ASG to dole out fees
Budgets to be finalized in January

David Goe
Reporter

Associated Student Government's Fee Allocation Committee has begun the process of dividing student fees. The fees total approximately $3 million each year.

While higher education funding from the state becomes increasingly hard for institutions to come by, the 11 members of FAC are working to allocate Mesa State College's student fee monies to five boards and several student fee-supported programs as part of the biennial fee allocation process.

ASG President Jared Wright admitted reaching consensus on what should be done with student fee monies can be difficult. "What we have to accomplish is compromise," Wright said.

During last spring's student government elections, Wright campaigned for president on a platform that included keeping student fees low. Preventing student fees from significantly increasing is one of Wright's administration's main goals during the fee allocation process.

"We are here to represent student interests," Wright said. "We are here to keep student fees low."

"The number one goal is not to increase spending too much," ASG Press Secretary Matt Soper said. "We realize that tuition will go up next year, and keeping student fees low is key."

ASG has created a survey to determine what students want done with student fee monies. ASG hopes the survey will tell it which projects students want most.

So far, building a new parking structure has been the clear favorite, but student fees would have to be significantly raised to fund a project of that size, according to ASG.

"For example, to pay for a new college center, student fees would have to be raised by $200 (per student)," Soper said. "A new parking structure would cost $20,000 a space."

While a parking structure may not be in the school's immediate future, more parking is on the

See FUNDS, page 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requested student fees</th>
<th>What does this mean?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Previous fee allocation cycle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$114,307</td>
<td>$169,696</td>
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<tr>
<td>$619,774</td>
<td>$620,472</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1,469,774</td>
<td>$1,835,333</td>
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<tr>
<td>Requested for current fee allocation cycle</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>$127,422</td>
<td>$183,353</td>
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<tr>
<td>$730,899</td>
<td>$750,714</td>
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<td>$2,108,594</td>
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</table>

A full-time student would pay an additional $99.81 per semester if student fees were increased.

Rate of requested increase

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media Board</th>
<th>Fine Arts</th>
<th>Auxiliary</th>
<th>Athletics</th>
<th>Campbell</th>
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<tr>
<td>$13,115 (11.47%)</td>
<td>$13,657 (8.05%)</td>
<td>$130,242 (43.46%)</td>
<td>$110,558 (17.84%)</td>
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Source: Fee Allocation Chair, Mike D'Incecco

The Mesa State College Student Recreation Center is one of many programs and organizations which student fees support. Full-time students pay $66.18 per semester to support the recreation center.

Homecoming 2004

Friday
3 p.m. - Soccer tailgate party at Bergman Field
4 p.m. - Mesa State soccer vs. Angelo State at Bergman Field

Saturday
9 a.m. - Baseball golf tournament at Adobe Creek National golf course

Sunday
9 a.m. - Baseball alumni game at Suplizio Field
11 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Battle of the Buildings
Noon - Baseball scrimmage at Suplizio Field
Noon - Mesa State soccer vs. Midwestern State at Bergman Field

Monday
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Wax hands in the Academic Quad

Tuesday
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Bungee bull-riding and tricycle races in the Academic Quad

Wednesday
11 a.m. - Cookie decorating in the Academic Quad

Oct. 7
9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Blood drive in Liff Auditorium
11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - All-campus lunch in the Academic Quad

Oct. 8
7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Bookstore special hours
11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - Distinguished alumni luncheon in Liff Auditorium
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Megaphone decorating in the Academic Quad
6 p.m. - Swire Coca-Cola Hall of Honor social hour in the Bookcliff Cafe
7 p.m. - Swire Coca-Cola Hall of Honor banquet in Liff Auditorium
8 p.m. - Homecoming rally in Brownson Arena

Oct. 9
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Bookstore special hours
10 a.m. - Homecoming parade (starts in Saunders Fieldhouse parking lot)
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Outback Steakhouse tailgate party at Lincoln Park
1 p.m. - Swire Coca-Cola Homecoming Football Game featuring Mesa State football vs. Chadron State

Oct. 10
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - Brunch for families and
Idea of draft worries students
Candidates say draft nonissue

David Goe
Reporter

With U.S. troops stretched thin by operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, the idea of reinstating the military draft has been discussed by many people.

