA SMITH | MONTANA KAIMIN**

Taylor Coon takes a break from reading to, from a safe distance of about six feet, chat with her study partner Miranda at the University of Montana oval, April 20th 2020. **QUINN CORCORAN | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Roommates Sarah Boggs and Hunter Dow chat outside the Rhino. The Rhinoceros, a local Missoula bar nicknamed "The Rhino," remains open during the Corona Virus pandemic. Patrons can order and receive drinks through the front door. **EMMA SMITH | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Big Dipper has its seating boarded up and no line during the COVID-19 pandemic. **SAVANNAH STANHOPE | MONTANA KAIMIN**



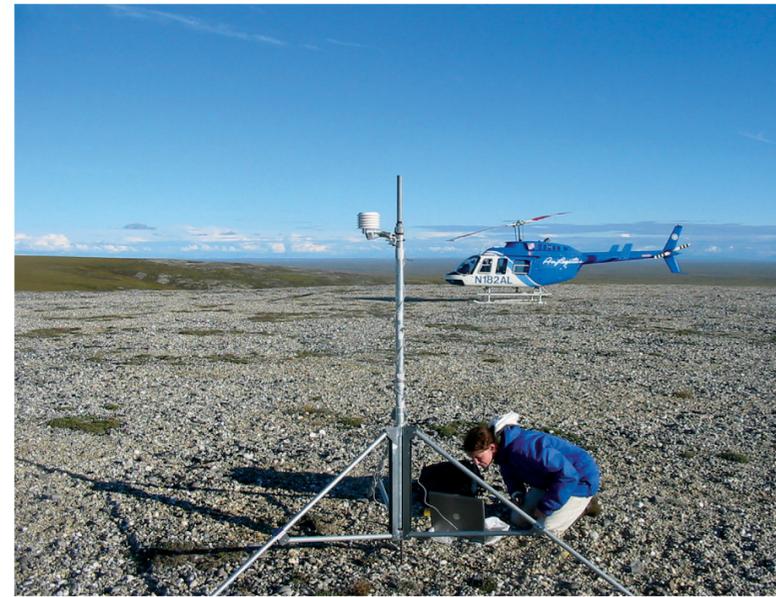
TOP: Pie Hole employee Josh Park loads a to-go pizza box with a supreme styled pizza, Saturday afternoon, April 18. Since all non-essential businesses were closed down in late march due to the COVID-19 outbreak, restaurants like Pie Hole have been providing curbside delivery. Like Park, employees at restaurant chains are taking precautions against the spread of the virus by wearing face masks. **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**



University of Montana Dining worker Janyce wears a bandana as a face mask at The Market, inside the University Center, Monday afternoon, April 20. Janyce said although The Market has been less busy, students and staff still stop in to shop. "There's still about 95 students on campus, so they still come over and they have their meal plans to do a lot of grocery shopping," Janyce said. "There still a lot of faculty on campus that will still come in for their coffee." **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**



LEFT: University of Montana sophomore Austin Wald stands on an empty sidewalk outside Mountain Tai Sushi on Higgins Avenue, Saturday April 18. Like many Missoulians, Wald ordered a take-out meal for lunch as dine-in restaurants are closed in Montana due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The last few weeks have not been easy for Wald. He temporarily lost his job as a massage therapist because he was deemed a non-essential worker.



University of Montana geography professor Anna Klene studies the effects of climate change on the permafrost of Alaska during one of her summer research trips. CONTRIBUTED | ANNA KLENE

Professors grapple with uncertain sabbatical and research plans

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University of Montana professors awarded sabbatical are expected to decide if they would like to postpone, cancel or keep their plans for the coming year by Friday, April 24.

"The uncertainty gets to all of us," said economics professor Jeff Bookwalter. Bookwalter was awarded a full year of sabbatical for the 2020-2021 school year. He was excited to move to Washington D.C. with his wife and kids to be a visiting professor at the Catholic University of America and do research with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

He said his family worked hard to make sure they could take the sabbatical year together, Bookwalter's wife found a job in D.C., and they were ready to enroll the kids in school there. But now they're not sure if they still have jobs for the following semester.

