

WHILE THE UNIVERSITY CONTINUES BREAKING GROUND ON MULTIMILLION DOLLAR PROJECTS, HOUSING FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES REMAINS IN POOR, IF NOT HAZARDOUS, CONDITIONS.



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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POLITICAL CARTOON

PSST! HEY SIR, YOUR SWASTIKA UNDERWEAR IS SHOWING

AW JEEZ, THAT'S EMBARRASSING! NOW EVERYONE KNOWS I WENT



DETECTIVE SQUIRREL: SE 3 EP 4



BRANTLY HALL: THE MOST HAUNTED SPOT ON CAMPUS — ALLEGEDLY. COUNTLESS STORIES HAVE SPRUNG FROM THIS PLACE SINCE THE 30'S. EVERYTHING FROM GHOST DOGS AND SUICIDES TO CREEPY PIAMOS AND SATANIC TONNELS. STILL, I HAVE MY DOUBTS, AND ITHINK IT'S FINALLY TIME TO PUT THESE OLD LEGENDS TO REST.







BARRETT CLEMENT | CARTOONIST @FUNNYFERRETSTUDIOS



Difficulty: Easy

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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.

Answer to Previous Sudoku:

1	7	8	6	5	9	2	3	4
5	6	3	4	2	8	9	7	1
9	4	2	7	3	1	8	5	6
3	8	4	1	9	6	5	2	7
6	9	5	2	8	7	4	7	3
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4	5	6	8	1	3	7	တ	2
2	7	9	5	7	4	3	6	8
8	3	7	9	6	2	1	4	5
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Over the harvest wall



Freshmen Henry Maskew and Jillian Poe descend the climbing wall at the University of Montana's annual Harvest Fest on Oct. 16. **WILL LADYMAN | MONTANA KAIMIN**

Don't put off saving your life

Pink ribbons on posters, pinned to lapels and stuck on car bumpers are often an instant reminder that for many people, their day-today life has been altered by breast cancer.

Look around your classroom or across campus, and you'll most likely find someone whose family member, friend or coworker has been impacted. The American Cancer Society estimated over 300,000 cases of invasive breast cancer would be diagnosed in 2025, and overall, women in particular have a one in eight chance of developing it.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, but that doesn't mean being aware of those who have already been diagnosed. It also means being aware of your own body and taking the right preventative measures to make sure you're healthy. For many who may be at risk of breast cancer, checking in with your body regularly can catch an early diagnosis before it spirals out of control, or beyond treatment.

While they're the largest demographic at risk, it isn't just cisgender women who can get breast cancer. Cisgender men, transgender men and those who identify as nonbinary are at risk too, as well as trans women, although the risk factor varies depending on how dense your breast tissue is and how long you've been taking hormones.

The breast cancer awareness hockey game covered in this week's issue was only one moment in a handful of events this month, including last Saturday's football game and the Community Medical Center's Brake for Breakfast drive-up awareness event.

Breast cancer has even directly affected students on campus, such as Kaira Kaina, a former University of Montana student who moved back to her home state of Hawaii in 2023 after being diagnosed.

2023 after being diagnosed.
Bottom line: Anybody with breast tissue can develop breast cancer. Public safety announcements aren't just trying to get you to spend more money at the doctor or suffer through getting your chest pancaked by a mammogram machine. It's uncomfortable, but a quick check in the shower or discomfort for a few minutes at the doctor's office may spare you months and years of treatments in the future.

While the Center for Disease Control recommends women 40 and older get mammograms every two years, you shouldn't wait until then to keep on top of your health. The National Breast Cancer Foundation

The National Breast Cancer Foundation reported the five year survival rate of breast cancer is 99% when it's caught in its earliest stages. Additionally, if your family members have been diagnosed with breast cancer, especially under the age of 50 or if they were

a man, you may be at a higher genetic risk for breast cancer even if you're younger, according to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

So start by familiarizing yourself with its symptoms. According to the foundation, you may notice a change in the shape of your breast or nipple, or the way it feels. Some have reported changes may include skin texture like an orange peel or a thickening in the breast and underarm area near your armpit.

Lumps, unusual discharge, asymmetry of the breasts or visible, unexplained shrinkage and swelling may also be symptoms.

The Cleveland Clinic recommends doing a self-exam once a month. And while breasts have long been sexualized and subjected to taboo, now is the time to cast stigma aside. Healthcare isn't sexual, nor should self-exams be. For that same reason, we're going to use straightforward, medical terms to describe how to give yourself a potentially life-saving breast exam.

The Breast Cancer Organization recommends five simple steps.

If you're in the shower or getting dressed, take a minute in front of a mirror.

First, look at your breasts with your hands on your hips, checking for the aforementioned shape, color and size-related symptoms. Then raise your arms above your head and check again

Next, look for any signs of breast fluid. The Breast Cancer Organization describes irregular breast fluid as milky, watery fluid or potentially blood.

While you're still standing, raise your arm over your head and feel around your breast, pressing down and moving your hand in small, circular motions. Feel for tenderness and irregularities like lumps or dense tissue that seems out of place. Once you've examined one breast, raise the other arm and check the next.

Finally, repeat the exam while laying down to check your chest at another angle.

If you feel or see anything out of the ordinary, the Breast Cancer Organization doesn't want you to panic, but instead, make an appointment with your doctor. Never be afraid to advocate for yourself if you think it could be serious. After all, you know your body best.

It only takes a few minutes every month to stay on top of your health. Don't let your memory become another pink ribbon.

- Elle Daniel, Editor-In-Chief Like it? Hate it? Let us know.

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In local news...

SAV CHAVEZ | NEWS EDITOR

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MISSOULA SCHOOL BOARD APPROVES PRIDE FLAG ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

The Missoula County Public School Board approved a new policy allowing certain flags, including the pride flag, to be flown on school property on Oct. 14, according to KPVI.

This comes after the pride flag was voted to be the official Missoula flag on June 2.

According to KPVI, the policy effectively navigates around Montana House Bill 819, which restricted pride flags from being displayed in schools and government buildings.

MISSOULA OFFICIALS WORK TO REDUCE CRASHES ON RESERVE STREET

The Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization, the City of Missoula and the Montana Department of Transportation are working together to reduce the number of accidents on Reserve Street.

"What we have done within the scope of the plan is prioritize five design packages. One of those is near-term low-cost design solutions, which involves speed management as well as improved pedestrian crossing and lighting enhancements," Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization associate planner for transportation, Charlie Menefee, said to KPAX.

According to the City of Missoula website, the Missoula Police Department responds to roughly 1,800 reported crashes per year, with the highest and most severe crash rates taking place on U.S. Highway 93 and Reserve Street, with more than 150 accidents in the past year and more than 1,600 over the last five years.

In the plans, Reserve Street could see changes ranging from more lights to more visible pedestrian crossings to protect left turns.

On Oct. 15, the Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization placed a table outside of T.J. Maxx to talk to people passing by about the potential changes and to spread awareness.

"Adding more stop signs or adding more stop lights and traffic signals is not going to hurt anyone. Adding more safety for pedestrians is good," one person said to the organization.

The action plan is still being worked out in the planning phase and after federal grants will be needed in order to complete the project. If the funding is secured, residents can expect to see the plan completed within five to 10 years, according to KPAX.

