

MONTANA KAIMIN

A YEAR IN PHOTOS

The people and places of the pandemic,
revisited



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Volume 123

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Cover Photo
Emma Smith



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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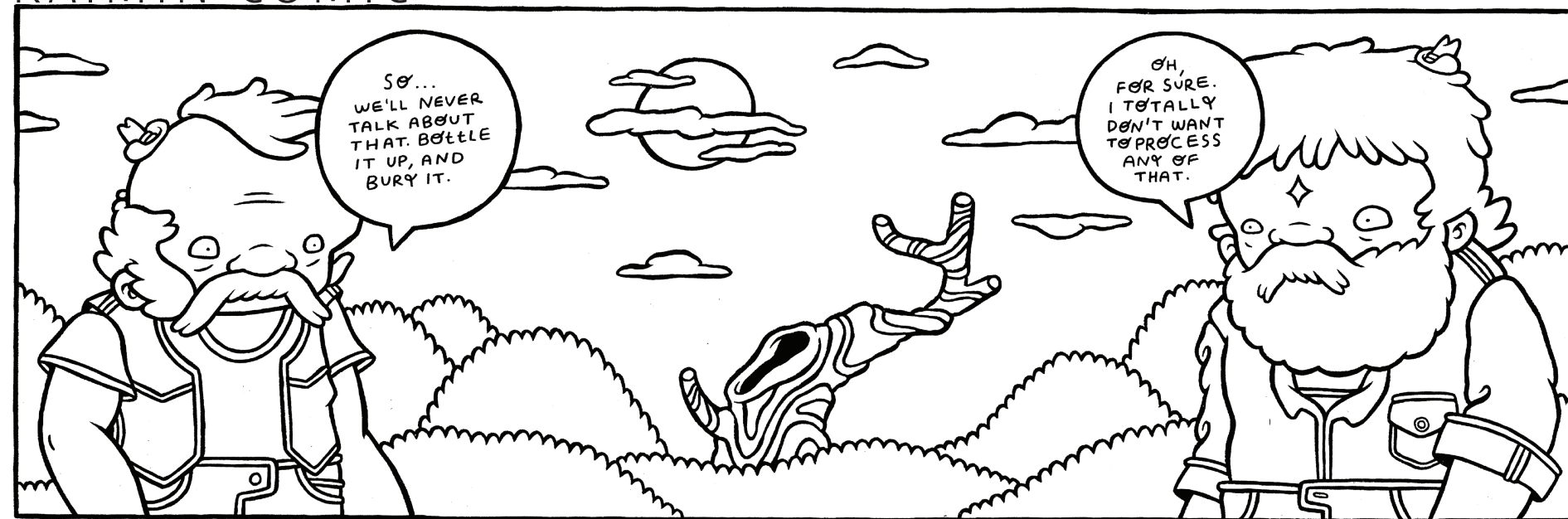
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KAIMIN COMIC



COOPER MALIN | MONTANA KAIMIN

In a pandemic (and a budget crisis) HB 102 is the last thing UM needs

After having adapted over and over again to the constant changes of the past year, UM now has to update and enforce a new statewide mandate — but it isn't related to the pandemic we are only just beginning to reach the other side of. Nope. The Montana Legislature's new big project? The next thing MUS campuses need to devote time and funding to? Permitting firearms on Montana college campuses.

Gov. Greg Gianforte signed House Bill 102, which will permit open and concealed carry on college campuses, into law in February. And now, UM has to figure out a new set of regulations — regulations to allow firearms on campus. And they'll have to be drawn up by June to comply with the bill's mandates.

This legislation from Helena is irresponsible, polarizing and, frankly, unnecessary.

Protocols will have to be developed for students carrying and storing weapons in campus dorms. Student resident assistants will now be in charge of making sure that students are following guidelines for these protocols.

The University itself must create a rules system for monitoring students who have chosen to carry weapons on campus, and

then enforce it. UM must also decide which events and places guns are prohibited and find security measures to enforce those regulations too.

In this week's issue, we talk to the team in charge of this transition about what it will mean for UM students, especially when few other universities in the nation have developed plans for a law like this, and Montana is left to trial and error.

And we can't help but be left to wonder why our RA friends need to add firearm de-escalation training to their summer activities, in between decorating their halls and making door name plates. Yep, just ~UM RA things~.

When Idaho implemented its concealed carry laws on campus, the university system estimated that it cost \$3.7 million to implement security and protocol systems on campus. So far, Montana has only allocated \$1 million to colleges in the state.

The truth is, funding and regulations aside, this legislation is dangerous.

We are furious that our legislature seems to be so involved in campus issues this year, but more than that, we're angry about the potential harm and danger that comes with

allowing guns on campus.

House Bill 102 puts students at risk and will take a toll on the mental health of one of the most mentally vulnerable populations by making campus an unsafe environment.

Students shouldn't have to be afraid of someone shooting us while we're getting lunch in the UC. RA's shouldn't have to worry that the drunk resident they're asking to quiet down might have a gun. Faculty shouldn't have to wonder which of their students are carrying guns they can't see.

Not only that, but the funding that will have to go into the implementation of this bill is desperately needed elsewhere at UM (we can't help but think of our friends in the College of Humanities and Sciences).

HB 102 seems, like many other bills that have come out of this session, like it was created to address a non-issue. The only problem is that this time, the bill carries with it the potential for much more unnecessary danger.

Like it? Hate it? Wish we were dead? email us your opinions at editor@montanakaimin.com

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Medium

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

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:

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

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Football is back



University of Montana wide receiver Malik Flowers sprints toward the end-zone as his teammates celebrate in the background during the game against Central Washington University. This push put the ball on the one yard line for the Griz. UM beat the Wildcats 59-3. Photo by Lukas Prinos

Briefs: Missing teen found, virtual Kyiyo Pow Wow and Earth Day films

MAZANA BOERBOOM mazana.boerboom@umontana.edu

Update: Missing Native teen reportedly in Washington

Tyra Sepulveda, the 16-year-old high school student who was reported missing after attending a high school walkout to protest racial injustice, has reportedly been found. The Indigenous teen with bright red hair was last seen April 2, but she may have been found safe, according to Missoula police. On Monday, a Missoula Police Department Facebook post about Sepulveda's disappearance stated that she had contacted her guardians and told them she was safe with relatives in Spokane, Washington. MPD was still attempting to confirm the new information as of Tuesday.

NCAA 'unequivocally supports' transgender athletes

In the wake of legislation targeting transgender athletes in several states, including Montana, the NCAA released a statement on Monday saying the "NCAA Board of Governors firmly and unequivocally supports the opportunity for transgender student-athletes to compete in college sports." It also stated that any college or university that doesn't adhere to its standards of inclusion will not be allowed to host NCAA championships.

If House Bill 112 — the Montana bill aiming

to ban transgender student athletes from competing on teams that match their gender identity — passes, Montana would be in direct violation of the NCAA standards. HB 112 was scheduled for its second round of readings in the House earlier this week.