He thinks in a month there might be some more clarity. But, then again, he said he would have said the same thing a month ago.

If everything goes as planned he'll be able to study the way foreign economic aid flows through USAID to less developed countries and its impact on things like infant mortality rates and happiness.

He is excited by the prospect of studying something that's been

mostly untouched. He said sabbaticals are an incredible opportunity to do interesting and intensive research that can be brought back and shared with UM students.

When he let the Provost's office know his decision on an online form, he chose the "other" checkbox and explained his situation. He could not decide if he was deferring or keeping his plans.

If he had to definitively choose one option or the other, he doesn't know what he would pick, Bookwalter said. On one hand, he'd hate the waste of a sabbatical if he were forced to stay in Missoula. He would also be devastated to learn the job was still waiting for him, but he couldn't go anymore.

Much like Bookwalter, Professor Anna Klene is unsure about her upcoming research plans. Klene is a geography professor finishing up her sabbatical year now. She was lucky enough to make it to a conference in New Zealand in December, just months before most travel was restricted.

The conference was the first one held in the southern hemisphere about permafrost, ground that is perennially frozen. Permafrost is her research focus, and she and her colleagues take students from multiple universities to Alaska every summer to study it. The project, called the Circumpolar Active Layer Monitoring (CALM) program, is in its 25th year. They research the effect of climate

change on the upper layer above the permafrost. But, Klene isn't sure if the trip will happen in 2020.

Klene said most travel or research plans for May and June have been canceled. They're still planning and preparing to go to Alaska in August, but they don't know if it will pan out.

"We're assuming the regulations will ease at some point this summer, but we don't know when that will be," Klene said.

She's hoping to make things work for the sake of the students who depend on the permafrost research done in Alaska. But the logistics are difficult. Anyone traveling to Alaska has to follow guidelines such as quarantining for two weeks before going out anywhere.

Each university that participates in the research also has its own regulations around travel they need to follow. It could get expensive and difficult to follow all of the guidelines. Klene hopes there will be reliable testing for the virus developed soon so that could help them get into Alaska.

Klene is grateful her project wasn't one of the ones in May or June that was outright canceled. She's sure there are a lot of professors dealing with more stress around canceled plans than herself. She said she feels lucky to be in Missoula, where she feels relatively safe, but it's still stressful worrying about friends' and family's health.

Nature indoors: International Wildlife Film Festival moves online



COURTESY OF FILM FREEWAY

CLINT CONNORS
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Carrie Richer, had just a few weeks to move 75 International Wildlife Film Festival films from the Roxy Theatre to online streaming.

Richer, the festival's artistic director, and the rest of the team heard of the damage the novel coronavirus was doing in Italy when they decided to completely change course in March. By then, a finalized brochure was ready to print and plane ticket commitments were already made.

"It turned out to be the right call," she said. "But it was a nerve-racking few days."

The festival is now scheduled to screen films online from April 18 to April 25.

"We're a little nervous because this is not what we do," Richer said. "But I think we're excited to try something new."

Of the films, 54 will be available to the public for free. The other 21, including the Sundance selection "Tigerland," will be available with the purchase of a virtual pass.

The pass will also provide access to live Q&As, special events and other additional features.

The festival will group many of these films and events with a specific theme in mind. April 20, or 4/20, as Richer pointed out, will be devoted to learning about mushrooms.

April 22 will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day with selections from

the festival's previous years, as well as new selections. According to the festival's press release, there will be a Q&A with Tom Mustill, director of the Greta Thunberg-centered short, "#Naturenow," that same day.

Richer said giving virtual passes a sliding price, which starts at \$5, will allow students and educators who are "in a weird boat right now" to have easy access to the films.

The Youth Matinees, blocks consisting of films to be viewed in an educational context, will not be part of this year's festivities like usual.

The festival's website instead includes a list of films that students can view, sorted by grade-level. Additional educational materials will also be added.

The Youth Matinees were not the only activities to be canceled. A dress-up parade and a presentation about wildfires have been postponed as well. The annual, week-long filmmaker training program, IWFF LABS, has also been delayed.

