

# MONTANA KAIMIN



## A Summer of Skating

Exploring the complex  
history of a quarantine trend

Story by Noelle Annonen

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Cover Photo  
Sara Diggins



The Montana Kaimin is a weekly independent student newspaper at the University of Montana. 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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**ICYMI**  
*(In case you missed it)*

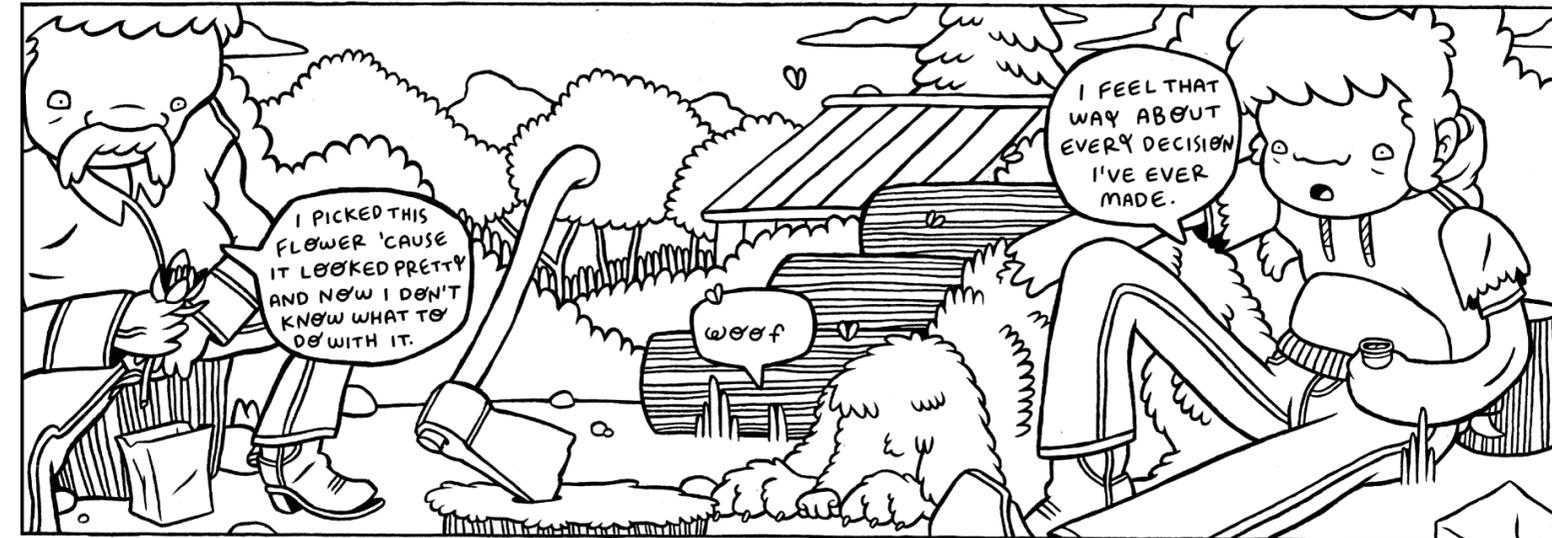
**A prisoners' rights group rallied at last week's gubernatorial debate:**

**UM Dance's Dance Underground is available to stream online:**

**The UM Pacific Islanders Club paid tribute to this year's Indigenous People's Day:**

**Zootown Cabaret continues to perform in a socially distant manner:**

KAIMIN COMIC



COOPER MALIN | MONTANA KAIMIN

EDITORIAL

Missoulian's endorsement fiasco highlights why trust is so important

Last Sunday, the Missoulian published an editorial endorsing Jennifer Fielder for the Public Service Commission. Fielder is criticized for her affiliation with groups like the Coalition of Western Property Owners and the Bundy family. She's an avid supporter of transferring federal land management to the states. Oh, and she helped spread those baseless rumors about Antifa bussing protesters into Missoula to make violent the recent Black Lives Matter protests.

So yeah, a lot of Missoulians got mad. A lot of Missoulians posted on social media. A lot of Missoulians said they would cancel their Missoulian subscriptions. Editor-in-Chief Gwen Florio, who had recused herself from endorsements due to her ongoing political reporting, resigned.

Within a day, the Missoulian's editorial board retracted its endorsement and instead endorsed her opponent, Monica Tranel. The board's explanation: "In short, we blew it."

No matter how much journalists like to talk about separation of editorial, opinion and hard news sections of a paper (and we really do love to talk about it), it's not always clear to readership how the process works. Sometimes, newspapers owe their readers an explanation.

The Missoulian's editorial board is currently made up of two people: Publisher Jim Strauss and opinion editor Tyler Christensen. Those two people are the only people in the newsroom who write, edit and approve all editorials, and the senior of the two breaks a tie. And whether the rest of the staff agrees with the opinions of the editorial doesn't really matter in the process.

But there's the problem: It should matter. Because how are Missoulian reporters supposed to accurately report on Missoula if the citizens they need to talk to don't trust them?

This year, more than ever, local journal-

ism couldn't be more important. Between an actual global pandemic, an election being delegitimized for widespread mail-in voting, nationwide racial tension and a climate crisis, the necessity of community support and trust is pretty much the bare minimum requirement to accurate reporting.

And sure, it's easier than it's ever been for us to stay up-to-date on national and international news. But someone needs to cover our city's town halls. Someone needs to keep an eye on City Council. Someone needs to be able to drive to the Flathead to cover stories outside of the city. Someone needs to be able to accurately cover local protests with the trust of their community, something a paper can't earn if it is out of touch with its readership.

Much like calling your elected officials and donating to organizations you believe in, you can make your voice heard with your local papers, too. That's what helped

lead the Missoulian to retract its Fielder endorsement. Write the Missoulian letters to the editor when you disagree with them. Write letters to us when you disagree with us, too.

Our Kaimin editorial board is made up of our staff of 10 editors, including the editor-in-chief and business manager. We decide on what each week's editorial will be together, and choose who should be writing it. It's our job to communicate with you. It's our job to explain how we work, and why we do what we do. And without your trust and support and criticism, we'd be out of our jobs.

**ERIN SARGENT**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

LIKE IT? HATE IT? WISH WE WERE DEAD?