A return to the draft could be of particular relevance to college students, as the majority of students are between the ages of 18 and 25, which would make them eligible for the draft.

Students’ opinions on the idea are mixed.

"I think that reinstating the military draft would be a good thing," said Scott Winn, 18, a Colorado Mountain College student. "That way, the upper-class members of government might think twice about entering into a war because they would be sending their kids off to fight."

Many critics claim members of the armed forces are disproportionately from lower- to middle-class families.

Lindsey Meredith, 19, a Mesa State College student, is concerned by the idea of returning to the draft and does not think the draft should be reinstated.

"I think it’s a waste of our education to send our age-group over there," Meredith said. "We have been in school our entire lives. We have not been trained for war."

Meredith worries about what might happen to her boyfriend, Brent Schultz, who graduated from college and would not be able to raise school’s on the idea of returning to the draft.

During a campaign stop in Missouri, President George W. Bush said there would not be a return to the draft. He promised to improve pay and medical care for soldiers to make military service more attractive.

The Democrats also do not favor a return to the draft.

"There will be no draft when John Kerry is president," John Edwards, Kerry’s running mate, said during a question-and-answer session in West Virginia.

Recruiting for the Army has not slowed in recent years, according to Army officials.

“We have achieved our recruiting missions for the past four fiscal years and every month so far in the fiscal year 2004,” said Debbie Cannon, chief of Army recruiting, advertising and public affairs in Denver.

The Army has denied the draft will be brought back.

“There is no indication that a reinstatement of the draft is likely,” Army Recruiting Command said in a statement. “Senior leadership in the White House and the Pentagon have stated that the all-volunteer force is meeting the manpower needs of the Department of Defense.”

Other U.S. agencies have also denied the draft will return. Selective Service, the agency which requires men to register with the government in case of a draft, has posted a notice regarding the draft on its home page.

“Notwithstanding recent stories in the news media and on the Internet, Selective Service is not getting ready to conduct a draft for the U.S. Armed Forces—either with a special-skills or regular draft. Rather, the Agency remains prepared to manage a draft if and when the President and the Congress so direct,” the agency said.

Senior leadership in the White House and the Pentagon have stated there is no need for a draft for the War on Terrorism or any likely contingency, such as Iraq.

“After the Congress has not acted on any proposed legislation to reinstate a draft,” the agency said.

In order for the draft to be reinstated, approval from both houses of Congress and the signature of the President would have to be garnered.

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"In order for the draft to be reinstated,” the agency said.

Funds: To be decided

Way, Soper said. By October, 75 new parking spaces will have been built, and 75 more will be constructed after College Place becomes a one-way street, he said.

ASG hopes its survey will help guide the organization’s decisions in other areas as well.

“We are really after how much students are willing to pay in fees,” Wright said. Completed surveys indicate $400 is the average amount to which students are willing to increase their fees.

This is the first time many of ASG’s current members have participated in the fee allocation process. Wright included. He acknowledged the task is daunting, but thinks it will be a success.

“I don’t see it as pressure, but as a challenge,” Wright said.

As soon as the student fee budget is passed—first by Fee Allocation Committee and then by Student Senate—it will be sent to Mesa State College President Tim Foster and the Mesa State Board of Trustees for approval.