MISSOULA AIRPORT JOINS NATIONWIDE REFUSAL TO PLAY DHS SHUTDOWN VIDEO

The Missoula airport joined the many major airports across the nation that will not play a video from Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem blaming Democrats for the government shutdown.

"Democrats in Congress refused to fund the federal government, and because of this, many of our operations are impacted and most of our TSA employees are working without pay," Noem states in the video.

The video has sparked controversy as Democratic senators are alleging the Department of Homeland Security potentially violated the Hatch Act, a federal law that restricts political activities of federal employees to ensure non-partisan administration of government programs and protect employees from political coercion.

According to ABC News, senators believe the act was violated by asking airports across the country to play the video directly blaming Democrats for the impacts of the government shutdown.

"All our displays are used for advertising, so it does not have a platform to run on. The Missoula Airport is not running it and stays non-partisan," Airport Director Brian Ellestad said to KPAX.





Next week on the Kaimin Cast,

Joining the "Herd": Building community through anonymity.

The anonymous social media platform YikYak is regaining popularity after its relaunch in 2021, and University of Montana students are growing a campus "herd," the nickname for users on YikYak. Originally started in 2013 by college students, YikYak allows students to post about peers, professors, classes and events anonymously. In 2017, YikYak was shut down due to an abundance of cyberbullying and threats. However, YikYak returned to the app stores in 2021, and this time a string of enforced guidelines and helpful resources were attached to prevent another shutdown.

Since younger generations communicate online more and more, the presence of an anonymous app on campus encourages students to have discussions and make friends without the anxiety that can come with entering a new place and meeting new people. UM's herd on YikYak is one of jokes, late night thoughts, lodge food complaints and occasionally heated debates.

UM freshmen Madeline Delaney said

UM freshmen Madeline Delaney said "It is kind of a fun little bit of community. Yeah, we're just a bunch of trial adults. We're not real adults yet, just trying to get through college and all the random experiences that we all have and then just writing about it on this random app."

Tune in to Kaimin Cast next Thursday to hear more about Joining the "Herd": Building community through anonymity on montanakaimin.com.

-Grace Golbach, audio editor



New Kaimin Cast episode out every other Thursday. Scan for the latest



CHINA ACCUSES US OF CYBERATTACK

The U.S. National Security Agency was accused on Sunday of carrying out cyberattacks on its national time center, according to the Associated Press.

The Ministry of State Security, the principal civilian intelligence, security and secret police agency of the People's Republic of China, said the U.S. agency "exploited vulnerabilities" in the messaging services of a foreign mobile phone brand to steal sensitive information from devices of the National Time Service Center's staff between 2023 and 2024.

China said any damage related to facilities could have disrupted network communications, financial systems and power supply, according to The Associated Press.

JEWELRY STOLEN FROM THE LOUVRE

During a daytime heist, thieves stole eight pieces of jewelry in a matter of minutes on Sunday, according to officials. Thieves rode a basket lift up the Louvre's

Thieves rode a basket lift up the Louvre's facade, forced through a window, smashed display cases and fled with "priceless Napoleonic jewels," officials said.

The heist took place 30 minutes after the museum opened, with guests inside the building.

One object, the emerald-set imperial crown of Napoleon III's wife, Empress Eugénie, which contained more than 1,300 diamonds, was later found outside the museum, French authorities said. It was recovered from broken according to the Associated Press news.

The stolen items include a sapphire diadem, necklace and single earring from a matching set linked to 19th century French queens Marie-Amélie and Hortense; an emerald necklace and earrings from the matching set of Empress Mari-Louise, a reliquary brooch; Empress Eugénie's diadem; and her large corsage-bow brooch — a prized 19th century imperial ensemble, according to AP News.

ALASKAN EVACUEES DISPLACED

After being evacuated from Kwigillingok, a small Alaska Native village along the Bering Sea, people are struggling to navigate the unfamiliar town of Anchorage.

For the nearly 2,000 Alaskans displaced following the devastation from Typhoon Halong that hit western Alaska on Oct. 5, it is not clear when or if they can return home, according to the New York Times.

Gov. Mike Dunleavy said the storm was the largest humanitarian evacuation operation in the history of the state, having killed at least one person and left two others missing.

Now, those evacuated are in mass shelters in an unfamiliar city, many with no money or identification, according to the New York Times

"They don't have any of their belongings," Dan Winkelman, chief executive of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation, said.

The Weekly Crossword by Margie E. Burke 36 40 44 63 Copyright 2025 by The Puzzle Syndicate

ACROSS

- 1 Chicken choice
- 6 Toss. like a coin
- of attack
- 14 WWII riveter
- 15 Budget item
- 16 Headey of "Game
- of Thrones' 17 Garage jobs
- 19 Fictional hunch-
- back
- 20 Large butte
- 21 Helper
- 22 Weather word
- 23 Awe
- 26 Razor handle?
- 29 Military truce
- 32 Boxes for
- oranges 34 Missile housing
- 35 Unruly crowd
- 36 Furnished with
- turrets 38 It sent Dorothy
- to Oz 40 Young '__ (kids)
- 41 Glade or green
- starter
- Island, NY
- 44 Went in again
- 47 Manicurist's tool
- 48 Mercury in
- 50 Sprang up
- 52 Olympic sprinter Devers
- 53 Stuffing herb
- 57 Roll of cloth
- 58 Source of gossip
- 60 Jessica of TV's "The Better Sister"
- 61 Milo's pal

- 62 Squeezing (out) 63 "Who ?'
- 64 Entree item, often
- 65 "Ode to a Night-
- ingale" poet
- **DOWN**
- 1 Alpine transport 2 Golfer's goal
- 3 Goddess of fertility
- 4 Power plant unit
- 5 Farm layer
- 6 Thriller writer
- McFadden
- 7 Banks, eg.
- 8 Stop temporarily
- 9 Quart divs
- 10 Readily bent
- 11 Lawful 12 Auth. unknown
- 13 ___ a one
- 18 2025 film, "The Running
- 22 Finally turned

24 Egg entree, in France

- 25 Film director
 - Forman
 - 26 Take place
 - 27 Origami bird
 - 28 Potluck staples
 - 30 Programming pro 31 Wood for piano
 - keys 33 Cut, as ties
 - 37 Detract (from)
 - 39 Junior, for one
 - 42 Trappings of royalty
 - 45 Get snuggly
 - 46 Least rainy
 - 49 Edmonton's prov.

 - 50 French priest's title
 - 51 Stir up
 - 54 Diva's piece
 - 55 Lady's man
 - 56 Work units
 - 58 The piper's son
 - 59 Comic strip cry

Answers to Previous Crossword:

1	L	Е	S	Τ.		Р	Ε	E	P	S		S	Α	G	Α
E	Ε	L	L	Α		Α	Χ	Ι	Α	L		Ρ	L	0	W
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1	Ε	D	1	F	1	С	Е		Т	В	Α	R			
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E	Ε	Х	Α	С	Т	1	Т	U	D	Ε		1	N	0	N
F	Т	0	Ν	Е		N	0	Т	Е	S		0	R	S	0
E	Ε	Ν	D	S		G	R	0	D	Υ		Ν	Ε	Ε	D

Squash-O-Scope

NICOLETTE SEIBEL | ARTS & CULTURE REPORTER

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In a sea of orange lumps, a gaggle of girls are posted up with the most basic pumpkin for their very performative - I mean aesthetic - Instagram stories. Meanwhile, you're going full Gollum-mode in the trove of gourds searching for your lumpiest, wartiest, gourdiest "precious." For all the people who rediscover their passion for gourds once a year, what quirky little vegetable are you?