The NCAA also stated that to participate in women's sports, transgender women must use testosterone suppression treatments.

Weeklong virtual Kyiyo Pow Wow

This year's Kyiyo Pow Wow will be held remotely throughout the week, according to a UM News release, as the student group presents its 53rd annual event.

"We regret to have to transition an important and powerful week for our cultures, our families and our University to an online version this year," UM student and Kyiyo President Aislyn Baker told UM News. "But out of deep respect for elders and our community, we decided to employ an extra precaution of safety this year."

The week started on Monday and Tuesday with traditional cooking through the All Nations Health Center and an online auction held on Wednesday. Thursday there will be

a meet-and-greet with Kyiyo members from 4-5 p.m. Throughout Friday and Saturday are the dancing and singing specials — Friday for collegiate and youth levels and Saturday for officers. Winners in each section will get an electronic cash award and will be announced on Sunday at 5 p.m. by Ruben Little Head.

Each event will be hosted through Kyiyo's Facebook page.

IWFF film showing for Wildlife Bio anniversary

The Wildlife Biology program at UM is celebrating Earth Day and its 85th anniversary with an outdoor showing of the International Wildlife Film Festival documentary "Lichen" next Thursday. The short film will be played on repeat, every 15 minutes, outside the Forestry Building for people to watch on foot for free from 8-10 p.m. "Lichen," directed by Lisa Jackson, takes a macro 3D look at these tiny life forms that continue to baffle scientists.

"Social distancing and masks will be required and this installation will happen rain or shine," the event description states.

The film festival, which was founded by former UM faculty member and bear biologist



Blotter: Naked sunbather, Trump stickers and attempted tunnel exploration

GRACE CARR grace.carr@umconnect.umt.edu

Between April 1 and 7, UMPD reported five crimes on and around campus. Disorderly conduct was the most common crime.

THURSDAY 04/01: EARLY MORNING SCREAMS

Officers responded to Pioneer Court around 3:30 a.m. Thursday, when two separate callers said there was a male groaning, yelling and screaming. The callers believed the male was either intoxicated or injured. He was checked out by medics and taken to St. Patrick Hospital for an evaluation. Not exactly the alarm clock the neighborhood was expecting

SUNDAY 04/04: BIRTHDAY SUIT SUNBATHER

This week's splash of sunshine brought students studying in the quad, hammocks by the river — and naked sunbathers. An adult white male was found sunbathing in the nude by the forestry building Thursday afternoon. When approached by a passerby, he threw on a pair of khaki shorts and rode off on his bike. The incident was not reported until two hours after it occurred, so police were not able to contact the nude loungers.



SUNDAY 04/04: TRUMP REMOVED AGAIN (AGAIN)

A Donald Trump bumper sticker was taken off a vehicle in Lot H on Sunday. Sound familiar? A similar Trump sticker was stolen from the same vehicle and same location on March 18. The decal was worth \$10. There are no suspects, and the incident was reported as theft from a motor vehicle. Someone out there has a strong distaste for Trump merchandise.

MONDAY 04/05: ATTEMPTED TUNNELING

Over the weekend, the entrance to the tunnels by the Natural Science Building was damaged. The screws were removed from

Chuck Jonkel, will run April 17 through May 7. There will be other small pop-ups like this one, as well as showings at the Roxy Gardens and virtual screenings.

COVID-19 in Missoula update

Throughout the week, Missoula County has been hosting a walk-up mass vaccination clinic at the former Lucky's Market in the Southgate Mall. There is one more walk-up clinic planned for this week on Friday from 9-11 a.m. where workers will distribute the Moderna vaccine.

Missoula County's COVID-19 vaccine dashboard updates each Monday, while the state's COVID-19 dashboard updates daily.

As of Monday, Missoula County:

- Administered more than 83,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, around 10,000 more than last week.
Completed nearly 33,000 second doses, the final step to immunity — roughly 6,000 more than last week.
Had 130 active cases of COVID-19, 24 more than last week.

As of Tuesday, Montana:

- Administered nearly 600,000 doses, roughly 60,000 more than last week.
Completed just more than 250,000 second doses, around 35,000 more than last week.
Had 1,005 active cases, 44 more than last week.

the hinges of the hatch that allows access to the tunnels. The hatch is locked with a cable underneath, so no one could get in, but maintenance had to repair the damage Monday morning. "It was definitely a hazard," UMPD Lt. Brad Giffin said.

WEDNESDAY 04/07: ANGRY VISITORS

Officers responded to the law school Wednesday afternoon where a person was yelling profane language and being disorderly outside the building. The individual was frustrated they could not talk to someone in person about registering for law school. Officers informed them that UM was only accepting online applications and warned them for their behavior. Anyone else curious as to what their courtroom tactics might be?

The Weekly Crossword by Margie E. Burke

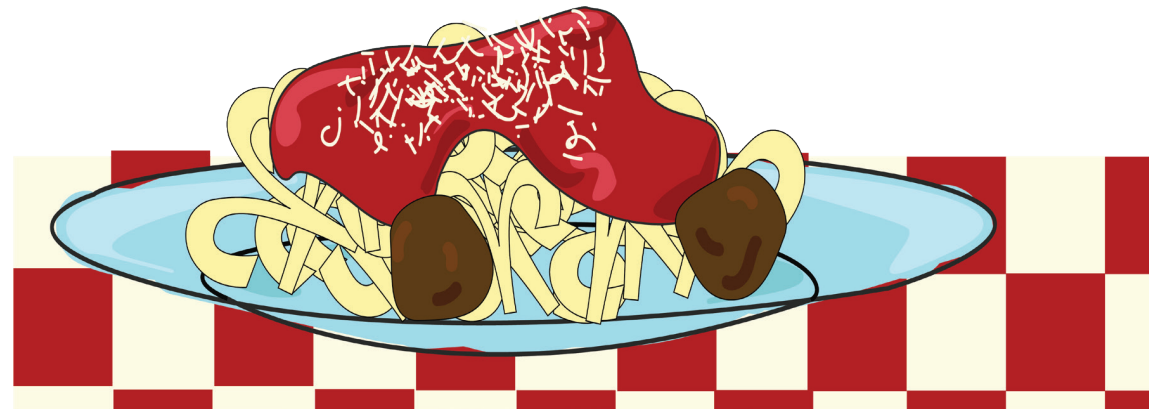
Grid for the crossword puzzle with numbered squares and blacked-out areas.