The budget should be finalized by sometime in January.
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Oct 1</td>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Soccer Tailgate Party at Bergman Field</td>
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<td>Mov Club</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Women's Soccer vs. Angelo State at Bergman Field</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7 - 9 PM</td>
<td>Baseball Reunion Social in the Bookcliff Café</td>
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<td>Saturday, Oct 2</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Baseball Golf Tournament at Adobe Creek Golf Course</td>
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<td>Sunday, Oct 3</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Baseball Alumni Game at Suplizio Stadium</td>
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<td>Battle of the Buildings</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Baseball Scrimmage at Suplizio Stadium</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Women's Soccer vs. Midwestern State at Bergman Field</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, Oct 4</td>
<td>11 AM - 2 PM</td>
<td>Wax Hands in the Academic Quad</td>
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<td>Activities Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Oct 5</td>
<td>11 AM - 2 PM</td>
<td>Bungee Bull Riding in the Academic Quad</td>
<td></td>
<td>Activities Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Oct 6</td>
<td>11 AM - 2 PM</td>
<td>Cookie Decorating in the Academic Quad</td>
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<td>Activities Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Oct 7</td>
<td>9:30 AM - 2 PM</td>
<td>Blood Drive in Liff Auditorium</td>
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<td>St. Mary's</td>
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<td>11 AM - 1:30 PM</td>
<td>All Campus Lunch in the Academic Quad</td>
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<td>Activities Council</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:15 PM</td>
<td>Pep Band, Cheerleaders performance, and School Spirit Raffle (Sponsored by Housing &amp; College Center) in the Academic Quad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Oct 8</td>
<td>11 AM - 2 PM</td>
<td>Decorate a Megaphone in the Academic Quad</td>
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<td>Activities Council</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11 AM - 1:30 PM</td>
<td>Distinguished Alumni Luncheon in Liff Auditorium</td>
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<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Campus Tours in the College Center</td>
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<td>Ambassadors</td>
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<td>7:45 AM - 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Swire Coca-Cola Hall of Honor Social Hour in the Bookcliff Café</td>
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<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Swire Coca-Cola Hall of Honor Banquet in Liff Auditorium</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Student Leader Reunion in the Walnut Ridge Gazebo</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8:00 PM</td>
<td>Homecoming Rally in Brownson Arena</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Oct 9</td>
<td>8 AM - 9:30 AM</td>
<td>Class of '54 Reunion Breakfast in the College Center</td>
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<td>Alumni</td>
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<td>9 AM - 1 PM</td>
<td>Bookstore Open</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Parade starting at Saunders Fieldhouse Parking Lot</td>
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<td>Activities Council</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 AM - 1 PM</td>
<td>Outback Steakhouse &amp; Swire Coca-Cola Tailgate Party at Lincoln Park</td>
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<td>Mov Club</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Swire Coca-Cola &amp; Outback Steakhouse Homecoming football game vs. Chadron State at Stocker Stadium</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6 PM - 9 PM</td>
<td>Nursing Network Reunion in the Bookcliff Café</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Oct 10</td>
<td>10:30 AM-1:30 PM</td>
<td>Brunch for Families and Alumni in the Dining Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>MSC Rugby vs. Ft. Lewis at Bergman Field</td>
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Opinions

Life's lessons
They sometimes can be a wake-up call

Christina M. Ovalle
Opinions Editor

I have learned that something unfortunate has to come about in order for some people to realize the importance of certain things in life.

We are two months into the school year, and we, as students, professors and Mesa State College as a whole, have lost two professors. In addition, a professor who was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident earlier this month lost her significant other. Whether they were a friend, a mentor or even just an acquaintance, it is still a loss. And although we may grieve for some time, we can't help but to wonder why we have to suffer such losses.

I met Terri Sullivan during my first year at Mesa State. Terri was always in good spirits and always had a smile on her face. She must have known just about everyone on campus because she would stop and talk to so many people. She had a continuous glow about her, and it was contagious.

What I remember most about Terri is she was always helping someone. She often stressed the importance of getting a good education. She helped anyone who was willing to accept her assistance as though it were her duty to go out of her way to help others.

I wonder if Terri knew just how many lives she touched. She helped me in my first year to set goals and go after them. I only wish I would have taken the time to tell her how much she affected my life. Still, I am grateful I was blessed to have met Terri, and she will not be forgotten.