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): Ah Scorpio, you are a rare case of squash. A calabash, or to some, a bottle gourd. On an empty stomach you're known to cure heart disease, constipation and even depression. You hide your little secret, toxic juices which cause hypotension and vomiting

blood. Only if you eat too much, though. Super spooky ... good thing there's no known cure.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): I just found you on my Whole Foods Facebook group and let's just say, now my roommate and I are both obsessed with kabocha squash. Named one of the best tasting winter squashes, my taste buds went on an adventure through your sweet, perfect, rich, chestnut flavors. You shook my

world, Sagittarius, but now you're breaking my heart because I don't know when I'll find you at

Whole Foods again. CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): I know people say you're uptight,

Capricorn, but sometimes you just need to be warmed up. The hubbard squash is a harsh winter squash, adorned with dusty blue thick skin which can be intimidating to tackle, but if you only roasted the exterior a little bit, you would discover the sweet, relatable taste of pumpkin. It might take some effort, but I see you. AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): Fun and bright and striped, you're just like a baby pumpkin with personality disorder and you work it like a carnival pumpkin. Some might ask what the fuck is going on. Let's be real, Aquarius, you don't even know half the time. You're no clown, not a

people pleaser either, but no one is offended when they

see you hanging around the patch. PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Versatile and abundant, Pisces, you are a zucchini, the summer squash in your garden that can feed a family for the whole year. Like, how do you get so big? I swear you guys end up being the size of a small child. Good thing you can be prepared in over 30 different ways, keeping us healthy and lean, but we need to stop it with the zoodles ... It's not real pasta, mom. ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Aries are always valid, like this type of pasta that isn't pasta. Spaghetti squash only takes five minutes to prep and 45 minutes to cook in the oven, a perfect meal to keep you multitasking. But hold on — at least set a timer on your phone so you don't burn

the house down when you spontaneously decide to rearrange your bedroom - again.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Ruled by Venus, your steadfast and everlasting beauty makes you the Pinterest posterchild pumpkin. Miniature pumpkins, baby boos, or jack-o-littles are classic, cheap and never rot, just like vou, Taurus. Perfect in every way, you are a decorative display that has certainly lasted longer than any college relationship I've ever seen.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Like a pumpkin merged with another pumpkin, Gemini, you keep letting all your personalities show, just like a turban squash. You're iconic, funky and head-turning, and definitely not just some lame soup ingredient. Food bloggers didn't

> really know what to do with you though, so they sliced off your head and filled you up like a bread bowl, and I'm kinda into it.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): I get it, Cancer, the seasonal depression is hitting all of us, and you're the acorn squash that is gonna let us feel all those emotions. I know you feel like you're being fucking roasted in the oven until vou're all mushv inside and then scooped into a pot. Things will start looking up though. All you need is a little spice to your life, maybe some nutmeg, cinnamon, a dash of oil and a splash of heavy cream. You will eventually get through this rollercoaster and become a warming soup full of vitamins and

antioxidants that will get all of us out

of this funk.

BARRETT CLEMENT | MONTANA KAIMIN

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): You really are a star, Leo, a classic sugar pumpkin, the peak of all pumpkins, really. Without you, there would be a hole in capitalism's secret weapon: Halloween. I know you love it when people get all up in your insides and carve little faces on you until you're forgotten rotting mush. Never really forgotten though, you make your appearance again next month, blessing us with scrumptious pies during Thanksgiving.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEP. 22): Poised and elegant, Virgo, your light tan skin and curvy body has a subtle beauty, and your insides, a vibrant sweet potato orange. In a dish, you are perfection, nutritious and a ruler over good digestion. The only thing holding you back is how much you hate that people don't take you seriously. Middle school boys can't help but giggle at your name, butternut squash.

LIBRA (SEP. 23-OCT. 22): The aforementioned Gollum has selected you to be his "precious" because, Libra, you are the lumpiest, wartiest of them all. You reign over the other gourds fairly and justly and yet artistically. Your fabulous lumps are admired across the land, and did I take you home spontaneously from the grocery store? Yes ... yes I did.

New research procedures on campus cause stress and delays

SABRINA PHILIP | NEWS REPORTER

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Business services at the University of Montana changed its procedures regarding incentive pay for research participants, causing ethical dilemmas regarding privacy and research delays.

Under the new changes, study participants in research projects cannot receive cash as an incentive, and personal information from them is required to be collected in order for someone to receive anything for their contribution to the research.

"Business Services started requesting information such as social security numbers and other identifiable information," Sophia Newcomer, the vice president of business operations and finance at the University, said. "For many of these studies, the participants have already consented to participate, and as part of that informed consent process, they were told that no identifiable information would be shared. So if Business Services are now requiring identifiable information, either we can't ethically conduct the research or we have to go back and re-consent."

Before the requirement was changed, participants in research projects at UM were paid for their involvement in cash, gift cards or checks without needing personal information

According to Claudia Eccles, the assistant vice president for research compliance and tech transfer in the Office of Research and Creative Scholarship, the change was made in May and requires a new process for motivating people to participate.

"Previous to this decision by the Office of Finance, what an investor researcher would do is, after their study was completed, they would fill out a form telling the 'treasury' how much money they needed," Eccles said. "I don't know all of the bookkeeping steps that are involved, but basically, they would go get cash, and then they would use the cash to pay the participants. The Office of Operations and Finance stopped allowing that"

Business Services, including Paul Lasiter, the vice president for operations and finance, declined to comment.

Eccles said she believes the University's changes to research incentives are due to tax reasons.

"Somebody that is not an employee at the school receives money, such as a study participant, they have an obligation to include that on their income tax return," she said.

Yet the change is rooted in a concern about the need to send personal information to the IRS if an incentive limit is reached.

Eccles said the usual amount people received in projects is between \$25 and \$50. If the amount a person receives goes over \$600 after helping with one or more studies, the school is required to file a 1099 form, which is a form used to report non-employed income like the research money, telling the IRS that the participant has been "repaid." To do so, the school must send the participant's personal information to the IRS.

Eccles understands the University's decision to enact a change in policy was based on a concern about untracked money within this process.

"The problem, as I understand it, is that what the Business Services office was concerned about was that they weren't tracking all the payments that were going to students," Eccles said. "And there may be a possibility that some recipients were getting more than \$600 that they didn't know about."

Due to the concern that IRS forms were not being filed for going over the \$600 limit, the school decided to require personal information for all studies to be collected to ensure they have the information needed to file a 1099. This threshold limit is expected to change to \$2000 on Jan. 1.

Eccles said that to file a 1099, Business Services needs a participant's name, mailing address and social security number, which is where the problem is created, Eccles said.

The change, according to both Eccles and Newcomer, has created a conflict between Business Services and researchers as they struggle to find a policy where incentives are tracked and, for researchers, the ethics of human subjects in a project are respected.

"It makes me think of HIPAA [the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act], you know," said Isabella Maag, a lab tech and alumnus of the University. "I mean, it affects randomization, right? You know, as a researcher, you're supposed to come in with an open mind and a clean slate for your project. And I guess say you know the patient or have more information than you need, it

could move the project one way or the other with biases."