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- ACROSS: 1 Gyro ingredient, 5 Alex of James Patterson novels, 10 Skier's transport, 14 Exotic berry, 15 Safe place, 16 Corduroy ridge, 17 One of three copies, 19 It's pumped in a gym, 20 Poisonous plant, 21 Proving ground, 23 "Raiders of the Lost ___", 24 Make bubbly, 25 Plentiful supply, 29 Sailor's bunk, 32 ___ of the above, 33 Elmer, to Bugs, 34 Ballpark souvenir, 35 Neptune, e.g., 36 Casanova, e.g., 38 WWII General Arnold, 39 Treeless plain, 41 Boozehound, 42 Gift for a sweetheart, 43 Cube root of 27, 44 Times, at times, 46 Missing-person finder, 48 Popular street name, 49 One of a cereal trio, 51 Temporary measure, 55 Tahoe or Titicaca, 56 Right of entry, 58 Hot spot, 59 Shade of blue, 60 Jenga, e.g., 61 Flippant, 62 One of the Brady Bunch, 63 Pitcher in paintings, 25 Teen affliction, 26 Trade-show setup, 27 Funeral director, 28 Affirmative action?, 30 Poke fun, 31 Really keyed up, 34 Flying socialite, 36 Command to a dog, 37 Farm grazer, 40 Shift+5 on a keyboard, 42 Destructive spree, 44 Tailor's tool, 45 Conspiracy, 47 Necklace fastener, 49 Horse hoof sound, 50 High praise, 51 Locale, 52 Nibble away, 53 Crowning point, 54 Look closely, 57 "Welcome" site.

Answers to Last Week's Crossword: A M I S S E P E E H A U L, R A D I I A L L Y O G L E, T R E N D S O M E P L A C E, S T A G E S E T W A I T E R, L A I D T A N N E R Y, D E S E R T P O S S E, E L K M E T A P H Y S I C S, L A I R A T E S O L O, I N T E R S P E R S E T A R, S E T I N T R U A N T, S T A P L E R B O R N, M E M O I R S E P A R A T E, E N U N C I A T E T I R E D, L O S S L I A R U P E N D, T R E E E D G Y M E A T Y.

A penne for your thoughts



OLIVIA SWANT-JOHNSON | MONTANA KAIMIN

CLARISE LARSON

clarise.larson@umontana.edu

Bone apple teeth! Life is about exploring pasta-bilities, and we want to show you where your true passatelli lies. We just spa-GHETT you, okay? GEEZ, there are so many pasta puns, it's a bit overwhelming! We will do our best to not overwhelm you too, but feel free to say "pasta-la-vista" to us if it gets to be too much. <3

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Everyone at the Olive Garden HATES when you come in for any reason. First, you always test the limits on the "Never Ending Pasta Bowl®" to the point where the waiter's arms are literally ACHING because they carried out so many bowls out for you. Second, you insist that it's not pronounced "lasagna," it's ~lasaga.~ And finally, you ask every table around for their extra breadsticks because the restaurant won't let you have any more.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Ever since watching "Lady and the Tramp" when you were a kid, you have been searching relentlessly to find the delicate cartoon noodles that look as yummy as the bowl in the movie, but to no avail. We think you should rewatch the movie and focus on the romantic side of it, because you need some help in that department, honey.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): One half of you wants noodles, the other half wants lasagna. The solution? Baked ziti. You get that baked cheesy goodness, but also get them guuuu cylindrical noodles to slurp down. It's a great party dish too — and we know you're a social butterfly, Gem.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): If only people truly got to know you, they would find out that the beauty within you is overflowing. Take our queen, ravioli, for example. From the outside, she is a sad, chonky pale sack. But once bitten into, she is a yummy surprise of cheesy joy. I'm not saying people should bite you, but remember your worth, Cancer, you are a star. <3

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): You're so dramatic, sometimes we can't handle it. What's that? Everyone is ordering pasta? Okay, so naturally you go ahead and order the worst dish on the menu: zucchini noodles. They are DISGUSTING and you know that, but damn, do you look healthy.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEP. 22): You know what you like. Straight spaghetti and meatballs. Nothing fancy, but just right. We know you will watch the pot intensely, because God forbid the noodles are a little too overcooked and you have to restart the whole meal.

LIBRA (SEP. 23-OCT. 22): You're a gorgeous individual, Libra. You've just got it all, and we are so proud of you. You easily match with the most aesthetically pleasing pasta shape: fusilli. That shit is so swirly it doesn't make sense. Anyway, have a great day honey, we're getting the vibe you're gonna need it.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): What's that loud crunching noise? Oh, it's just you eating raw noodles from the box like a fucking animal.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 22): You are a bubbly little bean, Sag. Your food reflects where your head is: currently in the clouds. The closest pasta we could find to that is gnocchi. It's actually mostly potato, but hey, so are you. Nothing like some fluffy gnocchi nuggets to ignite your imagination.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23-JAN. 19): You like things perfect, and that's cool with us. The problem is, not all pasta is created equal. You need something that will consistently be yummy and perfect. That's why you only eat Annie's White Cheddar Mac and Cheese. That shit slaps EVERY. SINGLE. TIME. That's straight fax, no printer.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): You have a gluten allergy and you refuse to eat some shitty garbanzo bean pasta, and therefore live out your life pasta-less. RIP my guy, you're a hero.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): You're just vibing, my guy, letting shit happen. That's why you always order the classic chicken alfredo with linguine noodles. Has this been the only pasta dish you have ever ordered since you stopped drinking mother's milk? Yes. Will you try other dishes? Probably not. It makes sense, you like harmony and balance. Why change that?

UM prepares for guns in student housing, questions remain

JACOB OWENS
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University of Montana Housing’s live-in, full-time staff met last week to discuss how to implement House Bill 102, which will allow guns on UM’s campus and student housing starting in June.

The meeting came after the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education announced in an email to students and staff in late March that a draft of its policy on the bill will be completed by early May. The policy will implement HB 102, a bill Gov. Greg Gianforte signed in February that will allow open and concealed carry of firearms on campuses in the Montana University System starting on June 1.

Under the current policy, guns are only allowed on campus if checked-in and stored in the campus police department, apart from a few uncommon exceptions. The new law will allow students to keep firearms in their dorm rooms and on their person throughout campus.

Sandy Curtis, the executive director of UM Housing and Community Standards, said unlike policies regarding COVID-19, there’s not a university UM Housing can use to compare this situation to.