What I often wonder is why is it that it takes something unfortunate to happen before we acknowledge something inspirational someone has said to us or done for us?

I met Professor Seaney last year. Although ours was a short acquaintance, he too, will not be forgotten. Like Terri, Professor Seaney always had a smile on his face. He was welcoming and went out of his way to talk to people. He often gave out hugs saying, "It looks like you can use a hug today." That was Professor Seaney, always trying to cheer someone up. Memories like that can never be diminished.

What I often wonder is why is it that it takes something unfortunate to happen before we acknowledge something inspirational someone has said to us or done for us?

It does not take much to let someone know you are thinking about them or to tell them "thank you." Everything in life happens for a reason, and some things in life are unexpected. We just never know whether our words can make all the difference in the world to someone or if those will be our last words to them.

And like it is often said, you don't know what you have until it is gone. Therefore, we should treat each day as if there is no tomorrow, and always say what you feel.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Sullivan, Seaney and Pruess families.

Letter to the Editor: advice or attack

Dear Editor,

As I was pleasantly browsing through this week's edition of the criterion, I stumbled upon an article entitled "Freshman's Advice". Being a curious freshman open to any sort of admonition, I read the editorial thoroughly, only to be left feeling degraded, stereotyped, and down right confused.

Letters to the Editor
Letters to the editor are encouraged. However, the editorial staff reserves the right to reject any submission. Letters may be edited for grammar, space and content, including but not limited to removal of any libelous or obscene material. All letters must be e-mailed to criterion@mesastate.edu, signed and accompanied by an address and telephone number; anonymous letters will not be accepted. Letters must be submitted by 2 p.m. on Friday for consideration for publication in the next issue. Shorter letters generally have a better chance for publication, and no letter should exceed 200 words.

Criterion Policies
The Criterion is a student-run publication, and is funded by Mesa State College student fees and advertising revenue.

Opinions

There is a tale of a traveler who climbs a mountain to seek advice and wisdom from a wise elder at the top. I feel as if I were the confused traveler reaching the summit, only to find a disgruntled grinch who struggles to create any sort of comprehensible sentence, let alone, advice. After reading any type of goal or intention, "dream", that I might've had is childish, I am left wondering if someone should tell the columnist that this abundant supply of advice is not only muddy, but rather defamatory.

Stephen Benton

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Why bother?

Becky Raney
Editor in Chief

While President Bush delivered his acceptance speech at the 2004 Republican National Convention, I was snuggled tightly in a fleece-lined sleeping bag on an isolated edge of a cliff overlooking Glade Park.

During the 2004 Democratic National Convention, I was nestled back in Ninemile Canyon, sitting underneath an inky-black sky exchanging roommate horror stories with three close friends.

While the leaves of aspen trees on the Grand Mesa turn colors and the ponderosa pines near Kannah Creek shiver in the crisp September air, talking heads on television and spokespeople for independent organizations discuss the low voter turnout of citizens ages 18-25.

I fall into the age group the research savants and media specialists are talking about, and—to tell you the truth—I feel no tingle of fervor for the upcoming elections. I am apathetic. For me, the question why? Why should a 20-year-old Mesa college affordable for all citizens?

The truth is, all I have is a dirty porthole from which to view the world of politics. I have obtained a snapshot of the political candidates, and based on that minute amount of information, I have decided to give up a basic freedom we as citizens of the United States enjoy.

By not voting, I am taking a backseat in the decision-making process. I will be in the face of social issues that will affect my ability to buy a house or purchase affordable insurance for my children-to-be. I will turn my head as the next commander-in-chief decides the fates of the men and women in our armed forces.

In less than a year, I will walk out of Mesa State and into "real life." I will have to end my moratorium on responsibilities and harvest the weeded political garden I negligently tended.

Who is failing whom? E-mail Becky Raney at raney@mesastate.edu.

What do you expect?