Newcomer said researchers try to avoid collecting personal information of participants because of the ethics of conducting a research project with human subjects.

"As researchers, our number one obligation is the protection of human subjects," Newcomer said. "When people participate in research, we have obligations, including needing to keep their information confidential and needing only to try to collect the minimum information.

Until a change to a new system occurs, Newcomer said the ripples of the new policy have already affected research and will continue to do so.

"It is leading to delays in starting research. It's leading to delays and recruiting participants for research. It's leading to delays in paying participants who have already agreed and consented to participate in research, so it's just leading to delayed work and then delayed receipt of research funding," Newcomer said.

Due to this need for a pivot from this new research procedure, Eccles said UM has put a new plan in place they are set to test out in the near future.

"The University is investigating some online payment platform that would be used to pay the participants after the study is completed," Eccles said. "The participants would have to put in their email addresses, and when the study is completed, they would

get a notice from this payment platform that says, 'Hey, you've completed your study now, here's your incentive payment.' The participant would have the option to collect their incentive payment from a virtual Visa card or Starbucks card, or even Venmo, so it's just an alternative payment system."

Eccles said the key to the website is participants entering their email addresses so the online platform can track how much research participants earn over the course of the year. If they receive over \$600, Eccles said, their name would be flagged, and only then would personal information be required.

"Let's use this online system to pay our participants, and use the reporting that's available in that system to only ask the participants for more personal information, only when it's necessary, only when they breach that reporting threshold," Eccles said. "That way the finance office can meet their IRS obligations and our researchers can feel they can proceed with their research studies in an ethical manner and not asking their participants to give information they're not really anxious to give."

Eccles is stressed that a point of contention within the new policy is the need for researchers to reconsent with participants in long-term projects. This requires them to let study participants know the rules have changed and that they now need their personal information.



University of Montana business course altered after professor replaced

SAV CHAVEZ | NEWS EDITOR

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Students at the College of Business have had a 15-week course altered to 10-weeks after their professor, who is facing a felony charge, was recently replaced.

Anthony Pawlisz was hired in 2024 by the University of Montana in the College of Business as an adjunct professor to teach the Leading Teams and Conflict Management course.

The Kaimin reached out to Pawlisz for comment but did not hear back.

According to the Pawlisz v. State of Montana indictment, Pawlisz pulled a gun from his car and threatened another man during a disagreement outside the Rustic Hut Bar in Ravalli County.

In the past few weeks, any signs of Pawlisz's employment at UM have vanished from the College of Business. His name is no longer on his listed office in the and his class now has a new professor.

There was no formal announcement that Pawlisz was fired or quit. Students have expressed frustrations that they are now being forced to cram their coursework studies into a 10-week period and did not receive a refund for their 15-week course being shortened.

"The new professor is great, but everything that has happened has caused me to suffer in my other classes," Jada Barham, a student enrolled in the class, said. "I'm now failing a class. I've had to increase my amount of therapy I'm taking and can't get reimbursement for that. I'm struggling and haven't been offered any help from the University."

Barham said up to that point, there had been no check-ins on the students from faculty, and instead they were given a replacement professor, Udo Fluck.

During Pawlisz's time as an adjunct professor, students enrolled in his course said they felt uncomfortable and intimidated with his way of teaching. Some, including Barham, said they questioned their safety in class due to comments regarding gun violence.

"He would say things along the lines of, 'If everyone carried a gun, no one would get shot because you'd be too scared to shoot anyone because everyone around you is holding a gun,'" Barham said. "He would make subtle comments about potentially carrying a gun while he was teaching us, or that he had one in his vehicle, which was easily accessible to him."



Anthony Pawlisz taught in the Gallagher Business Building. He now faces felony charges after an altercation involving a firearm. **HENRY DOELLINGER / MONTANA KAIMIN**

The Kaimin reached out multiple times to the dean of the College of Business, Suzanne Tilleman, via email and in person. Tilleman declined to comment.

On Aug. 17, multiple calls were made to emergency services about the fight between Pawlisz and another man at the Rustic Hut Bar, according to the indictment. After a man at the bar made comments about Pawlisz's fiance, the two began to fight. According to the document, Pawlisz went out to his vehicle, where he grabbed his gun and let off a warning shot before pointing it at the man and asking if he "wanted a piece of this."

Nickolas Steber, a senior international business and business management student from Missoula, said Pawlisz's way of picking students to answer his questions made him uncomfortable. Steber was not alone in feeling this way. Barham said Pawlisz would shout at students and push them to answer his questions.

"He would make us stand up every single time we answered a question," Barham said. "If you were sitting, he would approach you and get really close to you and make you stand. If you didn't project your voice loud enough, he would shout, 'What?' at you. I just did not prefer his methods."

Steber said there was usually a lot of tension in the classroom, including a time

when he stood up to Pawlisz for "bullying a lot of students in class." According to Steber, Pawlisz allegedly focused his attention on a student, pushing her to introduce herself.

"She was pretty quiet, timid, shy and he made her stand up and present herself in front of the class, saying, 'Who are you? What's your name?'" Steber said. "She said something along the lines of, she wanted to start a small business doing photography. [Pawlisz] said, 'Wow, these are quite lofty dreams we have here.'"

Steber felt this was not appropriate, especially when speaking to students. He attempted to redirect the conversation, asking Pawlisz about an assignment in order to take the focus off his peer.

Pawlisz also pressed his students to add him on LinkedIn as part of an assignment, which Steber thinks contributed to students finding an article from KPAX about his pending felony charge.

Now, in his absence, students are battling with the transition from the disorganized course left behind by Pawlisz.

Steber said he was not aware of Pawlisz's replacement until he checked his Canvas page. According to Barham, many students were not aware until they walked into the classroom one morning and saw Tilleman standing with Justin Angle, the chair of

the Department of Management, and heard music playing.

"This is something bigger than just a substitute because our teacher was sick," Barham said. "I just thought the whole energy of that day was very strange. We had walked in, and I haven't seen the dean of the business school often, so I honestly thought it was a substitute. Justin Angle was there too, and they had 'I Will Always Love You' playing. I don't know why, but we sat down, and they kept trying to reassure us that we needed to heal because of this horrible experience."

Both Tilleman and Angle declined to comment.

Barham and Steber both expressed their sentiment that this encounter with Pawlisz had been covered up by the University.

"I was kind of hoping University would do a little bit more for our safety," Steber said.

University of Montana Director of Strategic Communications, Dave Kuntz, said he had little knowledge on how the business school handled the situation when asked for comment.

"There are challenges that admin faces that students do not understand. What can be perceived as brushed under the rug can be the result of a lot of legal things that we face," Kuntz said. "UM has policies and processes in place for strong reasons. We understand that some of those policies come at the expense of transparency, but following those legal and administrative processes is required for UM employees."

Steber said he knows the University can hire excellent staff, but that "they are allowing poor standards." He said he thinks the business school is great, but it was a miss on the dean's part that they can't guarantee safety, a sentiment he said applied to the entirety of the University.

Barham also said she wishes the University would have done something sooner due to her impression that students were complaining about Pawlisz's behavior earlier in the semester. She said she is confused about the lack of communication from the University given the frustration students are feeling about having to take an accelerated course.