Email us your opinions at [editor@montanakaimin.com](mailto:editor@montanakaimin.com)

FEATURE PHOTO



The UM Pacific Islander's Club performed a hula dance and chant on the Oval in celebration of Indigenous People's Day on Oct. 12, 2020. This was one of several events that took place throughout the day, including a flag-raising and talks on Zoom. EMMA SMITH | MONTANA KAIMIN

**SUDOKU**  
Difficulty: Medium  
Edited by Margie E. Burke

**HOW TO SOLVE:**  
Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answers to Last Week's Sudoku:

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

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# Briefs: COVID-19 surges and old bricks from the Oval

MAZANA BOERBOOM  
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## UM ACCOUNTS FOR 20% OF MISSOULA COVID-19 CASES

The University of Montana has sent out several emails over the past couple of weeks with resounding messages about keeping everyone safe by social distancing and quarantining and how cases continue to surge. On Friday, statewide COVID-19 related hospitalizations reached an all time high at 266, and a fifth person in Missoula died from complications with the virus, according to the Missoulian. Also, as of Friday, UM was almost to 100 cases, accounting for just over 20% of Missoula County's positive COVID-19 cases, according to a UM COVID Response Team email. "Understandably, rising positive cases are cause for concern and the source of anxiety for many of us," the email stated. However, most of the cases are a result of close-contact

spread, are remaining in clusters and are not spreading in the classroom, but rather through social non-curricular activities, the email stated. UM plans to limit non-curricular campus activities for the foreseeable future. The email also stated that Cindy Farr, incident commander for Missoula City-County Health Department, said UM students aren't driving transmission of the virus into the community, but that the campus is impacted by the community spread "as young people mingle in social settings."



## UM AUCTIONS HISTORIC BRICKS FROM OVAL WALKWAY

Over the summer, UM tore out the uneven and deteriorating historic brick walkway that crossed the Oval, which was inaccessi-

ble for people in wheelchairs and hazardous for bikers and walkers alike. Now the Oval has a new uniform concrete walkway, which has been stamped to resemble the previous brick one, and UM has literal tons of old bricks. "We have lots and lots of bricks," Chris Newlon, UM maintenance supervisor, said to UM News. The bricks were originally laid between 1912 and 1913 in downtown Missoula and later repurposed in 1969 across the Oval, UM News said. Now the majority of the century-old bricks are being auctioned off in sets of around 600. The starting price for each lot is at \$50 and there are 30 sets available. Newlon said they'd be useful for small-scale projects like building a patio.

## UM PARTNERS WITH STATE FOR COVID-19 TEST PROCESSING

UM is partnering with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services to start conducting additional COVID-19 tests on campus for the state. UM is beginning to process tests in the UM Genomics Core on campus, according to a UM News release, and will be able to increase Montana's daily COVID-19 test processing by 2,000. These tests are in addition to those currently conducted on a daily basis at the Curry Health Center. "I give special thanks to everyone at UM and in Helena who worked so hard to put this agreement in place," UM President Seth Bodnar said in the release. "Going forward, UM is now in position to add critical capacity to our state's robust testing efforts."

# Blotter: Powertools, chip bags and hate symbols on campus

GRIFFEN SMITH  
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Since last week's blotter, UMPD reported 14 crimes on and around campus. A large number of cases were connected to the University Villages, where suspicious cars and thefts have been reported.

## 10/2 BODILY POSSESSION

An underage student in Jesse Hall went out to drink off-campus and came back under the influence. The student had no alcohol on him, but under Montana law, being drunk counts as possessing liquor, because the booze is technically in a person's body. RAs doing rounds saw the possessing student and reported him for a liquor law violation.

## 10/3 CHIP DISCOVERY

Some middle-school-aged kids thought they scored when they found a bag of chips near the Law School, but failed to see the woman sitting on the nearby bench who owned the bag. After a quick conversation and probably some embarrassment, the kids returned the bag to the original owner and UMPD filed no charges.

## 10/3 POWERTOOL PILLAGING

A suspect with a powered screwdriver made costly thefts to UM both on and off campus. Within two days, the suspect broke into Stone Hall and Wash House #2 in Bannack Court, stealing over \$1,000 from laundry and snack machines. The suspect likely walked into these buildings while they were open

or unlocked, as UMPD did not find any forced entry or suspicious Griz Card swipes. UMPD reported the crimes as a public safety notice, and said they are still investigating the crimes. To report information connected to this suspect, call (406) 243-4000.

## 10/5 HATEFUL STICKERS

Two reports of stickers with hateful messages, including swastikas and white supremacy slogans, were found on campus last week in the bathroom by the "M" trail and the parking lot outside of Pantzer Hall. UMPD reported and removed the stickers, and it designated the crime as criminal mischief. Though the stickers said hateful messages, UMPD cannot consider it a hate crime because they were not deliberately directed toward a person or group on campus.



COLTON ROTHWELL | MONTANA KAIMIN

## 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			
20				21			22					
			23				24		25			
26	27	28		29			30		31		32	33
34			35			36			37		38	
39					40		41			42		
43			44			45		46				
47			48		49			50		51		
			52		53		54			55		
56	57				58		59			60	61	62
63					64				65			
66					67				68			
69					70				71			

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### ACROSS

- 1 Alligator's abode
- 6 Lift with effort
- 10 Eden dweller
- 14 Dot on a computer screen
- 15 Storybook monster
- 16 Sonny who sang
- 17 Circus site
- 18 Three-fingered saluters
- 20 Full, as a voice
- 22 Morsel
- 23 Felt topper
- 25 Hair raiser?
- 26 It may be furrowed
- 29 Bye lines?
- 31 Religious offshoot
- 34 Overhaul
- 36 Galley gear
- 38 Halloween cry
- 39 Go through again
- 41 Halftime speech
- 43 Mess up
- 44 Like a certain McCoy
- 46 Fire worshiper
- 47 Wind indicator
- 49 Treat a wound
- 51 PGA part, briefly
- 52 Friendly greetings
- 54 UN member
- 56 Lathe, e.g.
- 59 Crichton creature
- 63 Waterproof cloth
- 65 Safari sighting
- 66 Feel the \_\_\_
- 67 Put up drapes
- 68 Brilliant success
- 69 Draft, maybe
- 70 Like Santa's cheeks
- 71 Manner
- 24 Resting on
- 26 French cheeses
- 27 Nostalgic style
- 28 Pad the bill
- 30 Becomes involved
- 32 "Unforgettable" singers
- 33 Coin substitute
- 35 Scratch up
- 37 Luxurious resort
- 40 Make, as money
- 42 Cut across
- 45 Introductions
- 48 Smoked herring
- 50 Tight-fisted
- 53 Coral or Caspian
- 55 Exudes
- 56 Concert memento
- 57 Aesop racer
- 58 River to the Rhine
- 60 With proficiency
- 61 Russian mountains
- 62 Hourly charge
- 64 Asian language

### Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

# The hobbies of quarantine

MEGHAN JONAS  
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NAT BRANCACCIO | MONTANA KAIMIN

Did you get that dreaded "oof, you were a close-contact" notification, and now you're going to be stuck in your tiny apartment, ALONE, for two weeks? Here are some fun new hobbies to occupy your mind — and your hands — while you protect yourself and those around you. **LIBRA (SEP. 23-OCT. 22):** We wanted to give you something that would make you feel smart AND would let you spread your social butterfly wings: A Zoom book club. Continue your "Twilight" renaissance, fire up Zoom and discuss whether or not Edward Cullen is redeemable. **SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21):** We're not sure why we picture you as an old man who lives off-the-grid, but we do. Take a break from telling people the government is listening to everyone's thoughts to pick up an exciting hobby: whittling. You heard us right. **SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 22):** It's time to start a Zoom rock band. Grab some pots and pans and start jamming like a toddler who doesn't need naptime. Between the lag on Zoom and lack of musical talent, you probably won't be great. But hey, at least you won't have to worry about Brian smashing his guitar when he starts feeling a little too much like Pete Townsend. **CAPRICORN (DEC. 23-JAN. 19):** We get it, you're smart. But have you ever tried dumbing things down a little bit? Grab a "For Dummies" book and teach yourself a new skill. Try sticking with it until you nail it. **AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18):** You've got an absurd amount of energy, and sometimes the only way it can be channeled is by exercise. Pull out your computer, move your furniture and go absolutely H.A.M with some jazzercise. **PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20):** We're pretty sure Pisces folks are the cinnamon rolls of the Zodiac, so we're picking the softest hobby for you. Really lean into that whole grandma aesthetic you've got going on, and try your hand at knitting.

**ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19):** For some reason, we feel like you have a vast knowledge of true crime facts. No one casually mentions the zodiac letters like you do. Instead of freaking your friends out with all that valuable knowledge, try a crime podcast or YouTube series. **TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20):** You became a plant parent at the beginning of the pandemic but now it's time to become a plant grandparent. You heard us right, it's time to propagate, baby. Look up some TikToks, take some clippings and get to work building up your plant family. **GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20):** We know you're basically a bartender already, but imagine how much it would up your game if you started making your own booze! Take inspiration from that girl who made trashcan cider freshman year and just make it way better. **CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22):** We know how sentimental you've been the last few months. Thinking about the joy your childhood crafts used to give you won't bring back that spirit, but a new crafting adventure might. Try your hand at making earrings! It's the latest trend, we know, but that means there's a lot to pull inspo from. **LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22):** Hey Leo, do you know how to rest? No? Oh, instead of resting we're going to start a home renovation project? Cool cool cool. You like projects that have an obvious physical result, and there's nothing more obvious than a new bathroom or a whole new apartment aesthetic. **VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEP. 22):** Let's be honest, you've always wanted to be an influencer. But you don't want to be an influencer in an obvious way, so the next best thing is to become a crafting pro, and "organically" grow your followers until you reach world domination.

## UM starts American Indian Governance and Policy Institute

HANNA CAMPBELL

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The American Indian Governance and Policy Institute, which kicked off its first year at the University of Montana this semester, was founded with the intention of providing legal resources to American Indian tribes.

Assistant Professor Heather Cahoon, a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai tribe, started this institute as a way to advocate for investment of state money for the tribal community. Cahoon said tribes do not have a legislative service division, which is a part of the government that provides resources, information and counseling to legislatures. It also researches potential policies and outlines

their advantages and disadvantages, which helps legislatures make more objective decisions.

Cahoon said most tribes have attorneys who help with legal services, but who do not address bigger issues, such as how to grow the economy.

"[Tribes] didn't have staff at their disposal to help them make decisions that are really important," Cahoon said.

The American Indian Governance and Policy Institute aims to provide this service to American Indian tribes. Cahoon is currently working on a year-long tribal public policy assessment in which she is researching the legal needs of American Indian tribes. Once she completes the project, she said she will have information

that will help the policy institute for the next decade.

The institute was approved by the Montana Board of Regents in March after a year of planning done by Cahoon and her team. However, because of COVID-19, its progress slowed until it finally became established this fall. By summer of 2021, Cahoon hopes to have a fellowship that will allow graduate students to assist with tribal policy research.

The ultimate goal of the American Indian Governance and Policy Institute, Cahoon said, is to create resources and gather information that American Indian tribes can use to develop legal policies.

"People come from every lock of life, whether it is ranchers, teachers, bringing

different backgrounds and strengths," Cahoon said. "I feel like there needs to be a research entity to be available for them."

Another core faculty member who is assisting with this project, Sara Rinfret, agrees that this project addresses an important topic. Rinfret helps with Cahoon's research for this project and will help to facilitate student involvement. She agreed to help with the American Indian Governance and Policy Institute because she believes in the cause and believes Cahoon is the best person to pursue it.

"We want to make sure the voices of the voiceless are represented and making sure all communities have the same opportunities through the lens of public policy," Rinfret said.

## UM COVID-19 vaccine study receives millions to progress research

GRIFFEN SMITH

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Back in March, the University of Montana started a study to develop a vaccine for COVID-19, earning a \$2.5 million grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH). After half a year of research, the study continues with a second grant to finalize the vaccine, and possibly to work with human testing in 2021.

"Our vaccine studies for COVID-19 are going really well," director of the UM Center for Translational Medicine Jay Evans said to the Kaimin in September. "I expect we'll have results to NIH by the end of the year... and hopefully then NIH will build a fund for the vaccine program to move it to launch, hopefully in 2021."

When UM began COVID-19 research at the start of the pandemic, the Successful Student Organization, an online database that ranks higher education institutions and programs nationwide, rated the college eighth in the world for studying and solving the virus, joining the ranks of Oxford and Harvard. The Center for Translational Medicine received an additional \$2 million from the National Institute of Health since the fall semester began, and still has a chance to develop a leading vaccine used across America.

UM's Center for Translational Medicine is working on developing a traditional vaccine, which Evans said moves at a slower process compared to experimental studies around the country. He added that the experimental technology has never been tested for its long-term durability of response.

He estimated the leading experimental vaccines would be ready by the first quarter of 2021, but that is not what UM's goal is.

"We're not obviously on the fast track approach that some of the other vaccines are on," Evans said. "But I think there may be opportunities for vaccines for improved safety or improved efficacy or potential longer lasting immune response, and that's

what we do."

The lab first worked on developing the vaccine to appear on paper as effective. Through the summer, they were able to add additional technology to their research project, making these tests more accurate and having a quicker turnaround.