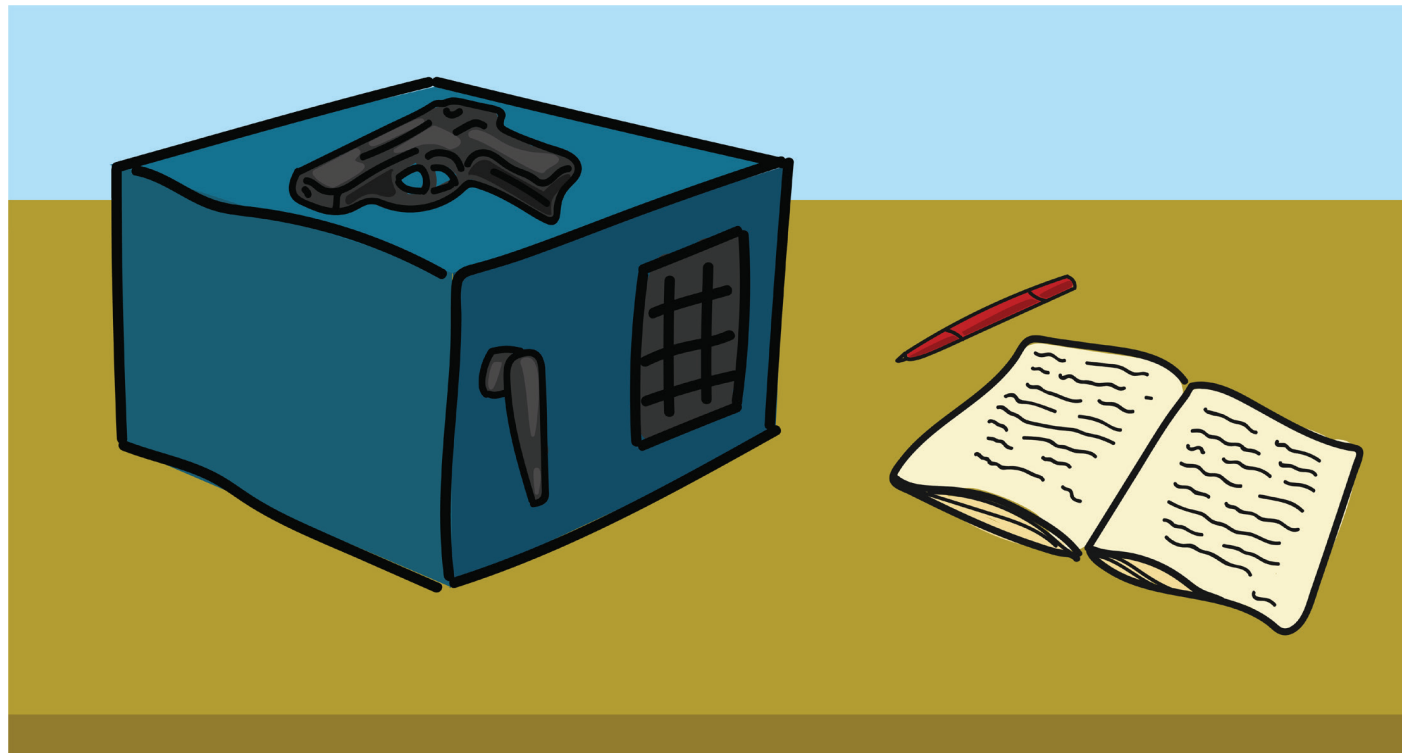
“There’s no other resident life system in the nation that we can find right now that has to work to actually store weapons and have them in residence halls,” she said.

Curtis said despite the bill allowing students to have firearms in their rooms, students will still be “highly encouraged” to store their guns at the University of Montana Police Department. UMPD’s Administrative Lt. Brad Giffin said students can check out their guns from UMPD “24/7, 365 days a year.”

The bill states that the university system can prohibit “the carrying of a firearm outside of a domicile on campus unless the firearm is within a case or holster.” Curtis said it has not been determined what will be characterized as a “domicile” and whether that might be a residence hall or individual dorm rooms. She said everything is still in the early planning phases.

Curtis said students who opt to have a firearm in their room, but don’t bring their own gun safe, will be able to buy one from either UMPD or UM Housing.

She said it’s currently unclear if students will be required to have a gun safe, or if they’ll be required to keep the firearm in the gun safe when it’s not being used. She said they’ll hope to have those answers in the



coming weeks.

Jackie Olexa, a freshman at UM, said she grew up around firearms and is generally pro-gun. She said she’s okay with guns in apartments if people are smart and safe with them, but she’s not in favor of guns in dorm rooms or being carried around on campus.

“I don’t think it’s necessary, and I feel that it would make a lot of students feel less safe and less able to focus on their studies if they knew that there was a potential for their classmates to have a gun in their possession,” Olexa said.

She said she knows there’s not much the University can do, but hopes people bringing guns on campus realize that firearms pose more of a risk than a benefit.

According to Giffin, it’s important for people to understand the law because the University can’t create a policy outside the law. He said the Board of Regents will use the law to shape their new policy.

Curtis said UM Housing will need to do more de-escalation training for RAs and ensure UM Housing educates students and staff on the bill.

She said weapons have not been permitted in housing for many of the same reasons that give her concern now — people struggling with mental health with access to a gun, the risk of unintentional discharge and how firearms might affect RAs’ jobs.

“The biggest thing for us is that we don’t want the RAs to be in any type of a situation that would put them in danger, and at any given time if they’re worried about it we would want them to call UMPD to come and help them with any particular situation, but that is our biggest concern,” Curtis said. “This is what will keep me up at night.”

The bill also says the University System can require students who are storing a gun in campus housing to get “the express permission of any roommate.”

Curtis said next year’s housing application will ask students if they plan on having a firearm in their room, but housing applications for the upcoming year already opened in the fall.

Olexa will be in Lewis and Clark Apartments next year with her partner, but she said if her roommate was someone she didn’t know well she’d be initially more hesitant in giving them permission to have a gun.

“I am very pro-gun, but I’m pro logical, safe gun ownership, so as long as they were being smart and safe about it, I’d probably be willing to consent,” Olexa said.

Curtis said UM Housing will have a record of which students have a gun in their room, but it will likely not be available to the public. She said it’s been hard to not be able to answer all the questions people have.

“I think for me and my perspective it’s

OLIVIA SWANT-JOHNSON | MONTANA KAIMIN

very difficult because I want to be able to give everyone answers, and we don’t have the answers yet,” Curtis said.

Feedback can be submitted to the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education about drafting and implementing the policy for HB 102 by emailing oche@montana.edu and attending a Zoom session with the Board of Regents’ Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee on May 12.

The final policy for HB 102 will be approved at the Board of Regents Meeting on May 26 and 27.

JOURNALISM AT UM SUMMER

Get ahead or get a head start.
Media History & Literacy JRNL 100HY
First summer session

Feature Writing JRNL 362
Second summer session

Sign up today!

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
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A YEAR IN PHOTOS

The people and places of the pandemic, revisited

When the world shut down just over a year ago, I had no idea what my photo team would work on in the future. I was just over two months into my new job as multimedia editor, and though the future was uncertain, we still had a job to do.

And I had to reassure and guide them — and myself — as best as I could.

Very impressively, they pulled through and found some of the many fascinating people who we featured in our pandemic coverage over the past year. This week, we found some of those people again, roughly one year later. We reactivated our Facebook

accounts and opened our Instagram DMs to see if they would be willing to meet up with us and discuss how their lives have changed since the last time we photographed them.

From taco truck employees to marijuana dispensary workers; from servers at Pie Hole to Black Lives Matter protesters, our subjects have been vaccinated, landed and left jobs, endured their first year of college, and so much more.

This year has been full of firsts and historic moments that we’ll all remember, reinforced through the images we’ve run in the Kaimin and across social media.

What better way to honor those images than to revisit the people who gave them meaning, and the scenes that remind us of such uncertain times?

I hope the places and people featured in this issue remind readers what we’ve been through and give us hope for the future. Here’s to the perseverance of creativity and vibrance of the individuals who continue to tell these stories.