"I feel like they thought that that one class period where they talked to us, that's all we needed, and then they just moved on," she said.

While grateful to have a new professor that does not evoke fear or stress from her, Barham said the residual fear still lingers, leading her to think of studies at the business school in a sad light.



he knew something wasn't right. After two years of living in campus housing, Emma Leo noticed a decline in her mental and physical health. She felt foggy, unfocused, and so exhausted she could barely leave her bed.

Even Pumpkin, her orange tabby, had lost his energy and typically playful nature.

In August 2025, a friend of Leo's sent her a Tiktok video about the effects of mold poisoning, noticing similarities between her symptoms and those mentioned in the video.

Leo searched her two bedroom apartment, looking in cabinets and crevices until, after pulling back the ceiling moulding in both of her bedroom closets, she found her answer. Sooty black tendrils and spots creeped across the ceiling's edge, extending their reach far behind the wall. Mold had infested her home, leaving her shocked and filled with profound disgust.

At the base of Mount Sentinel among pleasant homes and trees sits

Story by Aidan Graham **Photos by Will Ladyman**

the University Villages, a community for families and older students to find affordable housing while completing their studies. Founded in the late '50s and early '60s, the villages have provided homes to thousands of students and alumni, and stand as a

WHILE THE UNIVERSITY CONTINUES BREAKING GROUND ON MULTIMILLION DOLLAR PROJECTS, HOUSING FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES REMAINS IN POOR, IF NOT HAZARDOUS, CONDITION.

testament to those whose education was supported within its walls. However, despite its esteem, the age of its structures has made itself present and the seeds of decay have sprouted in its very bones.

The University Villages, which include the Craighead-Sisson Villages and Elliott Villages, have long shown their age over the past several years. There are walls filled with asbestos, hallways covered with lead paint and reports of black mold in multiple apartments across the villages.

The University claimed the cost of renovating these buildings would be upwards of \$25 million due to high levels of hazardous materials. According to Associate Director of Facilities Harley Lathrop, in an interview with the Kaimin in 2024, if the cost of renovating a building on campus is more than half its value, it is more cost effective to demolish and rebuild new housing in its place. A project of that scale is valued at \$93 million.

"We do have a long term student housing master plan," UM Spokesperson Dave Kuntz said. "We're investing some significant work into tearing those down and replacing them with buildings like those in Lewis and Clark, but about two years ago we chose to do the new residence halls because we have a higher influx of on-campus students, but there is a plan in place."

While the University continues its work on brand new multi million dollar dormitory projects, the villages continue to crumble around the residents within.

WHEN MOLD ATTACKS!

Leo is a senior in the integrated physiology program, attending the University on scholarship. Her and her cat Pumpkin had lived in the Craighead-Sission Village apartment complex for nearly three years.

"I was so sick. I can't definitively say it was because of the mold because I received no medical testing, but it definitely changed when I was out of the environment which is a pretty big sign, especially when they find that much mold," said Leo.

Black mold, the colloquial name given to the Stachybotrys genus of fungus, is an asexually reproductive fungus that reproduces quickly and produces microscopic toxic compounds known as mycotoxins.

According to the National Institute of Health, when exposed, these toxins



Mold coats the wall of Emma Leo's closet in her 2-bedroom Craighead apartment. CONTRIBUTED | EMMA LEO

can cause headaches, allergy-like respiratory issues and gastrointestinal problems. Even 24 hours of exposure have been known to cause neurological issues such as brain fog, mood swings and chronic fatigue as well as kidney and liver damage and a higher risk for certain cancers. Pets, the elderly, young children and the immunocompromised are at the highest risk for these symptoms and long term damage.

According to the Cleveland Clinic for medical and biological research, for black mold to grow, its environment must meet three conditions. It requires a moist environment, high temperatures and a cellulose food source. Conditions like this are often created in buildings due to improper sealing of roofs and ceilings, leaking pipes and poor ventilation causing moisture buildup within small spaces, going unnoticed as the mold infests and feasts on the drywall within.

Maintenance workers arrived in Leo's apartment to survey the situation. According to Leo, the maintenance team claimed the mold had only spread on parts of the ceilings, and would only require a proper removal and cleaning. Leo, who had noticed a crevice leaking behind the wall, challenged this, peeling back a panel to reveal a veritable mosaic of black mold, which crept its way deep beyond the drywall.

Leo claims maintenance admitted the mold couldn't have been caused by Leo, and couldn't determine how long it had been growing with all the possibility the mold had been there before she had moved in.

After this discovery, Leo was vacated from her apartment, and the University moved her across the hall in Craighead, downsizing her to a one bedroom apartment.

"It was a week before the start of this semester and I had to move with no help. They didn't offer any assistance moving, even though they're the one making me move out. So I had to move by myself to a different apartment," Leo said.

Housing at the University acts as a different entity, in accordance with the administration. In relation



The ASUM Children's Early Learning Center remains empty on Oct. 20. The entire building is now vacant.

to students and housing, it's much more like a landlord-tenant relationship.

"Unless the problem is big enough to involve the administration, the student and housing identify the issue," said Paula Short, associate vice president of campus operations. "They mobilize their team, and from there, decisions are made depending on the situation. They'll handle that for the student, while the University takes care of the actual problem."

Weeks passed and Leo's condition showed no signs of improving. After a second thorough search, Leo turned up an all-too expected fear. Within the windowsills and her closet at Craig Hall, she would again find more mold.

"I've lived in four places in the last month and a half. I had to drop two classes because it was just so much," Leo said. "That one wasn't nearly as bad, but I was just fed up at that point, because I was like, mold in two apartments? Not my thing. So I moved out. I'm at a different apartment complex now and not university housing, which is great. It's just more expensive."

The Villages offers apartments in Craighhead-Sisson from \$920 to \$1,500 per month and \$584 to \$962 per month for the Elliot Villages. As of 2025 the average rate for a one bedroom apartment in Missoula's University District is roughly \$1,300, according to market trends. This places the Villages rates 20% to 47% below the city's average.

After moving, Leo saw an almost immediate improvement in the symptoms she had been experiencing. Her mood would go on to increase, along with her energy and productivity. She even saw a shift in Pumpkin's behavior, returning to the happy go lucky cat he had been before moving to the Villages.

AN AGING ISSUE

Leo believes that her symptoms not only affected her general physical ability but her school work as well. "I mean, I'm not going to blame it all on that. I just couldn't get out of bed. I couldn't go to class. Like, it was hard to do anything. Getting up was so much energy. I did not do well in any of my classes last semester or the semester before," she said.

Leo is not alone in her experiences. In an informal online survey by the Kaimin in early October, over 40 students reported facing issues with mold in student housing during their time at the University. One of them was Elizabeth Kent, a senior majoring in environmental science.

"I lived in Duniway in 2022 on the second floor. In the showers, there was mold growing on the ceilings, and not only in the shower but in the bathroom itself," Kent said. "I pretty much stayed sick while living there because mold destroys your immune system's ability to defend itself. I used to walk to Craig to shower because it had been renovated and no mold was present."

After Leo's experience, and the financial and mental strain that came with multiple moves, she approached ASUM legal, an on campus legal service that offers low cost representation to students, in hopes of receiving compensation for the financial burdens and mental strain caused by constant moving. The service told Leo they couldn't represent her, and that as a part of the University, they could not take an adversarial position against the institution.