Now the lab is able to test the vaccines in Missoula and also sends samples to Mt. Sinai, New York, for separate animal testing. The operation involves 40 workers, with about 10 people in the lab at a time.

Haley Partlow, a recent graduate from the University of Montana, came back this year to work full-time on this research project. She said the work is important, and so is a passion.

"I kinda just fell in love with the whole thing," Partlow said. "We get to design different studies and monitor antibody response, which is critical."

Partlow first joined UM's Center for Translational Medicine in her third year of graduate school. She signed a two-year contract this summer after graduating to continue the COVID-19 vaccine along with other studies.

Partlow and other UM alumni are working alongside current undergraduates identifying what is and what is not working in the vaccines they test.

The new \$2 million grant will be used for the transfer and comparison of vaccines from research projects all over America, and help UM start sending their vaccine candidate to other schools as well. The results of their tests could decide which school moves forward with their candidate.

"We're going to compare all of those vaccine candidates head-to-head against each other and against our lead vaccine here and report those results back to NIH, who will decide which vaccine moves forward," Evans said. "We all hope that it'll be the vaccine developed right here at the University of Montana, but really, we just hope to identify the one that's able to go to phase one that can best help people."



UM Center for Translational Diseases director Jay Evans sits in front of a bio safety hood, which protects workers from biological hazards. The lab is a safety level 2 lab, which means that they're able to work on the influenza, human blood products, pathogens and other viruses that have vaccines developed against them. LIAM MCCOLLUM | MONTANA KAIMIN

T. Anthony Pollner Lecture  
America's Essential  
Workers:  
Contemporary  
Labor Issues in  
the United States

With T. Anthony Pollner  
Distinguished Professor

**Tammy Kim**

6 p.m. Oct. 15 on Facebook Live @umjschool



# A Summer of Skating

## Exploring the complex history of a quarantine trend



Story by Noelle Annonen  
Photos by Claire Shinner  
and Sara Diggins

On a cool September evening in South Missoula, roller skaters, skateboarders and bicyclists filled an impromptu “rink,” bordered by caution tape and loudspeakers, in the parking lot of what used to be Lucky’s Market. Custom roller skates and skateboards shredding a tiny portable rail cast oddly shaped shadows across the rough pavement. The laughter and shrieks of wobbly-legged skaters were only slightly muffled by the requisite facemasks. The rumble of wheels competed with an impressive soundtrack, from Aretha Franklin to Prince to P-Funk.

“It’s your Coach Shane,” the DJ, nicknamed “Coach,” said over the loudspeaker. “Let’s make sure, in the coolest way possible, to give each other a thumbs up and point in the other direction to people going counter clockwise. We’re skating clockwise tonight.”

Missoula doesn’t have a roller rink, but it does have the Hip Strip Honeyz, a newly formed roller-skating crew whose pop-up rinks capture old-school energy.

More than 100 people attended the Hip Strip Honeyz’ latest event. Some had driven for hours just to roll at the pop-up rink. Despite, or because of, the pandemic, it had been a summer of skating. TikTok and Instagram overflowed with videos of people spinning and skating backward to popular songs, in disco fashion, or dancing precariously on longboards. The Hip Strip Honeyz joined the trend back in March, but not without controversy.

While the Honeyz had discovered newfound enjoyment in skating, some in the Missoula community accused the group of cultural appropriation.

Roller skating has roots in the Civil Rights movement. Black people cultivated a particular style of skating, and accompanying music, while fighting segregation and discrimination. Yet this story wasn’t widely known, at least not in Missoula. That September evening, at the Honeyz’ pop-up rink, a founding member of the group addressed this story.

“Now is a better time than any to know the history behind it,” Hanna Moorman, a member of the Honeyz, said at the pop-up rink at the mall as she gestured to the rolling crowd of families, students and professors. “People had to fight to skate.”

Some of the Honeyz consider Moorman the founder of the club, which first started back in March, although she attributes their beginnings to group effort. As Gov. Steve Bullock declared a state of emergency over COVID-19 and people self-quarantined, Moorman, like many people all over the country, looked for something to do. Roller skating piqued her interest. Fashionable skates, edgy tricks and built-in social distancing drew her to the sport. Moorman took to social media to seek other people



Hip Strip Honeyz member Katie Olsen tests out some skate tricks during the pop-up rink on Sept. 4, 2020. Olsen is one of over 10 people in the Hip Strip Honeyz skating group, which started in March at the beginning of the COVID-19 quarantine. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

who were interested in skating, and a mutual friend connected her to Mati Tressler and other working women and students in their 20s and 30s, scattered throughout Missoula.

“We didn’t really intend it to be a group when it started,” Tressler said.

That March, the women spoke entirely over social media, to remain socially distant, and exchanged links to cute roller skates or tutorials for tricks.

Meanwhile, roller skating trended around the country. Business Insider reported that roller skating was making a comeback — one that overwhelmed popular skate brands — thanks to nostalgia and boredom. Google searches for roller skates increased sharply in

March and remained consistent throughout the summer. Videos on TikTok hashtagged “rollerskating” have 3.1 billion views.

Missoula businesses felt the impact of this growing interest. Kari Neal, owner of Skate Club Missoula, another local skate club, used to run a roller rink on 3rd Street that has since closed. She spent the summer filtering requests to buy her ‘fleet’ of used skates from her old roller rink and says more people than ever wanted to skate during the pandemic.

“Apparently there’s this mass skate shortage,” Neal said. “All of a sudden, people want to do things because they have nothing else to do, so they’re gonna go buy skates. All the retailers were out.”



Hip Strip Honeyz member Hanna Moorman talks to several other Honeyz at their event at Southgate Mall on Sept. 4, 2020. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

After weeks of connecting over social media, the women who would soon make up Hip Strip Honeyz met for the first time in April and began to skate together on trails and in smooth parking lots. MOBASH skatepark in McCormick Park and various streets in downtown Missoula gave the Honeyz plenty of opportunities to learn new spins and how to jump and skate backward.

While they connected through skating and learning tricks, they also enjoyed having safety in numbers, particularly in skateparks. “Skateparks seem intimidating for women,” said Abbey Ostheimer, a member of the Honeyz. “When you’re skating with eight girls and you get nasty cat call comments, it’s a lot easier to brush it off.”

Since the Honeyz all started skating at the same time, they were able to gain confidence without worrying about being judged if they fell or couldn’t pull off a new trick. They dubbed their group the Hip Strip Honeyz, in April, inspired by Missoula’s downtown area along Higgins Street.