— Claire Shinner, Multimedia Editor



Above: University of Montana student Yueyang Hu waits to hear the price for sending boxes of medical masks to Shanghai on **March 6, 2020**. Due to the coronavirus travel restrictions, shipping is more expensive and an estimated time isn't given as packages have to take a circuitous route to get into the country. **LIAM MCCOLLUM | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Yueyang Hu leans up against a mailbox in front of the post office on Brooks Street in **April 2021**. Hu has had a good but busy year. Because of the pandemic, he has spent much more time outside and hiking in the mountains. His two takeaways from the year are to "always stay optimistic" and to "never assume anything." His family in China is doing well, he said, and life in China was back to normal a while ago. **LUKAS PRINOS | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Characters Melchior, played by Diego Kjelland, and Wendla, played by Elle Fisher, profess their feelings for each other at the first rehearsal for the rock opera "Spring Awakening," on **March 3, 2020**, at the Masquer Theatre. **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**

University of Montana senior Diego Kjelland stands in the lobby of the PARTY building on **April 11, 2021**. Kjelland likened the cancellation of "Spring Awakening" to a quote by his character from the show: "But the thing that makes you really jump is that the weirdest shit is still to come." **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Left: University of Montana graduate student and El Cazador employee Miguel Angel Olivas poses for a portrait inside the restaurant's food truck, Saturday, **April 18, 2020**. Olivas, who is a graduate student at UM, was saddened that all his theater performances for spring semester were canceled. To help pay his bills, Olivas started working at the food truck. **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Above: University of Montana graduate student Miguel Ángel Olivas raises his fist as he cries with two other Black Lives Matter supporters during the **June 5, 2020**, rally outside the Missoula County Courthouse. "I felt like I was supported by my community. You have no idea how I feel backed by my community and fight for what I believe in." **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**

Left: Miguel Ángel Olivas poses for a portrait in a classroom at the Music Building on **April 8, 2021**. After a year of the pandemic, Olivas, who concentrates in singing at the School of Music, said the hardest thing about coming back to school was everyone having to sing with their masks on. "In every art that you do, everyone is constantly trying to connect, whether it be through food or music, and when you put a mask on, it takes so much away from the actual music and performance," he said. **ANTONIO IBARRA | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Above: "Honestly I'm just very excited to learn," said Zane Segal, a freshman living in Jesse Hall in **August 2020**. "I'm taking classes that I really didn't have the opportunity for in high school and I think it's very exciting to take classes in new subjects that you don't really know much about." **HAZEL CRAMER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

"I think you talked to me the day I turned 18. I came to college expecting an entirely different process than I came out with. I found out that I'm kind of bad at everything I do, which is kind of relieving in a way. There's no pressure to be good at everything." — Zane Segal, UM Freshman, April 11, 2021 (below)



CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN
montanakaimin.com April 15, 2021 **9**



Above: Pie Hole employee Josh Park loads a to-go pizza box with a supreme pizza on **April 18, 2020**. All non-essential businesses were closed down in late March due to the COVID-19 outbreak and restaurants like Pie Hole have been providing curbside delivery. **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**

Below: University of Montana student Allison Simko dishes this week's vegan special, The Kip, at Pie Hole on **April 9, 2021**. Simko has been working at Pie Hole for the last nine months and says COVID-19 has made the pizza shop a lot quieter than it used to be. **KENNEDY DELAP | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Right: University of Montana graduate student AJ Williams sits down outside her home with a cup of coffee on **August 28, 2020**. Williams was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune disease when she was 14 years old and has had continuous health conditions since, making her extremely sensitive to COVID-19. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

Far right: University of Montana journalism graduate student AJ Williams sits outside of the Payne Family Native American Center on **April 7, 2021**. For Williams, this was an exciting day: It was the first time she has physically been on campus since the start of the pandemic after getting vaccinated against COVID-19. "I haven't been in a grocery store for over a year," she said. "I haven't been doing anything in person except seeing some friends outdoors."

ANTONIO IBARRA | MONTANA KAIMIN

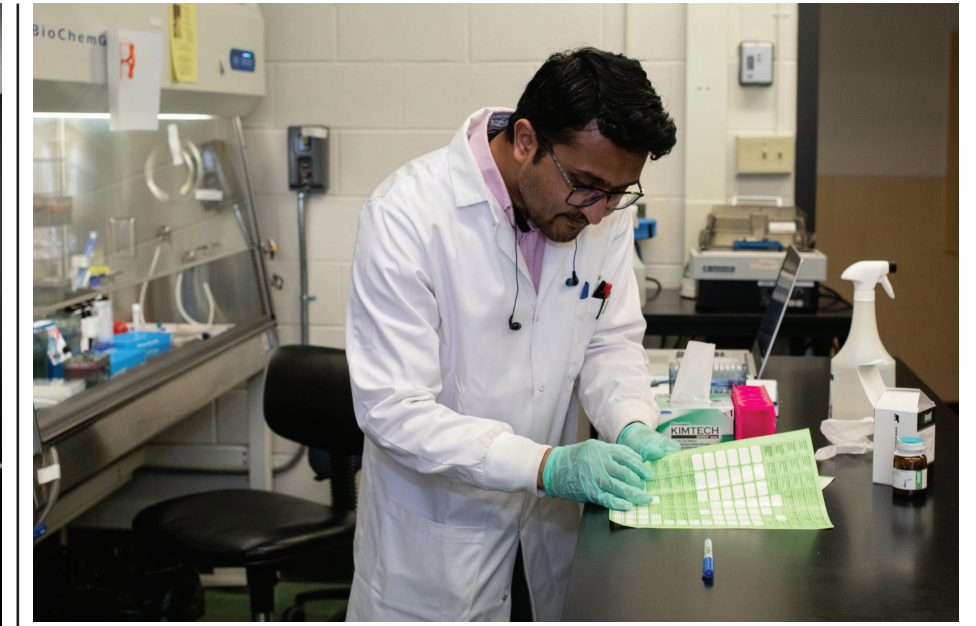
Right: "[I'm looking forward to] the social life, the campus life," freshman Diego Zakers said **August 2020**. "I come from a small island, so I'm excited to meet new people and branch out." **HAZEL CRAMER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

Below: Diego Zakers sits in front of Miller Hall on **April 7, 2021**. He was hoping for a lot more from his educational experience this year, but he was happy with the people he met and is starting to think of Missoula as his home. "During this first year I learned a lot more about myself and a lot more about balance," Zakers said. **LUKAS PRINOS | MONTANA KAIMIN**



University of Montana dining worker Jenyce Verbeek works at The Market in the University Center on **April 20, 2020**. Jenyce 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," Jenyce said. **DANIEL DUENSING | MONTANA KAIMIN**