Ben Sullivan
Columnist

Does this sound familiar: "don't forget to vote," "vote today," "make them listen to us"? If you can count the number of times you have heard these things on one hand, you need to get out more. We have been constantly reminded to fulfill our duty to democracy—and rightfully so—but we are still reluctant to step into the voting booth.

Procrastination, sheer laziness and feelings of insignificance all play a part, but I think there is something else at work. Many of us feel disenchanted with government in general—the state and federal governments in particular. We do not feel they are doing anything for us. We hear talk of the number of jobs lost since 2000, and we are inclined to blame the government—specifically the Bush administration.

We are asked if our lives are better now than in 2000, and we blame Bush for that, too.

But what are we expecting? Do we really expect the government to create jobs and then hand them out? Do we expect the government to make sure our lives are better? Perhaps we have unrealistic expectations concerning the role of government. Any good economist will tell you a free-market economy is a very finicky beast.

There is no magic job-creating wand. Any good economist will tell you a free-market economy is a very finicky beast. What candidate has looked into the agendas of citizens 18-25.

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Who is failing whom? E-mail Becky Raney at raney@mesastate.edu.

Have an ax to grind?

Write a letter to the editor.

Send letters to criterion@mesastate.edu

Only signed letters accompanied with a valid phone number and address will be accepted.
Features

'Tommy' opens tonight
Classic rock opera sensational

Blake Fergus
Reporter

A maze of turquoise, orange, purple and lime-green squares hide behind British men and women singing about pinball, vibrations and sensation in Mesa State College's production of "Tommy."

"This show is like a full-frontal assault on the eyes and ears—in a good way," said Rich Cowden, director and an assistant professor of theatre. "It's an hour and 45 minutes of high energy. The music never stops all the way through."

"Tommy" was inspired by The Who's rock-opera album of the same name. In 1969, the album was adapted for the stage. "Tommy" had a successful Broadway run, playing at the St. James Theatre a total of 899 times from April 22, 1993 until June 17, 1995, then traveling to London.

Cowden said the school's production is "the most challenging thing I've ever been involved with."

The 25 Mesa State cast members have been practicing three hours a night, six days a week for the last several weeks. Cowden said there was not enough time for the theatre department to prepare the way it has for past shows, therefore three rehearsals went on at the same time, but at different locations.

Cowden thinks the audience will be surprised by the show.

"It will completely shatter people's preconceptions of what they think a musical is all about," he said. "It's about rock and roll."

"Tommy" was chosen as Mesa State College's fall musical because Cowden wanted to do something a little bit different than the theatre department had done in the past and help educate its students.

"We want theatre majors to make sure they get exposed to each theatre category at least once," he said.

Cowden also wanted to take a new approach for the sake of the audience.

"The main reason I picked ['Tommy'] is because it appeals to a different audience than the musicals we usually do," he said. "A lot of people grew up with this album. It's the best album of our time."

As director, Cowden has many responsibilities, including ensuring a show as big as "Tommy" can be pulled off.

"My job is making sure, logistically, it's possible," he said.

While Cowden was directing on stage, some cast members were practicing dance moves with the show's choreographer, Tony Coppola, and others were working on their vocal skills.

Auditions were held during the first week of school. Every student majoring in theatre was required to tryout, as is the case for every production, "no matter what, even if you can't sing...which was quite a shocker," said Megan Cunningham, 17, a theatre major.

Cunningham tried out, but did not make the cast list. She is hopeful she will make the cast in future shows.

"Maybe senior year I'll actually make it, or at least into the chorus," she said with a chuckle.

Christopher Coon, who plays Tommy at age ten, is delighted at the chance to be involved in the show.

"It's amazing," Coon said. "I'm a freshman and it's such a great experience working with Roger...no Rich, just kidding," he said.

Coon has also been having a great time working with the cast—and flirting.

"Oh, you'd better believe it! There's a lot between this really cute freshman boy who plays Tommy and all the female actors," Coon said with a grin.