The Honeyz logged videos of sunset trail skates through tunnels and along Missoula’s rivers on their Instagram, which became their diary. They shared and showed off their new tricks around the streets and parking lots of Missoula. They dressed up for skates in knee pads and gloves, and practiced jumps or dropped in and around the bowl of MOBASH.

Some of them found empowerment in competing to learn new skate skills. Others rediscovered a long lost sense of fun with the rush and elevation of skating. They wobble and sometimes fall down in videos on their Instagram. They laugh as they roll down into a skatepark or swing around a bowl — even as they fall.

“There’s this childlike sense of play that’s

absent from so many things in our adult life,” Tressler said. “It’s wonderful to have the opportunity to feel like a kid again.”

As the group grew, the Honeyz drew the curiosity of passersby on their trail skates, and their Instagram gained more attention, including that of Coach Rooney. In Worden’s Market and Deli on the Hip Strip, one of the Honeyz overheard Rooney talking about wanting to DJ for the skaters.

“I wanted to hang out with them so bad,” Rooney said. “The Hip Strip Honeyz are uniquely Missoula right now.”

Rooney helped the Honeyz create their first pop-up roller rink on June 12. Equipped with an extension cord, sound equipment and Rooney’s collection of vinyl, they set up shop on the roof of the parking garage at UM, and the music started. People from all over the city came with roller skates or roller blades; others brought skateboards or bicycles.

All wheels were welcome, as far as the Honeyz were concerned, but many attendees just walked alongside their rolling friends. Rooney brought a large rainbow parachute — the kind Ostheimer remembers from her days in middle school. Skaters held onto the edge and skated in a circle to the music, as the nylon bloomed, floated and spun up and out. Over the summer, the Honeyz held three more pop-up roller events, growing their community.

“A lot of beauty ensued by people coming together,” Rooney said. “People skate anywhere. But once we put music in, we’re responsible for the people who stay.”

“We’ve gotten feedback that hasn’t always been positive,” Ostheimer said. “For how many white girls are skating, how it can look like we are appropriating.”

Tressler said the Hip Strip Honeyz



Frances Brauneis, right, Maisy Jam, center, and Misty Gilmore, left, pose in the parking lot in front of Lucky’s Market during the Hip Strip Honeyz pop-up skating rink. The trio were amongst more than 100 people that attended the Honeyz’ event. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

received private messages on their group Instagram account in response to their pop-up roller rinks. The senders wrote that their posts about roller skating were inappropriate, in the context of the Black Lives Matter movement that shook the country this summer. The Honeyz said the comments came from community members, but did not specify who.

Posts about roller skating became an issue beyond Missoula. Popular TikTok roller skater Toni Nicole addressed the controversy in a video. She presented the history of the sport while roller skating to a voiceover that acknowledges skating’s origins. The video noted that, while roller skating content on TikTok was on the rise, it was important to

recognize the African American culture of the sport and the discrimination that still exists in rinks today.

“When I look up roller skating on here, it’s all white people. Skating is a huge part of the Black community, please follow Black skaters,” said the video’s caption. The video has been viewed 2.1 million times.

The Hip Strip Honeyz said they initially felt defensive.

“After we talked about it, we realized that how we came off was a little offensive,” Tressler said. “As a result we’re all just learning to be better allies.”

They decided to educate themselves. They began by watching a 2018 documentary called “United Skates,” about the history of



Skater Kaylee Loudan attempts a trick on a picnic table at McCormick Park during an outdoor meet up on June 11, 2020. **SARA DIGGINS | MONTANA KAIMIN**

roller skating.

Roller skating, while seemingly just another quarantine trend on par with the Netflix series “Tiger King,” has deep roots. “United Skates,” covers the history of segregation and discrimination in roller rinks up to the present.

Black skating culture includes a variety of unique styles, with connections to the kinds of music that gave Queen Latifah and other artists their start. But roller rink owners who noticed this trend of African American skaters found ways to segregate without explicitly segregating. They created themed events, like “Urban” or “Soul” nights, and banned saggy pants and the kinds of wheels typically used by African American skaters.

Many of these spaces remained segregated into the 1980s, even as skating became more popular with the African American community, along with the RnB and hip hop that played at rinks. The book “Race, Riots, and Roller Coasters,” by Victoria W. Wolcott,

discusses how recreational spaces, like roller rinks, were segregated, then shut down after the Civil Rights Act. But even afterward, roller rink owners and their white patrons continued to find ways to discriminate based on race.

London Marq, a member of the leadership team of the 1700 Liberation Missoula, a BIPOC-led organization aimed at fostering and assisting the Black, Indigenous and people of color community in Missoula, said that this skating history isn’t widely distributed.

“For people who are European American, they don’t have to look at race on a daily basis the way that everyone else does,” Marq said. “But how could you blame them for not being taught in a system that doesn’t teach them these things.”

Mati Tressler took on the role of educating herself and helping the Honeyz learn more about the fraught history of roller skating. She said the Hip Strip Honeyz are

continuing to grow.

“There’s this definition that roller skating is all of a sudden popular, which really diminishes what it means to Black people, and what is important,” Tressler said.

Ostheimer said the group has been using its Instagram to promote inclusivity and create a comfortable space. The Hip Strip Honeyz have also posted about the history of roller skating in the African American community, from segregation in the ‘70s to the lessons of “United Skates.” The skaters have made a point to acknowledge that roller skating didn’t become popular due to quarantine boredom, but because of decades of culture and community.

“We are not trying to disregard where it comes from or the history, or step on that,” Ostheimer said. “We’re just trying to take something that we all have a passion for and spread it around.”

Before the September event, the Honeyz wrote: “Although it seems like roller skating

is experiencing a resurgence, the truth is that roller skating never left.”

In the Lucky’s Market parking lot, they set up a donation table to raise money for the Montana BIPOC Mutual Aid Fund, which supports Black, Indigenous and people of color in Missoula — and brought in a few hundred dollars. The Honeyz haven’t hosted another pop-up rink since, though they hope to do so on Halloween, if Missoula’s COVID-19 caseload settles down.

The Honeyz’ summer of skating and self-education is over, but Tressler has high expectations for the group of women she has watched push past falling and fear and skating on.

“That’s something that hinders people from starting something new,” Tressler said. “You’re gonna fall, things are going to happen that will hurt. I hope we can continue to share skating with the community.”

# UM alumni hopes to start Pakistani food truck in Missoula

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The intoxicating smells of ginger, garlic and simmering tomato sauce lazily crept throughout chef Zohair Bajwa's kitchen. Bajwa, who moved from Pakistan to Missoula in 2006, is one of many chefs working with the non-profit United We Eat.