And 11 films originally scheduled to appear in the festival couldn't make the transition online.

Richer said the new format was challenging for filmmakers who are hoping to get their work noticed by distributors. Having movies be easily accessible online and for a low cost, she said, would normally jeopardize their chances of getting a theatrical release or a streaming deal.

She said, however, that the filmmakers, including those who could not make their

projects available remotely, were largely supportive. The sponsors were also cooperative, she said, despite not getting the exposure that a theater setting would provide.

"The pandemic has made everybody sort of gather around and think out of the box," she said. The International Wildlife Film Festival was founded in 1977 at the University of Montana.

Richer started her role as artistic director in 2018. She moved from Jackson Hole, Wyoming, where she had previously done film festival work, to be a part of this festival's legacy.

"I really, really was inspired by the job of running a 43-year old film festival," she said. "Which is a pretty big deal in Film Festival Land."

Richer said that the festival takes scientific accuracy and ethicality very seriously when selecting films. That's why, she said, professors and graduate students from UM's wildlife biology department are heavily involved in the judging process.

The artistic director said she kept thinking about the animated short "See Animals," which has a twist ending that comments on viewing the world through our screens.

"It just stands out to me right now because it kind of feels like that's where we're at," she said.

Richer said she and the rest of the staff will try to push through any challenges the new online format brings.

"Hopefully it provides enough meaning-

ful experiences for people," she said. "[It] kind of feels better to try something new than just to shut it all down."

For more information about this year's International Wildlife Film Festival, as well as where you can stream films, visit wildlifefilms.org.

MANSFIELD DIALOGUES

Friday, April 24, Live @ 12

umt.edu/mansfield

Addressing Racism in a Time of Pandemic

Moderated by **Deena Mansour**, Executive Director of the Mansfield Center
UM President **Seth Bodnar** on UM's commitment to addressing bias
Anonymous stories of bias from **Missoula community members**
Helen Zia, renowned author and activist for Asian-American rights
Dr. Terry Weidner on anti-foreigner sentiment in China
Dr. Tobin Miller Shearer on actions we can take to fight discrimination

The daughter of immigrants from China, Helen Zia has been outspoken on issues ranging from human rights and peace to women's rights and countering hate, violence and homophobia. Featured in the Academy Award nominated documentary, *Who Killed Vincent Chin?*, her book, *Last Boat out of Shanghai*, is national PEN America award finalist.



ASUM ELECTIONS ARE NEXT WEEK!

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TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR UM EXPERIENCE

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



COVID COUNSELING

Advice for online therapy

SERENA PALMER
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I'M 23 AND BACK at my parents' house. Which isn't so bad. I alternate between old woman activities and preteen ones – from knitting (potholders, mostly, thanks for asking), to scrapbooking, to TikTok dances and PlayStation. Anything to distract myself from family drama, my canceled graduation ceremony and the thousands of dollars of debt I have from a study abroad semester cut short.

But some days I don't need a distraction, I need guidance.

I've always been an advocate for talk therapy at any stage in life. Whether for self-growth or simply to talk something out with an unbiased third-party.

So when I learned Curry Health was doing online counseling sessions for the rest of the semester, I decided to give it a shot. I hope this article gives you some of the tools you need (therapy language) to try it out for yourself!

THE PROCESS

The Curry receptionist, Mary Ann, still works from the office to answer phones, so call (406) 243-4712 to schedule your virtual appointment. She can tell you who you've seen at Curry before, if anyone, and how many sessions you have left. Each session is still \$25, and it gets charged to your student account, so no need to pay it right away. She scheduled me for the very next morning, I picked an intern I hadn't met before.

Before your session, you'll be asked to fill out the regular mental health screening questionnaire on the Curry Health portal and an online consent form. As a precaution, you'll write the address of your current location and the address of the nearest emergency center.

Right after scheduling, you'll get an email from Curry with the link to the appointment. It was my first time using Zoom, so I had to download it to my computer, which only took a few seconds. Note that it's not necessarily a replacement for in-person counseling and not the right option if you need emergency care.