Jenyce Verbeek stands at her cashier station in the Food Court on **April 10, 2021**. Verbeek says she has been having a slower year with fewer people on campus and fewer people coming through the Food Court. Throughout the year, Food Court staff have followed strict COVID-19 safety rules like hourly cleanings of the facility and sneeze-guards around the cashier stations. **LUKAS PRINOS | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Dr. Hardik Amin, a researcher at the University of Montana, in the formulation room for vaccine studies on **March 22, 2020**. The formulation room is one of the first steps in creating a new vaccine. The formula that carries the vaccine is very important to its success. **SAVANNAH STANHOPE | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Dr. Amin draws out his process for formulating a COVID-19 vaccine on **April 8, 2021**. Amin has been researching the vaccine since the beginning of the pandemic last spring and is now conducting tests for different vaccine variations in the lab. **KENNEDY DELAP | MONTANA KAIMIN**

‘Dance New Works’ innovates in industrial setting

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Pink Floyd’s “Another Brick in the Wall” echoed across the Mansfield Library parking garage. Four dancers, clad in white button-up shirts, overcoats and plain white-and-tan dresses, maneuvered around a big concrete beam decorated as a brick wall. The costumes and classic rock painted a scene reminiscent of the ‘70s, but the thunderous blare of car horns pulled the performance back to the 21st century.

“Living is Easy With Eyes Closed,” by Shenoe Curley Wildshoe, kicked off the University of Montana Dance’s live “Dance New Works” production on April 10. The show included works by guest artist Nicole Watt, UM faculty, and BFA and BA Junior Creative Projects. Performing in the Mansfield garage were UM dancers and musicians encircled by 18 cars, instead of a theater audience.

“This is one of our first live main stage productions of the season,” said Brooklyn Draper, an assistant professor of dance and choreographer of one of the performances. “It’s really exciting to perform in front of an audience, and to have that opportunity in a non-traditional way, I think, brings a lot more excitement to the performance.”

Draper said “Dance New Works” was inspired by the drive-in street performance “Parked” by Los Angeles artist Jacob Jonas. The LA-based performance was conducted in an empty parking garage on May 6, 2020, where different groups of dancers were illuminated by car headlights. While “Dance New Works” did not have nearly the crowd as “Parked,” Draper was happy with the turnout. She said that having a live performance was a great way to end the spring semester on a positive note.

It also alluded to further collaboration opportunities with the School of Music.

Draper’s student-led performance, “We Knew the Name of Every Sound” featured six dancers and seven musicians, including music composition major Andy Josten. Draper said she and Josten focused on exploring “the polarities of different dynamics in both movement and sound, and how these different qualities can merge together.”

This is Josten’s first time collaborating with the dance program, and, so far, he said he’s enjoyed the opportunity. A lot of the work Josten did with Draper revolved around improvisation, which eventually evolved into the choreographed dance featured in the performance.



University of Montana dance student Sidra Talamantes performs in “Living is Easy With Eyes Closed,” choreographed by fellow student Shenoe Curley-Wildshoe. The performance opened the six-show set. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

The actual performance was like a conversation among the musicians and the dancers. Every time a dancer paused, the metallic sound of the vibraphone would answer.

Other instruments, like the bass, clarinet, trumpet, alto saxophone and drums followed a similar formula, while also playing along with the dancers’ movements.

“We kind of speak a different language about very similar things,” Josten said. “It definitely was challenging, but not in a hard way.”

While the other performances did not feature live music, Draper said that students pushed the creative boundaries of dance during the pandemic.

Isabelle Kasper, a junior dance student at UM, centered her performance around excluding the concept of gender from dance. Kasper’s piece, “The setting is a sailboat” featured four dancers, dressed in casual sweatshirts and pants to avoid the association of gender with certain costumes. Kasper said the theme of the performance was a random idea that intrigued her, and that she also took moments to look at the minutiae of life through random, trivial things like teacups and the importance of skin care.

She said she particularly enjoyed working on “Dance New Works” because of the collaboration it inspired between faculty and staff.

“No one has a lot of experience in this world, which is kind of exciting,” Kasper said of life during a pandemic. “It almost equalizes all of us, because faculty and students are on the same playing field, and we’re all exploring together.”

Adapting to the industrial environment of the parking garage was particularly challenging for costume and lighting design. But that difficulty led to more freedom for the performers to experiment with lights, unusual costumes and using the surroundings.

Alessia Carpoca, professor of theater and a costume designer for the production, said that she and the four other costume designers for the show used costumes that both contrast and complement the harsh setting around the dancers.

“Something we have decided at this point is that we want happiness, we want lightness because of how hard this year has been,” Carpoca said. “So we refuse to go dark, sad and moody.”

Carpoca’s design for Watt’s performance was all white t-shirts and pants. The costume design for “We Knew the Name of Every Sound” took on a more formal tone, with shoulder pads, black pants and a white, button-up shirt — though Carpoca noted that she added a splash of color with the bright overcoats and bow-ties.

“Dance New Works” also employed unique ways of lighting the garage that were a little more reminiscent of a high school prom dance floor than a traditional stage. The performance included overhead strobe



Sophia Petersen, left, and Kristen Manfredo, right, perform in “Barcode,” choreographed by Nicole Walcott. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

lights that flashed bright, neon colors across the parking garage. Hannah Gibbs, a graduate student at UM, said that they usually have around 100 lights for the show. This year they only had about 20.

“Experience and design-wise, you just have to focus a lot more and make a lot more specific decisions,” Gibbs said.

These decisions included letting dancers illuminate themselves with hand-held lights. “Barcode,” a performance choreographed by Watt, featured dancers with red and blue

LED lights sprinting across the parking garage and stopping in front of cars to dance.

Prop designers, though minimally employed in comparison to lights and costumes, also found innovative ways to adapt. This was most prominent in the first performance, with the support beam dressed as a brick wall. Four panels with the brick design surrounded the column, so the prop could easily be removed between performances.

These efforts did not go unnoticed by the audience. Matthew Kasper, the father of



Above, Regan Tintzman, front right, and Ashley Lindgren, front left, perform “Garage Grooves” by Heidi Jones Eggert. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

Below, Sarah Gates performs with several other dancers in “Vermillion Goldfish” choreographed by Alma Stephens. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**



UM dance student Isabelle Kasper, brought his car out to watch. He was particularly impressed with how the School of Dance pulled off such a challenging production.

“I liked how they overcame the adversity of the show,” Kasper said.

While this was the only live performance of “Dance New Works,” the performance will be streamed on-demand April 21 through May 2.

Draper said that she’s excited for people to watch the performance, especially

because it offers a new perspective on the innovative aspects of dance.

“I love when it’s taken into different locations, because it allows dance to exist and live everywhere,” Draper said. “It allows people to see it in a different lens and I think it’s really pushing us, because we have to change.”

Meet Moses Mallory: A big guy with bigger dream

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Painuulasi Redmond works a day job for eight hours, and a night job for up to five more every week to earn enough to raise her two sons by herself. She tries to get as much sleep as possible, but usually she has to wait until the weekend to rest.

One day, she hopes all of her hard work will pay off and she will be able to relax while her son, University of Montana offensive lineman Moses Mallory, plays professional football.