Bajwa served a variety of Pakistani dishes on Sept. 15, with the hope of using the money he earned to fulfill a dream he's had for many years: to buy a food truck.

Bajwa served dishes such as chicken karahi, which consists of a tomato-based sauce flavored with a variety of spices and served with rice and naan. There was a lentil-based dish called daal as well, and potato samosas as an appetizer. Bajwa hopes to incorporate these dishes into the menu he will use for his food truck once he and his wife, Megan Harbaugh, get enough money to invest in one.

Bajwa has been considering getting a food truck for several years, but circumstances discouraged the dream. When he first came to the United States from Pakistan he was a busy student at the University of Montana. Then after he obtained a degree in finance with a minor in mathematics, he got a job at a law firm. The thought of the food truck began as just a dream until he finally worked up the courage to start saving money.

"I was scared of failure, scared of pursuing it," Bajwa said. "But if I fail I will fail."

The recipes he plans to use for his food truck he learned from shadowing his father since childhood. Growing up, Bajwa said he wanted to do anything his father did, including cook. As he got older, Bajwa began to appreciate the art more and cooking became a passion of his own.

"Whatever [my father] did, I'd imitate that," Bajwa said. "I would follow him around, stir the pot, and experiment with my own ideas."

Now, as an adult, cooking is a central part in his life that he hopes to share with the Missoula community. United We Eat, through the organization Soft Landing Missoula, hosted Bajwa in 2019 as well, where he experienced success that was mirrored in 2020. He sold over 100 meals within 18 minutes this year, which was a personal success for him.

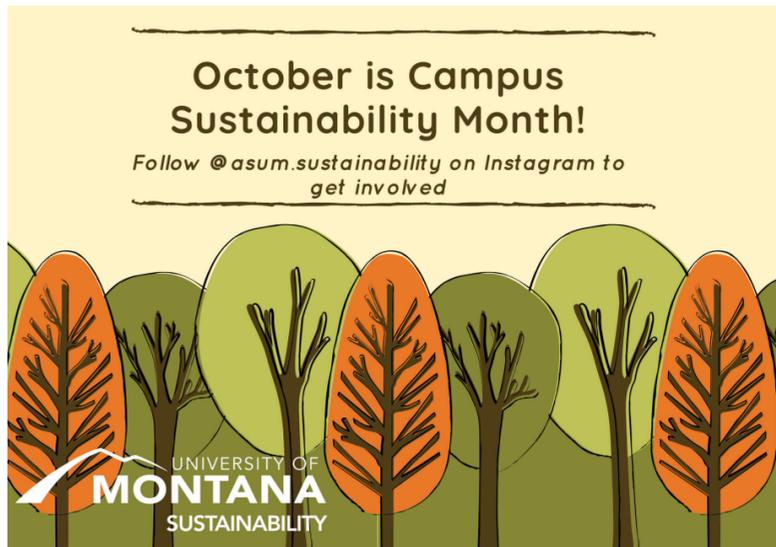


University of Montana alum and Pakistani cook Zohair Bajwa stirs his Chicken Karahi while cooking at home on Oct. 9, 2020. Bajwa is saving to open his own food truck in Missoula, and hopes to be able to open the truck by this spring. SARA DIGGINS | MONTANA KAIMIN

Bajwa sees food as a way to share his culture with his current environment, as well as a way to remember his home.

"I've always been interested in introducing my food to the lack of diversity in Missoula and to introduce a brand new cuisine to a community that has given so much to me," he said.

Bajwa will name his food truck Zeera, which means cumin. He will initially serve six dishes, including chicken karahi and daal. He hopes to fundraise the \$38,000 needed to buy the food truck by spring of 2021, and has offered incentives based on the amount a person donates, including free entrees, shirts and catered meals. The link to donate can be found on the Indiegogo fundraising site.



# 'Hubie Halloween' is a shockingly tolerable Adam Sandler flick

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Something terrifying is coming to dorm rooms and apartments this Halloween. It's a chilling endeavor that your friends and partners, who have frustratingly low standards when it comes to cinema, will force you to endure. In the coming weeks, you'll probably have to sit through ... ANOTHER ADAM SANDLER COMEDY!

No, the Sandman's surprise dramatic turn in recent works like "Uncut Gems" has not spared movie-goers from the same tired schtick he's heavily relied on since the '90s. But never fear. "Hubie Halloween" is no "Jack and Jill" (admittedly, that's not saying much).

Sandler has teamed up with director Steven Brill, who has worked with the comedian frequently since the late '90s hell-themed comedy "Little Nicky," to bring you a spooky flick that's surprisingly watchable. Not good, but watchable. And for these guys, that's no small achievement.

Sandler pulls double duty as co-writer and star, playing Halloween enthusiast Hubie Dobois. Every year, Hubie drives around the town of Salem, Massachusetts with his swiss army knife-esque thermos to make sure everyone is having a safe holiday. But the other residents don't appreciate his good deeds, and he's frequently ambushed by bullies (led by Ray Liotta, who's half-assing it just enough to earn his paycheck).

Cue the obligatory, sappy message about being kind to people who are different than you.

But when a lunatic escapes prison and Salem residents start to go missing, Hubie may just be able to use his Halloween smarts to save the day and prove his worth to the neighborhood. And he might just get enough courage to ask his childhood crush Violet (Julie Brown) out on a date. I'm using the word "might" generously.

Surviving "Hubie Halloween" isn't a guarantee. It has the toilet humor, mindless slapstick and forced drama you all know

and hate. Sandler's voice, though not nearly as obnoxious as in "Water Boy," can still be grating, especially given how often he has to scream. And for a story with such a blatant anti-bullying message, it comes off as mean-spirited.

But just when it looks like you're about to drown, the film throws you a comedic life-preserver. The writers spoil you to the point where you may have to count the number of times you laugh on one hand, not just one finger. This is largely thanks to the solid and underused supporting cast, including Steve Buscemi, Maya Rudolph and Kenan Thompson. Even Sandman regulars like Kevin James and Rob Schneider get a chuckle or two. But most shocking of all, there's a genuinely funny plot twist near the end that I didn't see coming.

Don't mistake my generosity for praise. "Hubie Halloween" is still bad, and it's still Adam Sandler. But if a loved one forces you to watch it, don't be afraid. You will get through it.



# Garcia Peoples are retro without redundancy

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It's very rare that a music critic gets to go into a review with no preconceived notions. Most of the time, we gravitate toward a new record because we expect it will be really good and we can't wait to listen to it, or it's going to be so bad that tearing it apart will be a piece of cake.

As I began to listen to "Nightcap at Wits' End," the fourth album from New Jersey-based band Garcia Peoples, I had no idea if I was going to spend the next hour waiting for the album to be over or if I would be grooving along.