THE SESSION

I got lucky with my therapist – she had read my notes from the previous several years with various counselors at Curry, so she knew a bit about my personality and my past struggles. I

didn't have any pressing issues at the time of the session, but we ended up talking about how this was a time of recovery for me. I had just gone through many intense life changes, like moving across the globe and back to my parents' house for the first time in years, and now I have to deal with a lot of uncertainty, like not knowing when I'll be able to see my long-distance partner again.

The truth is, everyone needs something different from therapy, and it's OK if you don't know what that is. I needed a reminder to be more self-compassionate during this time. It's OK to mourn my losses, have bad days and spend hours playing video games. My session also helped me realize I needed to cut back on certain social media travel accounts, because it was only triggering sadness and anger about my study abroad experience cut short.

My therapist also told me I should be proud of myself for simply having a therapy session. It shows that I care about bettering myself and that I made my health a priority. If you're considering therapy, I hope you know that it's a huge accomplishment that takes strength and courage – kudos!

MY TIPS

1. Dedicate a well-lit space for the session. If you can, avoid sitting in your bed or around other family members. The therapist will also ask to choose a code word – so they know if your privacy has been compromised.

2. Take it seriously. Before my session, I acted as if I was really going out for counseling. I showered, brushed my teeth and got dressed. The act of hygiene and self-care is worth it. You're putting 50 minutes of time into just focusing on yourself. Treat it like an important meeting, because it is important and so are you!

3. Test your Wi-fi. If possible, call a friend or family member on Zoom before your session just to make sure the connection works in your counseling spot.

4. Bring stuff. Eye contact with a computer screen can be slightly awkward, so I made a mug of tea to hold during our session so I had something else to focus on occasionally. If there's an item that helps you relax like a hot drink, fidget spinner or notebook for doodling, bring it! I also set my phone aside so I wouldn't be distracted.

5. Take control. This goes for all types of



LINDSEY SEWELL | MONTANA KAIMIN

therapy. If you have a specific issue you'd like to discuss, or a problem you need to solve, be proactive and guide your therapist. This is your session, and you should feel empowered to lead it wherever you want it to go.

6. Manage expectations. Our session froze a few times, which is slightly horrifying when you're trying to spill your deepest feelings and suddenly this stranger's goofy face is stuck on your screen for ages. It won't be perfect, so take it with a grain of salt. It's also OK if you simply didn't like it. Maybe you didn't click with your therapist, or maybe it's just too awkward through a screen. Commend yourself for trying, and find other outlets.

7. Apply for the emergency fund if you can't afford the \$25 counseling fee. I haven't tried this tip myself, but mental health is essential, so I'd hope that the University would try to work with you, especially during these isolating times.

Although I look forward to face-to-face therapy again, I have a feeling the days of quarantine will see me making another appointment someday soon, if I can fit it into my busy, busy schedule.

Curry will continue to offer online counseling services throughout the summer to students who were enrolled in spring, 2020. Sessions are \$45 each, or \$25 if you are enrolled in at least one summer semester credit.

Welcome to 4/20: Everything is a meme

Jumps off of platform and lands behind you Hello there.

This April, it's 4/20 all month. You're probably feeling a little dank, no? The Kaimin is here to help you decide which meme, old or new, you are.

Don't let your horoscopes be dreams, or something like that.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): VINES

"Hi, welcome to Chili's." At least, that's what you could be saying if you could go back to work. Instead, you're stuck at home with lipstick on your Valentino white bag and not enough money for chicken nuggets. And you can't be expected to complete your homework. You're 19 and you never fucking learned how to read.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): DOGE

coronavirus wow so deadly stuck @ home when go back? miss frndz mom & dad craz you worried send help 2020 stinks.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): THE FALLEN HEROES

We know self-quarantine has left you feeling dead, but you've got to get our ass out of bed. At least drag yourself to the keyboard, and press F to pay respect for these late icons: Tardar Sauce (a.k.a. Grumpy Cat), Stefán Karl Stefánsson (a.k.a. Robbie Rotten from "Lazy Town") and Harambe (a.k.a. Our Lord and Savior).