"We can and do advocate against the University for students, depending on the circumstances we will mediate a dispute, but we can't take legal position against the University because that would be a conflict of interest," said Ryan Aikin, director of ASUM legal. "As far as other resources though, it depends on the situation. There is a process in dealing with complaints against housing, and we can mediate, but whatever other resources we can point them in the right direction."

The village's decay and age has not only been shown in its moldering structure, but in the base of its original construction. In 2019, childcare facilities in Craighead had to be shut down and relocated after the discovery of asbestos within the building's exterior walls.

"Despite the University's knowledge regarding the location and po-

Emma Leo sits outside her new apartment with her cat, Pumpkin, who appeared less energetic in the previous apartment due to mold, according to Leo. **CONTRIBUTED EMMA LEO**

tential dangers of asbestos exposure, it made the decision to place the infants, toddlers and young children attending the Associated Students of the University of Montana Child Care Centers in buildings known to contain asbestos," said plaintiffs in a 2020 lawsuit against the University. The case is still ongoing but as of now the childcare facilities in Craighead remain abandoned.

While the University claims the levels of asbestos within Craighead-Sisson pose no threat to residents, the effects of asbestos exposure on the body can take upwards of 10 to 40 years to appear, according to the Mayo Clinic. These effects can come in the forms of tissue scarring and Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, a severe condition resulting in lung damage and cancer.

According to prior residents, in the village lease agreements students are informed of possible lead exposure from the building's pipes and paint. Even short term lead exposure can cause long term effects on cognitive function, especially in young children, posing a high risk to the large number of families living in the Village apartments.

THE LONG TERM COST

A feasibility study produced in 2022 by the University of Montana in cooperation with Mosaic Architecture detailed both the villages' existing conditions as well as plans for their demolition and reconstruction. The study covers both the structure's deterioration, aging utilities, and hazardous materials within Craighead-Sisson. The study then details a three year master plan which included the renovation and coalescing of the Elliot Villages, and complete demolition and reconstruction of Craighead-Sisson. The plan would cost over \$93 million dollars, and was planned in phases that would be completed between 2023 and 2025. As of now, these plans have yet to be put into action.

According to Lathrop, redevelopment of the villages remains a future consideration, but has no set timeline. He assured, however, that the University inspects and maintains all current units to meet proper safety standards for its residents. "The safety and wellbeing of our residents remains our top priority while we work toward future improvement goals," said Lathrop.

At this time, both apartments Leo lived in remain vacant and in disarray. Neither Lathrop or the villages' office could be reached for comment on the state of maintenance in either apartment or the overall safety of residents.

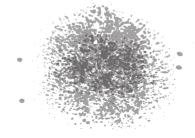
The construction of the new residence hall, along with the demolition of Craig, Elrod, and Duniway halls, are valued from \$70 million to \$100 million according to the University.

While the University prioritizes incoming freshmen with new dorm facilities, students and families within the villages continue to face the hazards posed within its out of code and out of date halls.

Students like Leo deal with these threats during a time in their educational career when they need it the least. While Lathrop and the University adhere to their strategy to keep these living quarters safe and operational until new developments can be put in place, it offers little respite to the residents who face these issues as they come.

"Well, after my experience, that's inaccurate," Leo said. "Clearly that apartment wasn't maintained to proper safety standards. If it wasn't my fault, that only leads the other party to be responsible."

While time will see developments proposed, and changes to come, inaction will only see the structures continue to sit and rot, and what lies deep within will continue to grow with the ticking clock.



Class is in session: UM's Lambda Alliance hosts Drag 101

BEE REISWIG | ARTS REPORTER

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When Eunice Sexx, a local drag performer, asked the crowd to raise their hands if they had ever seen drag before, about a third of the audience's hands went up. Though the University Center Ballroom wasn't full by any means, the crowd's enthusiasm more than made up for it.

Drag 101, a free educational event put on by the Gender Equity Resource Center and the Lambda Alliance in honor of LGBTQ+ history month, brought new and old fans of drag together to teach audience etiquette and drag history. The night also featured an appearance from "Rupaul's Drag Race" star Amanda Tori Meating.

"There is a huge intersection of trans [people] and drag. And the trans community is very much under attack by the government," Sexx said in an interview. "We're all just trying to live our lives. That's all we're trying to do, and we're having fun with it."

Sexx is the president of The Imperial Sovereign Court of the State of Montana, a nonprofit organization that advocates for the queer community through drag performances. Many ISCSM board members performed and made an appearance.

Lambda, a University of Montana organization for people of all sexualities and gender identities, planned the event to promote LGBTQ+ history and bring people behind the scenes of drag. A panel of drag performers, some in full face and others in their day-to-day wear, answered questions from an on-stage host. Alyx Kurschner, a freshman studying social work from Athens, Alabama, was one of the artists available to answer inquiries.

A former Mx. Gay Big Sky, 38-year-old Kurschner, who uses they/them pronouns, is the current vice president of Lambda. They were elected at the beginning of the fall semester and have been assisting in the preparations for the event.

"Drag has a lot of history in the queer

community," Kurschner. "It's a way for many who are gender diverse to actually find themselves. It promotes creativity, expression."

For Kurschner, gender diversity is only part of the picture in drag. As they told the crowd, it was one of the things that helped them understand their intersex identity. Drag has been a way for them to advocate for disability rights. They were inspired after going to a local drag performance called the Gaytrix Reloaded.

"Seeing a previous college student bring another student on stage was in a power chair, it just opened my eyes that I could do this still," Kurschner, an ambulatory wheelchair user, said. "My platform for Mx. Gay Big Sky last year was to promote diversity and accessibility."

Eventgoers were offered fake, bright green dollar bills in order to practice tipping artists. Sexx laid out their rules for the night, walking up and down the aisle in a dark green velvet jumper.

"Consent. It's not only sexy, it's mandatory," Sexx said. No performer will

ever touch an audience member without checking in first, and the same should go for those in the crowd. For tipping, just hold the bills in the air. The artist will come to you. If they don't have time — perhaps needing to run on stage for the powerful finale to their number as Darth Vader, as one student did — tip runners with buckets will stop by. For Drag 101, the fake money was redistributed after each number, but usually the cash goes back to the performers.

Most importantly, Sexx emphasized that viewers should have fun.

One drag tradition is an "attitude check," in which the emcee Sexx, in this particular show shouts out "Can I get an attitude check?" and audience members respond with "Fuck you, fill-in-the-blank." Some suggestions given for newcomers were bitch or possibly their own mother's name.

Cheering is a big part of drag shows. For every new performer, repeat performer, reappearance of the emcee or exciting dance move, the crowd made some noise.

The loudest cheer, a mix of high-pitched

woooo-ing and the snapping of fans, came for the star of the event: Amanda Tori Meating. She walked on stage to soundbites from her time on "Drag Race" put to music. She wore a fluffy pink dress with a Roblox mask covering the entirety of her face. As she slowly de-masked, a second, purple mask was revealed. And a third. As the clamor rose, finally, her face could be seen. The audience went wild.

After three performances, each unique in costuming and music style, Meating stood on stage to address the audience.

"It's scary times. Yes, yes we're not gonna cheer about it 'cause it's not fun, but we do know that moving forward, we got to look out for us," Meating said to the crowd. "We can cheer for queer community. And it's really important to have that and to have these spaces where we can come together as queer community."