I'm thankful to say, it was the latter. Break out your (socially-distanced) dancing shoes, folks — it's a good one.

From the album artwork to the sound, listeners are showered with '80s-flavored nostalgia. Imagine a group that covered every single iconic hair band your dad listened to, but they didn't actually sing any covers. Now mix some trippy psychedelic influences a la Pink Floyd. THEN sprinkle in some "love your neighbor, love yourself" lyrics that bring us back to Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, and you might have a fraction of an idea of what Garcia Peoples sound like.

"Wasted Time," the second track on the album, continues along the "free love, man," vibe. Understated synth drives the song along as a sort of bass line that sounds nothing like a bass line. Vocals float along, drifting in and out of focus, but

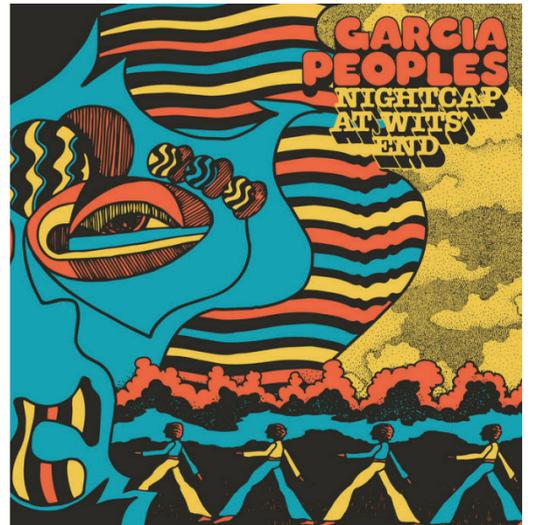
never dominating the track.

"Altered Place" confirms our suspicion that this band likes to walk on the wild side. I can't officially say that they did a shit-ton of psychedelics while working on this record, but I would buy the whole band shots if they didn't.

The slower parts of the album, like "Fire of the Now," may not be the best part of the record, but they don't drag it down. And of course, no classic rock album would be complete without a 7-minute song. "Painting a Vision That Carries" wins that category. Honestly, we didn't even notice it was so long until we got to the 6-minute mark. We could take it or leave it, but it doesn't sound like a dumpster fire. If you're into very long, Grateful Dead-inspired tracks, this might be your favorite song on the album.

It is extremely refreshing to have tried-and-true, but never boring, rock techniques utilized in modern music. It is so clear where Garcia Peoples are drawing their inspiration. They aren't trying to pass classic guitar riffs and song structures off as their own. But they also don't sound like Led Zeppelin wannabes.

There's a reason why these techniques — things like over-the-top guitar solos, drifting vocals, haunting harmonies and a sense of mystery — work. The sounds that dominated previous generations never really left popular music, but that doesn't mean those techniques were used well. Garcia Peoples knows when to let the music speak for itself.



# Cross country runner speaks out about getting COVID-19 at UM

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Sophomore cross country runner Beatrix Frissell was among the most talented and promising cross country runners in the Big Sky Conference. Then she got COVID-19, and as the Kaimin first reported, the entire UM cross country team was quarantined.

“I was running 70 to 80 miles a week before this,” she said. She was the healthiest she’d ever been before her infection, and now doesn’t know when she’ll get back to that point.

The Kaimin was told on Sept. 18 that the cross country team was quarantining. For two weeks in September around then, Frissell didn’t run at all.

Frissell contracted COVID-19 from a roommate. She and her roommates were the only team members to test positive, but the whole team was quarantined. Frissell had never expected to get the virus.

She does not believe she contracted COVID-19 because of carelessness on her part.

“I’ve taken this super seriously since the spring,” she said. “I have older parents. I didn’t see any of my friends when I went home over the spring and over summer break.”

She felt multiple symptoms of the virus, especially trouble breathing. “I think that I was very lucky compared to a lot of especially older people,” she said.

After getting the virus and not practicing for two weeks, she is now trying to make change within UM athletics. She wants to see more social distancing and an added emphasis on listening to athletes.

She has voiced her concerns to her head coach, Clint May, and also joined a Zoom call for athletes to ask the administration questions.

“The level of understanding of how easily you can get this thing is not really emphasized,” she said. “I think the University administration really needs to ask themselves, why are we seeing so many cases?”

She also noted it isn’t a coincidence that almost every UM sports team has had to

be quarantined so far this semester. In an email to students on Sept. 16, the UM COVID Response Team identified UM athletics as a major campus cluster.

“I think the athletic administration is trying their best in terms of giving us a season and giving us the availability to practice,” Frissell said. “I think there should have been more restrictions put into place, and I think it should’ve looked a lot different than having full team practices.”

Frissell, a graduate of Polson High School, is a political science major and a member of UM’s Davidson Honors College. Freshman year, she finished 10th in the Big Sky Conference Cross Country Championship and qualified for regionals.

May, who was hired in Frissell’s freshman year, said Frissell was set to be a top 5 runner in the Big Sky Conference this season.

May said the virus hit Frissell physically the hardest of anyone on his team.

One cross country runner had to quarantine for two weeks because she was listed as a close contact of the virus. She then went to one cross country practice and was forced to quarantine again because of Frissell and her roommate’s positive tests. Despite never showing symptoms or testing positive, she couldn’t run for three weeks.

“I felt terrible for her,” May said.

May said he appreciates Frissell voicing her concerns to him. He said looking back, he can see some safety measures he would have changed within his teams practices, like the number of runners in a group.

He said the team is in a variety of different mindsets regarding COVID-19, so by appealing to his higher-ups for one athlete, like Frissell, another athlete’s views about COVID-19 may be overshadowed. He is focusing on making sure to only advocate for something if the whole team is in agreement about it.

He does encourage his athletes to reach out to UM on their own like Frissell did.

He also said even if he disagrees with something happening within UM athletics, which he doesn’t, he doesn’t have much leeway to do anything.

“I don’t think that anyone is promoting or striving for something that I feel in my heart of hearts is wrong,” May said.



Women’s race leaders Beatrix Frissell, right, and June Eastwood head toward the second and final lap of the 6K Montana Invitational race on Oct. 4, 2019. Frissell, a freshman at the time, was one of the top five Griz runners who led UM to victory in the women’s six-kilometer race. **SARA DIGGINS | MONTANA KAIMIN**

May said, even if his team had had all of its new precautions in place, like the reduced group running numbers, at the

beginning of the year, COVID-19 would still have infiltrated his team. He said COVID-19 is coming from outside of

athletics.