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): BABY YODA

You're waiting. Waiting with those longing eyes for someone to like that picture you posted of yourself and your dog living #QuarantineLife. You couldn't have been the only one who thought it was funny, but also lowkey topical, right? Oh, it's been 12 seconds. Better check the likes again.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEP. 22): AREA 51

You WILL go on that jog today. It's time to stop putting it off and be assertive, like the raiders of Area 51. Oh, wait. Only 150 people showed up to that. Well, it wouldn't hurt to wait one more day...

LIBRA (SEP. 23-OCT. 22): FLEX TAPE

Phil Swift may be able to stop leaks fast, but he can't seem to stop you from looking at that sixth package of Oreos. Your brain is thinking back to those first five you obliterated and saying, "That's a lot of damage!" But your stomach's protesting, "How 'bout a little more?"

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): SMASH MOUTH

Somebody once told you COVID-19 would roll you, so you stored paper towels in your shed. But now Walmart's out of stock. We bet you feel like cock, so ease off and don't let the fear spread.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 22): TIKTOK

Hit or miss. I guess you never miss, huh? The whole multi-screen thing on Zoom has been great for socializing after class. Now you and your friends can finally get back to singing along to TikTok songs off-key... within 40 minutes of course.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23-JAN. 19): "FORTNITE"

With all of this free time, you can finally learn those sick dance moves the cool kids are doing. You'll be a master at the floss, the Carlton and...wait. Did "Fortnite" steal your signature dance move of awkwardly pumping your arms up and down? They are SOOO getting sued!

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB.16): THIS IS FINE

That title Says it all. You've been trying out meditation and you're getting more comfortable with your surroundings. The virus will pass. Just breathe and pretend you're in a quiet, burning building. Hey! Did someone say "frog?" That's your angry word!

PIECES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): "BEE MOVIE"

"Bee Movie," but every time you check Netflix, there's nothing good on, but every time you go to do homework, you remember your professor hasn't assigned anything in weeks, but every time you try to read that Ben Franklin biography, you fall asleep, but...fuck! You're so bored!

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): "STAR WARS" PREQUELS

It's over, Aries. COVID-19 has the high ground, so you can't leave your house and go to that party. I know you don't like the virus because it's course, rough and irritating (and it gets everywhere), but you underestimate its power. Don't try it.

The Weekly Crossword by Margie E. Burke

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
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53					54					55	56	57
58				59	60				61			
62					63				64			
65					66				67			

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ACROSS

- 1 Music for a movie
- 6 Dance maneuver
- 10 Kind of carpet
- 14 Casanova, for one
- 15 Distinctive air
- 16 Sullen look
- 17 1836 battle site
- 18 Fingerboard ridge
- 19 It follows that
- 20 Magic charm
- 22 Kind of monkey
- 24 Stadium section
- 25 New parents' need
- 26 Quirky
- 29 Italian dressing ingredient
- 31 Set straight
- 33 Fearless
- 37 Seamstress stickers
- 38 Not forthright
- 39 Word with arm or dish
- 40 Ghostly
- 43 TV's Rogers or Ed
- 45 Like sachets
- 47 Sun shade?
- 48 Lucy who played Xena
- 51 Frosted a cake
- 53 Shocked
- 54 Beach area
- 58 Novel idea
- 59 SWAT operation
- 61 Bug
- 62 Recital piece
- 63 Like Andersen's duckling
- 64 ___ with (tolerate)
- 65 Large pitcher
- 66 Apportion, with "out"
- 67 Token taker
- 1 Blind segment
- 2 Vending machine item
- 3 Face shape
- 4 Make a payment problem
- 6 African tour
- 7 ___ the tables
- 8 Before of yore
- 9 Tom Brady, notably
- 10 Word in a Tom Hanks film title
- 11 Derby entrant
- 12 Foretell from omens
- 13 "Eww!"
- 21 Go soft, in a way
- 23 It grows on you
- 25 Refuse
- 26 "My bad!"
- 27 Tap trouble
- 28 Sup in style
- 30 String instrument
- 32 Moving stairway
- 34 "Ad Astra" star
- 35 Inkling
- 36 Hollywood's Bruce or Laura
- 38 Machine parts
- 41 Half of seis
- 42 Speaker's platform
- 43 Flaky rock
- 44 Arctic sightings
- 46 Woodstock wear
- 48 Expire
- 49 Visibly happy
- 50 Like some milk
- 52 Coffee break snack
- 54 River sediment
- 55 Lock opener?
- 56 TV's Hutch
- 57 Use a keyboard
- 60 Census datum