Taking a look at Mallory — his towering frame and athleticism on-field — this dream seems within reach. But Mallory himself credits family support for helping him get there.

“She’s my life,” Mallory said regarding his mom. “I owe everything to her.”

It’s easy to see why Redmond believes Mallory can make it to the big leagues, as he boasts a 6’3” frame and weighs 342 pounds. He is UM’s starting left tackle and packs an unpredictable amount of explosiveness.

In high school, Mallory was on one of his track team’s 4x100 relay teams, where he ran anchor — the fastest position. Mallory also played rugby on a team that won nationals and featured future NFL players. He is always working out in the weight room and can squat 700 pounds.

Despite his big stature and ability to lift the weight of a vending machine, Mallory’s mom still describes him as “a big teddy bear.” Anyone who has seen Mallory’s giant warm smile knows this to be true.

During UM’s 59-3 thrashing of Central Washington on Saturday, Mallory and his teammates helped the Griz offense gain 529 total yards and didn’t allow a sack. In the midst of this brutal beatdown where the offensive line shined, a video came across UM’s giant video board.

Mallory, wearing sunglasses and a trucker hat that his fluffy black hair billowed out from, began doing a karaoke version of George Michael’s hit song “Careless Whisper.” He quickly began showing some iconic dance moves as he belted out the tune next to UM’s mascot Monte, who was pretending to play a saxophone.

Among the crowd watching the video were Redmond and Mallory’s brother, Martavius Redmond. The two have traveled to games in California, Oregon, Montana and their home state of Utah to watch Mallory.

“I’m his number one fan,” Martavius said. “He’s my best friend.”

Martavius is a few years older than Mallory, but the two have an inseparable bond. Martavi-

us was always taller than Mallory until college and claims that he “would smoke him” in a race. Martavius also had a Division I opportunity, when he played cornerback for Southern Utah.

The two brothers were raised by Painuulasi, who says that she was very strict and raised them with Polynesian customs and traditions. Painuulaisi herself was born in the Samoan Islands before moving to Missouri and then Utah.

“She raised two men by herself,” Mallory said. “She always made it a point to get us what we needed and to get us the best opportunity possible.”

When Mallory got an associate’s degree, becoming the first member of his family to do so, his mother hung it on their fridge.

“I was so proud,” Paniuulasi said. “I was like, ‘You go Moses!’”

At UM, Mallory is working on a sociology and criminology degree, which he hopes one day to use in law enforcement.

Mallory got his first degree at Eastern Arizona, a junior college where he ended up after he played at Dixie State. At Dixie State, Mallory tore his MCL after two games, and his football future was cast into doubt.

“I saw it as a potential to come back even stronger,” Mallory said. “So I did that and I was able to come back very quickly.”

After his stint at Dixie State, Mallory went to Eastern Arizona, where he was named a top-15 offensive line junior college prospect in Arizona by Scout.com.

Mallory then landed at Montana, where he was faced with another challenge — losing weight. He said that as a part of his Polynesian background, he loved to eat, so dieting was the hardest part of his weight loss journey.

“I knew the ultimate goal and my dreams were bigger than food,” Mallory said.

That ultimate goal? Making it to the NFL. Not for the money or the fame, but because Mallory truly loves the game. He used to write on a piece of paper over and over again “Moses Mallory in the NFL.” In July 2020, the website NFL Draft Diamonds, which is dedicated to finding hidden talent for the NFL, did an interview with Mallory.

But before he can get his shot at the highest level of football, Mallory must continue his career at UM. The Griz still have one more spring game against Portland State on April 17.

UM is also expected to play in the fall, where Mallory believes it can win a national championship. If UM does make it to the national championship game in Texas, his mom and brother will undoubtedly be there cheering him on.



University of Montana offensive lineman Moses Mallory gets in a stance before a play during the game against Central Washington University on April 10. Mallory came to UM after a stint at Dixie State and Eastern Arizona. **MATTHEW TRYAN | MONTANA KAIMIN**

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Hammer Time!: Tanessa Morris’s path to dominance

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University of Montana hammer thrower Tanessa Morris has competed in the hammer throw event three different times this season at track and field meets. She’s won all three times.

“She’s a stud,” said University of Montana head throws coach Ryan Weidman, who met Morris when he was hired at UM at the end of September.

Morris transferred to UM after completing two years of college in Canada, where she was born and raised. In Canada, she earned a silver medal in the hammer throw at the 2019 Canada U-20 Championships.

“I grew up in an area that’s very oil field-based, very agricultural-based and I wouldn’t trade it for anything,” Morris said.

Her small-town roots led to her wanting to end up in a small town, like Missoula, where she practices throwing a hammer under the shadow of Mount Sentinel.

When Morris enters the circle preparing to throw the hammer, a metal weight attached to a wire with a handle on it, she is calm. She digs her neon pink and green shoes into the concrete and slowly, methodically, begins to rotate her arms around her head.

Then she begins to speed up, hitting a dizzying pace as she spins in circles, the hammer spinning at a dangerous speed around her. When Morris releases the hammer, it makes a whistling sound as it soars into the air.

Morris isn’t bigger than the average thrower, and in fact Weidman notes that she is smaller than most. She was slated to throw the javelin and compete in the heptathlon before doing the hammer throw.

“While I was running laps, as heptathletes do, I saw these girls that were throwing (the hammer),” Morris said. “I was like, ‘Wow, that looks way more fun.’”

Before she was throwing the hammer, she was out in the pasture of her family’s ranch, where she helped raise over 200 Red Angus cows. Morris was also competing in rodeos thanks to her family ties.

Her grandfather Cody Morris won the bareback riding event at the Calgary Stampede, and her dad competed in

the Canadian National Finals Rodeo. According to Morris, the first time she was put on top of a horse, she was only six weeks old. She competed in her first rodeo when she was 2. She got a rodeo permit when she was 12 and barrel raced professionally in high school.

In high school, she transferred to a sports-focused school, where she practiced a variety of sports, including track, for multiple hours a day. Along with barrel racing, Morris also played hockey and figure skated for 10 years.

Weidman said Morris’ figure skating background, where she got used to spinning in circles quickly, helped her excel in hammer throwing.

“I’m definitely one of those guys that believes every kid should play every sport because they can use it in other sports,” he said.

After going to college at the University of Lethbridge for two years, Morris heard that the University of Montana was looking for a hammer thrower.

In her first meet at UM in March, she threw the hammer over 158 feet, which was the fourth farthest hammer throw in UM history. She won the event.

“It felt really good,” Morris said. “But I know there’s definitely more to come.”