Meating was a highlight for students, especially drag virgins. After the show, Elizabeth Smith, an 18-year-old freshman majoring in biology, proclaimed the artist to be her favorite part of the show. While waiting in line for Meating to sign her Drag 101 poster, she laughed excitedly with her friends.

"I'm really attracted to Amanda," was Smith's response to whether or not she had learned something new.

Drag is a long-standing artform, with American drag going all the way back to the 19th century. William Dorsey Swann, emancipated from slavery, was the first person to call themselves "queen of drag." Swann organized balls in Washington D.C. and was the first person in the U.S. to be arrested for female impersonation. They fought for LGBTQ+ rights legally and politically. Part of American drag has always been a fight for the rights of the oppressed.

"It reinforces how important it is to be able to engage in art and free speech and expression," Meating said. "We have to be able to protect our right to do those kinds of things."



Amanda Tori Meating performs during the Drag 101 event in the UC Ballroom on Oct. 15. Meating competed in season 16 of RuPaul's Drag Race. **HENRY DOELLINGER | MONTANA KAIMIN**

The art of the thrift

SYDNEY MOATE | ARTS REPORTER

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Wardrobe: stale. Weather: cold. Bank account: empty. Enter: thrifting.

Missoula is a college town and thrift stores are a college student's best friend. But with some rocking sky-high price tags or an assortment of jeans after jeans after jeans, there needs to be a guide of the best secondhand shops in town. Here are some of the best places to supplement your winter wardrobe or build your upcoming Halloween costume.

ReStyle Clothing Exchange

ReStyle Clothing Exchange has a huge assortment with lots of clothing for colder weather. Nice winter coats are about \$20 to \$40. T-shirts are under \$10. There is even a \$3 item rack. Restyle is well organized. It has shoes, clothes, purses and jewelry and is complete with changing rooms. It's a little more pricey than other thrift stores, but it levels out with its higher quality clothes.

ReStyle has been open for 13 years. Once a month, it does a week of 20% off with cash purchases. The store announces the deal on its socials on Monday at the beginning of the week.

The store purchases the clothes secondhand and resells them, making it a good place to sell your old clothes as a college side hustle.

Montana Antique Mall

Kaelin Thompson, a 20-year-old junior global health major with a focus on epidemiology, has lived in Missoula for 11 years, said she likes the Montana Antique Mall for plates and bowls.

"I always buy dishware. All my stuff is mismatched," Thompson said.

The antique mall is a large store with a treasure trove of items. It has less clothes and largely focuses on antiques. It's a great place for items needed around the house besides clothing that are too expensive to buy new.

Thompson's thrifting tip is to always say you're a student because most places give student discounts.

"Thrift stores are amazing places to find vintage brand deals," she said. "Especially ski gear because we live in Montana."

RESCUED

RESCUED on North Ave. is only open Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. RESCUED has the best deals in town with \$1



UM art student Erica Sharpe browses clothing at ReStyle Clothing Exchange in Missoula on Oct. 16. HENRY DOELLINGER | MONTANA KAIMIN

per pound of clothing, shoes, furniture and homewares.

All proceeds directly support the Hope Rescue Mission, a Christian nonprofit that runs a temporary housing program and a separate women's shelter for women escaping domestic violence situations or recovering from substance abuse.

The store is inside a large, open warehouse. It opened last September. There are lots of winter clothes, with coats hanging on racks. Mostly everything else is loose clothes in large bins, so you have to dig for gold. There are also shoes, toys, dishes and vinyl records. Books are 35 cents per pound.

Goodwill

Though Goodwill is the relentless family member that followed you to college and you wish they would just leave you alone, the one on Reserve street might deserve a second chance.

Winter coats go for about \$10 to \$15 and sweaters for \$5 to \$7. There is a 10% student

discount and it gives out a 20% off coupon with every donation.

Sophomore Alex Sanders said she goes thrifting with her friends "whenever I can." Sanders, from Minnesota, prefers Restyle and Goodwill.

Her thrifting tip is to "make sure you have some time." Find your size and browse, keep an open mind for what goes with what and don't be down in the dumps if you don't find something.

Secret Seconds

Secret Seconds, the YWCA's thrift store with locations on Kensington and Broadway, sports a really cute selection of coats and jackets for around \$20. The clothes and racks are organized by color, making the whole store aesthetically pleasing.

However, whoever's pricing the clothes knows what's fashionable and what's not, because those pieces are typically higher. Other than that, the prices are pretty reasonable and it has a great book selection.

SuperThrift

SuperThrift on West Broadway doesn't have the nicest selection of clothes, but it does have dirt cheap prices. However, the store is giving strip mall. It just opened in September, so it might take a minute before the selection gets better.

Donations directly support 14 addiction residential recovery centers across five states. The store offers vocational training for people enrolled in the recovery programs.

Underground Thrift Store

The Underground Thrift Store, located below the Senior Center on South Higgins, has tons of dishes and appliances and a full arts and crafts section for thrifting outside of clothes. Its nicest section might be the assortment of comfy pajamas for under \$10. The prices are very affordable, but it's a lot of old people's clothes. The store is complete with spooky basement vibes

Throwback football jersey sale crashes within the first minute

CAMERON CONTRERAS | SPORTS REPORTER

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Griz football garnered national attention after celebrating homecoming with its copper and gold jersey. The jerseys were later sold at auction causing the site to crash and the gear to sell out in minutes.

The uniforms, designed by longtime equipment manager Rob Stack, invoke the University's spirit colors from 1967 to 1996. The copper and gold pay homage to Montana's rich mining tradition.

The helmets feature Otto the Slobbering Bear, a logo previously only used for basketball. They were featured on both SportsCenter, College Gameday and received millions of views across social media platforms.

After the game, the Grizzly Scholarship Association hosted an auction from Oct. 13 to Oct. 22. Items being auctioned off include a select number of jersey numbers, a helmet signed by the current team, a helmet signed by the College Gameday cast and a helmet signed by legendary Griz quaterback Dave Dickenson, who helped lead the team to its 1995 national titile.

The 1995 team was 6-1 through and ranked number six after week seven. This season, the Griz are on its longest undefeated streak since 2007 and are ranked number four after week seven.

More helmets and jerseys were also for sale for \$1,000 and \$300 respectively, as well as a helmet sticker featuring Otto the Slobbering Bear for about \$20.

When the sale went live at 2 p.m. on Oct. 13, the whole system crashed in the first minute due to the sheer amount of traffic on the website.

"By the time it came back live, we got 198 emails in one minute," said Coleson Randall, the assistant athletic director of the Grizzly Scholarship Association, the group running the sale.

The original plan was to only sell game worn jerseys, but the association ultimately had to shut down the sale to order more items before putting it back up, meaning the new jerseys being sold were the exact same as what the team wore, but were not worn by any players during the game. As a result, more options were available for purchase.

"Some people stuck around [on the website] for like two hours and kept refreshing," Randall said, "but they finally [got through] before we could turn it off in that one minute. They all got an order in, so we did grant those people [game-worn jerseys]."

Randall said the hottest item were the helmet stickers, with about 600 being sold in the first three days. "People are really interested," Randall said. "People are very receptive. They handled it with grace, they knew we were put in a tough position and so we tried to make the best of it."