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

Lady Griz player opens up on Shannon Schweyen's departure, offseason

JACK MARSHALL
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Lady Griz guard Sophia Stiles contemplated putting her name in the NCAA transfer portal after the team lost in the first round of the Big Sky tournament, before it was revealed April 1 that head coach Shannon Schweyen's contract would not be renewed.

"Shannon really cared about her players," Stiles said. "When I got hurt, she was the first person to call."

Schweyen replaced UM head coach Robin Selvig in 2016 after working for 24 years as his assistant. Selvig originally recruited Stiles, but when he stepped down, Schweyen took over.

Schweyen posted a 52-69 record in the four seasons she was head coach, including a 17-13 record in the 2019-20 season. On April 1, 2020, the Missoulian broke the news that her contract would not be renewed. UM has not issued an official statement explaining why Schweyen's contract wasn't renewed.

"There's a lot of things out there in the media and on Twitter that are just wrong," said Stiles. "I want to comment, 'This isn't right,' but obviously I'm not going to do that. It's just sad."

Kent Haslam confirmed on April 20 that Mike Petrino will be interim head coach in 2020 for the Lady Griz.

"I actually didn't commit right away to him [Petrino]. I was still thinking about leaving the program," Stiles said. "He told me his vision and his philosophy and I just feel like I trust everything he is saying."

On April 17, over two weeks after Schweyen's departure, star freshman Jamie Pickens entered her name in the NCAA transfer portal. Pickens averaged more than seven points a game for the Lady Griz in her only season with the team. On April 17, MontanaSports.com reported that she intends to return to her hometown of Helena to play for Carroll College.

"Can't believe we didn't get the chance to fulfill our lifelong dream of playing in a Lady Griz jersey together," Schweyen's daughter, Shelby, tweeted after Pickens announced she was transferring. "I'll always be your biggest supporter."

Shelby and her sister Jordyn both redshirted for UM last season. No word has come regarding whether the two will remain on the team.

Guard Gabi Harrington and forward Kylie Frohlich both said they were transferring from UM in March, before Schweyen left. Harrington averaged 7.5 points per game for the Lady Griz, while Frohlich had 1.7.



University of Montana guard Sophia Stiles stands ready to play defense against Idaho State guard Jordan Sweeney. Stiles scored 6 points for the Griz during the game. **LIAM MCCOLLUM | MONTANA KAIMIN**

Including Harrington and Frohlich, six of the nine players who appeared in UM's last game will not play for the Lady Griz in 2020. Of those six players were seniors McKenzie Johnston, Taylor Goligoski and Emma Stockholm, who scored almost half of UM's points last year.

This pattern of players transferring from the Lady Griz followed the former coach throughout her tenure at UM. Hailey Nicholson, Sierra Anderson, Nora Klick and Caitlin Lonergan all left the program during the 2017-18 season with eligibility remaining.

Katie Mayhue transferred to Texas-Arlington in April 2019. Sammy Fatkin left the team in December during the 2019-20 season.

"People and media can make it whatever they want, but honestly this isn't where they were meant to play, and they didn't feel like they fit into the system," Stiles said.

Stiles recently had surgery on her injured shoulder and is currently doing physical therapy in her hometown of Malta. Despite the number of players the Lady Griz lost in 2020, she said she still believes the team will be good next season.

UM Athletic Director Kent Haslam reportedly offered Schweyen a two-year contract before revoking the offer, according to the coach in an interview with MontanaSports.com.

No announcement has been made regarding when the 2020 basketball season will start.



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