While the Big Sky Conference is planning a shortened running season in February, Frissell said she’ll need to see drastic changes to how things are being handled before she’s comfortable competing.

The Big Sky Conference also ruled that cross country meets can be held in the fall of 2020, if they meet county health standards. May said some Big Sky Conference schools are eyeing competing at a meet in early November.

May has also been in contact with Montana State University’s cross country coach in order to see where MSU’s cross country team is at mentally and physically.

The Big Sky Conference is also trying to have a cross country championship in early 2021.

Frissell spoke up about some of these changes she would like to see, at UM and in the Big Sky Conference, in a UM athletics Zoom call on Oct. 5. The call was hosted by a variety of UM athletics members, including athletic director Kent Haslam and Charles Palmer, a professor at UM in integrative physiology and athletic training.

Palmer said in the meeting, the members discussed “what resources are out there, how to access them, how to help a teammate that might be struggling.”

Palmer said the call was arranged by student athletes, but he didn’t ask why in particular they wanted to meet.

This was the fourth Zoom meeting of this kind to be held within athletics and the first to happen this fall.

These meetings are open to all student athletes. Six athletes and five UM administration members attended the meeting. Palmer speculated the low turnout of athletes was due to the meeting being scheduled at noon.

Palmer said there are a lot of athletes excited for a potential spring season. While some have serious concerns about it, it’s also a major motivator for others.

May has also seen this trend within the cross country team.

Frissell said the fact that athletes were all given the option to opt out of an upcoming season, was stressed in the Zoom meeting.

May said one athlete not only opted out of playing their sport, but also stopped going to school completely.

“In their particular case everything went online and there was no in person,” May

said. “This shows exactly how mentally, physically and emotionally draining this challenge is.”

Palmer noted there’s no set number of cases that would make athletics shut down again.

“It’s complicated,” he said. “There really is no trigger point, specific number that if it hits that that things will stop, and more just a whole series and collection of different pieces of information.”

Palmer said this decision is more up to the Missoula City County Health Department than it is to the UM Athletic Department.

UM Director of Communications Paula Short told the Kaimin in October that UM is in fact in the driver’s seat when it comes to closing campus, but it doesn’t anticipate closing the campus all at once.

Palmer also said he likes what he has seen so far from UM athletics.

“The quality of people in Grizzly athletics is amazingly high... top notch quality people that are working their tails off; they normally work their tails off, and layered on top of that is this COVID situation,” he said.

He said testing is becoming more and more available and it is “looking more realistic that there’s some semblance of sports in the spring.”

May is now faced with the steep challenge of getting his team back into a competitive state before spring. He said he used to lose sleep because he didn’t always think he was evaluating and training his runners well.

“Most of what keeps me awake now is worrying not about training, but worrying about mental resilience, worrying about emotion,” he said.

May is basing his training levels for athletes based on how long they were in quarantine. Previously training was based on experience, age and ability.

He said UM will let its runners decide on whether they each individually want to run in the future.

“Ultimately there are going to be some in the conference from our school and from other schools that are going to say ‘you guys are crazy, don’t do this, don’t go into this, we don’t have a cure for coronavirus,’” May said. “I can still be completely respectful of that and actually even be supportive of that.”

He also added that it has been hard to keep comradery amongst his team.



Cross country coach Clint May. **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**

“Coronavirus is not a unifying thing, it’s the opposite,” he said.

Frissell echoed this sentiment. She says it is hard not to point fingers at those who may have attributed to her and her teammates getting the virus.

She is still upset with UM’s overall handling of the virus. She said there were plenty of times in her classes or on campus where she was put out of her comfort zone.

She is also worried that an athlete at

UM will never be able to recover from COVID-19.

“Obviously something needs to happen, something needs to change,” she said. “From the beginning [UM] needed to be more restrictive.”

## UM soccer ready to prove its number one preseason ranking

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For the first time in 19 years, the University of Montana women's soccer team was voted number one in the Big Sky Conference's preseason poll.

"I think this is probably the best team I've coached," Chris Citowicki, UM soccer's head coach, said.

In the preseason poll, the votes are cast by other coaches in the conference who rank every team but their own. He attributed Grizzly Soccer's number one ranking to the team's first place finish in the regular conference last year. During the season, his team gave up only two goals, and with no seniors on the team, all of his players will be returning.

For senior and captain Alexa Coyle, a forward on the team, the number one ranking comes with added pressure.

"Of course, any recognition like that, and being voted number one, is awesome, but it also motivates us to put in the work to get there and actually be number one," she said.

Citowicki, too, said that a huge part of being chosen as the number one team is the added psychological pressure of living up to that rank. He said that one of his goals for the team this year is to teach the girls how to deal with that pressure.

UM came into the Big Sky Tournament last year with the first seed after an undefeated regular season, but lost in the first round.

The team is now looking toward a spring season. Citowicki said that the team has been practicing since Aug. 5. Both Citowicki and Coyle also said that those practices have been beneficial, especially for freshmen on the team.

"Most of the time, freshmen come in and get put into an incredibly competitive environment," he said. "Usually, it's sink or swim, and if you sink, you don't get a chance to really play until January."

He also noted that because of the postponed season, the freshmen on his team have had more time to prepare, causing the team's freshmen to be at a place now that they typically don't reach until April of their first year.

"It just makes my job harder to choose who's going to be on the field," he said.

Coyle said that the team has been using



University of Montana women's soccer team senior and captain Alexa Coyle receives the ball from a teammate during a drill in Thursday's optional practice. The Big Sky Conference delayed the fall soccer season to the spring due to COVID-19, and UM's practice is temporarily optional. "We typically have a lot more players at practice, but we made this week optional because of the rising cases," head coach Chris Citowicki said. **LIAM MCCOLLUM | MONTANA KAIMIN**

the unexpected fall off-season to their advantage.

"It's been a great opportunity for growth," she said.

She also said that upperclassmen on the team have had the chance to get to know the freshmen, giving everyone an opportunity to build relationships and improve the team's dynamic.

Citowicki is looking forward to seeing the team play. He said the team is practicing at a high level, and he's excited to see what they can do once they are actually on the field in a competitive environment.

However, Citowicki did say that he feels it is necessary to have a few backup plans

in case the spring season is postponed due to COVID-19. He didn't specify what these backup plans were.

His main worry is that, if spring soccer is taken away, the team will have gone a full year without competition.

Coyle said the coaches have kept the team focused on practices in the moment, and that she is keeping her eyes set on being able to play in the spring.

"We really just want to continue improving, taking advantage of the extra time and having fun," she said. "My biggest goal this year is for us to be the best we can be, both as a team and individually."

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