The money raised from the auction and sale will go towards the Grizzly Scholarship Association's primary mission of funding scholarships for student athletes.

The Grizzly Scholarship Association also paid for the uniforms for the team, spending a total of \$138,800. Jerseys cost \$350, totaling \$43,400 for all 124 football players.

Helmets were \$700 each, totalling \$86,800 and the Big Sky Conference patches for each jersey were \$70 each, or \$8,680 for the team.

If any players wanted to keep their uniform, they were charged \$750 for the helmet and \$300 for the jersey.

"Having that connection to Grizzly football history, a team that won the national championship and now we celebrated their homecoming and anniversary," said Garrett Speer, a junior defensive back on the team who opted to buy his jersey. "It was really neat because we are 6-0 this year too, so things are looking pretty good and just to be able to throw back, get a blast from the past and bring it here in what you could say for now is a similarly successful year is really, really cool."

While Speer liked the uniforms, he said the quality was noticeably lower than the regular maroon and silver.

"One thing that some of the players were complaining about was the numbers weren't stitched on," he said. "And the Big Sky patch wasn't either, they were just printed on the jersey compared to the quality of jerseys nowadays, it wasn't top tier."

He said he was also upset that players had to pay the same price as the general public for the jerseys.

"It was frustrating to see that they were trying to make a profit off the players too," he said.

While players were sold the helmets at a discounted price, Speer said they went on Riddell's website, the manufacturer of the throwback helmets, and designed the same helmet for around \$500.

Randall said out of 124 players, 67 bought their jerseys and 30 bought their helmets. The players also got the first opportunity to buy the uniforms before the public sale went live. "We think it's really important to give them first chance," Randall said. "If you're going to actually wear the jersey, then they'll get first chance at [purchasing] it."



Ian Finch takes to the field during the homecoming game against Cal Poly on Oct. 11.

WILL LADYMAN | MONTANA KAIMIN



Griz golf seeks comeback season after a rocky start

JACK SNOW | SPORTS REPORTER

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This golf season marks the 20-year anniversary of the Griz's Big Sky Conference Championship win in the 2005-2006 season, but the road for the team hasn't been an easy one.

With younger players, mental blocks to overcome and a relatively new coach, the season has been up and down, but there have been bright spots. Strong individual performances from multiple players have shown the team's potential and bode well for the spring.

Kate Bogenschutz, a junior on the team who majors in biology, said that the team is focused on overcoming its early season difficulties.

"I think there's definitely room for us to improve," she said. "I think we all started out with some nerves at the beginning of the season which we've been battling throughout the rest of the fall."

UM golf has yet to finish in the top half of a tournament this season, but sophomore Salina Lui says that they're still growing and adjusting. "It's definitely been a struggle, but I think everyone's just trying to get back into it," she said. "We're learning a lot of things about how we react to golf."

Players have maintained their confidence in the team and seem to be gathering good experience from the fall games thus far.

"I'm excited to see how we do in the spring," Bogenschutz said. "I feel like we're moving in the right direction."

Golf presents many unique challenges as a sport. So much of the game is tied up in a player's mentality that it can become difficult when nerves start to build.

"The mental side of golf is so different than any other sport, I think," Bogenschutz said. "Because if you get in your head you're taking yourself out of it from the beginning. That's definitely the hardest part of the game. I think if we all got out of our heads we'd all be a lot better."

The team is still young, with five underclassmen out of eight total players. It's good news for the future of the program, but the transition from high school to college athletics is by no means an easy one.

"Competition-level wise, it's been a big

difference," said freshman Hope Torres.

Redshirt freshman and Missoulian Anna Stensrud seconded Torres' sentiment.

"We play longer courses, harder golf courses, we play farther away from home and all of the girls in college athletics are super talented, so it's been eye opening but also inspiring to watch everyone play," Stensrud said.

In addition to a young team, Griz golf also has a new head coach. Jimmy Mee took over the program midway through the 2023-2024 season and helped the team finish seventh in the Big Sky Conference Championship that same year. The team repeated its seventh place finish in 2025 and will look to climb the rankings during this season's championship in April.

Women's golf has had a team at UM since 1993, but the last decade has been a difficult one. Under the team's previous coach, Kris Nord, the Griz only placed in the championship top seven once during his six year tenure.

The golfers take their role as University of Montana athletes and representatives seriously.

"We take a lot of pride in [golfing] here and we're trying to represent the best we can," Lui said.

According to players, the team's culture has shifted in the last few years.

"I think we've definitely improved on our team dynamic this year," Bogenschutz said. "It feels a lot different than other years."

Katie Lewis, a freshman from Frenchtown, also sang the praises of the team's chemistry. "It's fantastic, we're all best buddies with each other," she said. "We're a family out here."

The story of the 2025-2026 season has yet to be finished, but fall has provided valuable experience and learning opportunities to the team.

"It's given us an experience that we're trying to learn from and I think it's a great time just to warm up for that spring season," Torres said.

The Griz golf team hopes to have a more impactful second half of the season. But with only five more matches left before the conference championship, it might be a more difficult task than expected.



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Griz wear pink in fight against cancer

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The University of Montana's club hockey team had its breast cancer awareness night on Saturday, partnering with Chicks n Chaps for the fourth year in a row to fundraise and honor the passing of a former member.

Chicks n Chaps, a Montana nonprofit that aids individuals impacted by breast cancer through women's rodeo clinics, auctioned off the game's pink jerseys to raise funds for its work.

"I was blown away by the generosity and the kindness that my family was shown by Chicks n Chaps," said Haley Joy Tate, a member of Chicks n Chaps and the current Miss Montana.

To Chicks n Chaps and the team, the night took a deeper meaning than the unique jerseys and fundraising.

Amie Applegate was a Chicks n Chaps member and breast cancer fighter who loved hockey. She started the partnership idea with Griz hockey four and a half years ago, along with the pink jerseys.

"When we went to that first game, she was instantly hooked," Amie's husband, Ed Applegate, said. "The next day she looked at me and said 'Let's go get season tickets."

Amie passed away three years ago in her fight against breast cancer.

The Applegate family has developed a deep connection with Chicks n Chaps after Amie's passing.

"I have the utmost respect for all these women in here, my eyes are completely open now as to where they weren't before in life," Ed said. "They're doing something for the greater good for the community and that's what it's all about, and that's what this night's about."

With 10 seconds left in the 1-1 game, Griz senior Javier Hamlin scored the decisive point. The 2-1 win over Boise State was sealed with only two seconds left on the clock, and Ed, along with his daughter, were in the stands cheering.

Amie's memory lives on at the Glacier Ice Rink.

"She has season tickets, and if you ever look up in the stands during hockey season, her poster is up there watching out for all of the players," Joy Tate said.

That's where Ed stands every game, right next to his wife.

RIGHT: Debbie Pierce, left, chairwoman for Chicks n Chaps, Tonya Robert, middle, committee member for Chicks n Chaps and Haley Joy Tate, right, Miss Montana and member of Chicks n Chaps, pose in front of the Chicks n Chaps booth at the Griz hockey breast cancer awareness game.



Ed Applegate watches the hockey game on Oct. 18. Behind him is the poster of his wife Amie Applegate, who started the partnership between Chicks n Chaps and Griz Hockey.



The Griz Hockey team's bench looks on as it faces off against Boise State for Breast Cancer Awareness Night on Oct. 18.