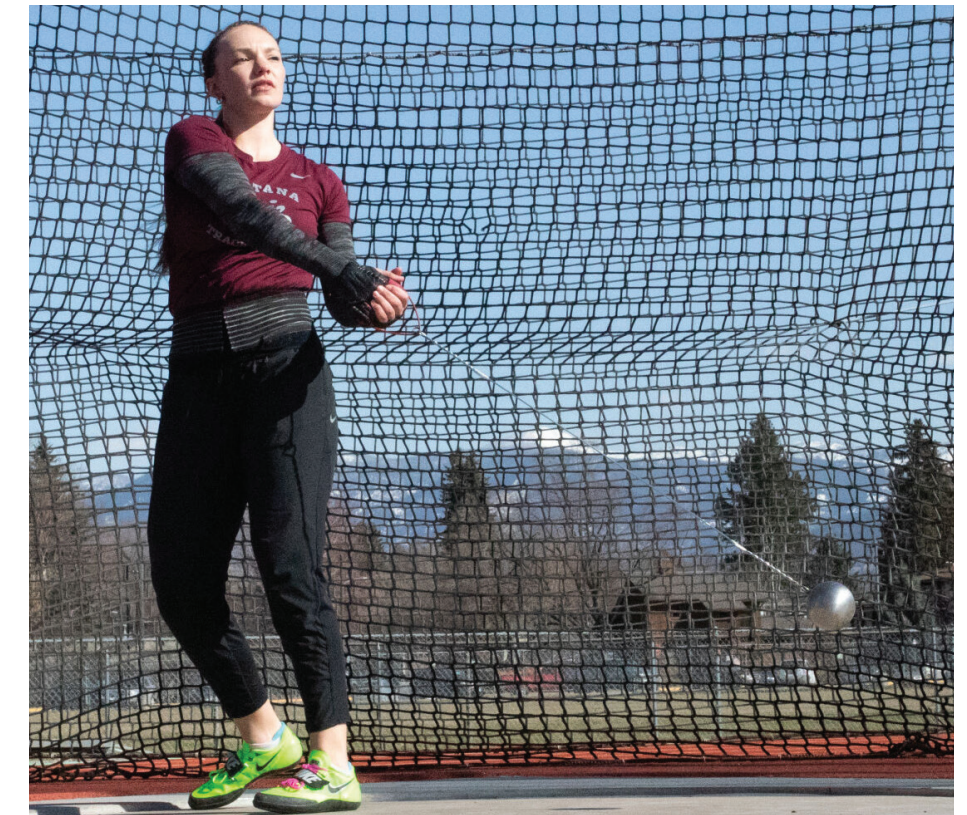
Morris also won her event during Montana’s second and third track and field meets, throwing for over 183 feet in the former and 182 in the latter.

Winning feels good to Morris, but she has her sights set on bigger things. She wants to break the school record, over 209 feet, for hammer throw.

“We’ve had practices where she’s (thrown) way past that,” Weidman said. “By the end of the year ... she’ll be pushing the school record.”

Montana’s next meet will be in Pocatello, Idaho, for the Bengal Invitational on April 16 and 17. The Big Sky Championships will be in Ogden, Utah, on May 12.

Weidman said his goal for Morris is to qualify for the NCAA Regionals and also win the Canadian National Championships.



University of Montana hammer thrower Tanessa Morris looks before starting her spin to throw the hammer during practice on April 2. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

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Leaders of Missoula raise awareness, support for survivors of sexual assault

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Following a report of a rape on campus, a host of advocacy groups and individuals gathered outside a teal tinted Main Hall, gripping signs that read "Strong Alone" and "Fearless Together" — words that hold a deep meaning to those affected by sexual violence.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and this year's theme is "Strong Alone, Fearless Together." The Student Advocacy Resource Center, Missoula Project Beacon, Make Your Move and other public health groups are working together to raise awareness and build community support for survivors of sexual assault.

"We, individually, can heal," Make Your Move Coordinator Brenna Merrill said. "We can reimagine and recreate the world we deserve."

This month's events kicked off on April 1 when female leaders from UM and Missoula County gathered on the Oval as Main Hall was cast in teal light, symbolizing sexual assault awareness.

UM President Seth Bodnar spoke alongside various female leaders and advocates, expressing his gratitude for the strength in the group before him. He added that it is "important to come together as a community to address challenges."

Apart from Bodnar, there were only five other men in attendance.

Sexual assault is prevalent on university campuses, and UM is no exception. According to the Women's Health Office under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, one in five women will experience sexual assault during college.

Three days before the lighting of Main Hall, UMPD released an email to UM faculty, staff and students about a recent report of sexual assault in an on-campus dorm room. UMPD received the report of sexual intercourse without consent from a campus security authority, a person with authority to take action on behalf of UM, Lt. Brad Giffin said.

SARC was planning the month full of events alongside community partners long before the reported assault.

Make Your Move — a campaign designed to engage men and women as allies to prevent sexual violence in the Missoula area — is hosting four panels between April 12 and 26, film screenings, and a workplace harassment prevention mini-series. The mini-series will include tips on how to have great sex, how to flirt, and how to advance your career. They will also be doing a workshop for bartenders and

bar owners on how to cultivate a bar culture that reduces the risk of sexual violence.

Missoula Project Beacon, under the All Nations Health Center, will be moderating documentaries geared toward highlighting the issues of violence against Indigenous women and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women movement. They also hosted a virtual fair to discuss survivors' wellness last week.

"We can come together, share a conversation that may be uncomfortable, but still be able to share that knowledge," Project Beacon Director Lauren Small Rodriguez said.

Project Beacon is a program aimed at providing direct services to Indigenous survivors of human trafficking and sexual violence. The project's support services include prevention training, women's cultural healing, 24-hour crisis response and foundational support through a culturally inclusive approach.

By hosting 21 COVID-19 safe events throughout the month, UM leaders hope facing these issues will be unavoidable for the University and broader community.

UM also launched a social media campaign for the movement. The SARC website lists Instagram prompts for each day of April. When students make a public post with the appropriate tags, they are entered to win prizes at the end of the month.

The April 15 prompt: What do you do when a friend shares that they have been sexually harassed?

SARC director Jen Euell said the program's goal this month is to create a culture of respect on campus, and to teach students how to recognize the signs of sexual violence and respond appropriately.

The month is halfway over, but staff and students can still join in on events continuing through the latter half of the month. At 2 p.m. on Thursday, people can listen to a virtual panel where Native advocacy providers will discuss the importance of providing services using culturally relevant care. There will also be a screening of the documentary "The Mask You Live In" at 5:30 p.m., which investigates the way boys and men are socialized in U.S. culture.

"Working together, we become fearless," Rodriguez said.

Go to SARC's website to access the list of events at UM and to learn more about SARC's partners. If you need support as a survivor of violence, harassment or discrimination, SARC offers a 24-hour support line at (406) 243-6559.



SARC Coordinator of Prevention Education Alison Pepper, left, and SARC Director Jen Euell, right, address the crowd to organize a photo opportunity for the media. Attendees held signs showing this year's theme, "Strong Alone, Fearless Together." **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**



Missoula Project Beacon Director Lauren Small Rodriguez, center, and case manager Shayla Beaumont, right, show their table of information to University President Seth Bodnar. The project sold masks designed by Native artists and gifted one to the president. **CLAIRE SHINNER | MONTANA KAIMIN**