Coon thinks the costumes are fun too and described one as resembling something Austin Powers might wear.

"They are pretty sweet. British hair, you know, parted down the middle, and bad teeth," he said.

"Tommy" will be playing in the William S. Robinson Theatre tonight through Oct. 10.

"It's definitely one performance you do not want to miss," Cowden said. "It's half-rock concert, half-play. I promise it's unlike anything anybody's ever seen."

Cowden believes students, in particular, will enjoy it.

"I knew that students would connect with it, would get into it, and they have," Cowden said. "They love the show."

The Who's "Tommy"
Music and lyrics by Pete Townshend
Additional music and lyrics by John Entwistle and Keith Moon
Book by Pete Townshend and Des McAnuff
Directed by Richard R. Cowden
(show contains adult content)
Playing at the William S. Robinson Theatre in the Moss Performing Arts Center

To purchase tickets, call (970) 248-1604 or visit the Mesa State College Theatre Box Office in the Moss Performing Arts Center (open from noon-5 p.m., Monday thru Friday)

Show dates and times:
Thursday, Sept. 30, at 7:30 p.m. ($2 for students with MAVcard)
Friday at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday at 7:30 p.m.
Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Friday at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 9, at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 10, at 2 p.m.

Ticket prices:
Adults - $14
Seniors - $12
Students - $5

Visiting paradise
Botanical Gardens free this Sunday

Cathy Nordine
Reporter

The Western Colorado Botanical Gardens are an oasis hidden in a mostly business zoned area next to the Colorado River. This relaxing, fragrant haven is at the south end of 7th street, adjacent to the Confluence section of the Colorado Riverfront Trail.

Once you enter the wrought iron fence that nearly surrounds the Botanical Gardens, the change is amazing. Beautiful plants, flowers and trees flourish amid the buildings that give shelter to other visual and olfactory treasures.

The entrance to the Greenhouse area and the Butterfly House is through a small gift shop that reflects the character and charm of the rest of the Botanical Gardens.

The Butterfly House is warm and moist with wooden boardwalks that meander around tropical plants and pools of water. It is home to approximately 15 different species of butterflies, but because most butterflies only live from three days to five weeks, a shipment of them is brought in once a week from a butterfly farm in Florida.

Some of the lush vegetation and flowers in the Butterfly House include the Angel's Trumpet, a large shrub with gorgeous fragrant trumpet-shaped flowers, and the Anthurium which has unusually shaped blossoms.

According to a Botanical Gardens brochure, the Greenhouse has "over 600 exotic tropical plants from around the world," which is easy to believe once you walk through the doors. Koi fish swim among lily pads in a warm pond surrounded by Double Hibiscus and Flowering Maple plants.

There are also permanent outdoor gardens including the Cactus Garden and Mindy's Sensory Garden.

The Elizabeth B. Harris Amphitheatre, named after one of the founders, is a wonderful place to enjoy the Botanical Gardens' musical events. A variety of music such as classical guitar, folk, blue grass and blues is played here during various concerts throughout the summer.

The last concert of this season will be Sunday, Oct. 24. The Singer/Songwriter Circle will feature seven or eight area musicians. The gates open at 2 p.m.

The Botanical Gardens is a non-profit organization which depends on grants, donations and the help of many groups such as the City of Grand Junction, Collbran Job Corps and the Horticultural Program in School District 51. Many areas at the Botanical Gardens are a work in progress and can only continue as funds become available.

Several areas currently under construction or being planned will help students and teachers learn more about horticulture, botany and the surrounding flora.

Admission to indoor exhibits and concerts:
Adults $3.00
Seniors & Students $2.00
Children 5-12 $1.50
Under 5 Free
Members Free
First Sunday of month Free
Outside exhibits Free

Concert Events:
Gates open at 2 p.m.

Hours:
February – October
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.,
Tuesday - Sunday

November – January
10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.,
Tuesday - Sunday

For more information, call 245-3288 or 245-9030.
The Web site address is www.wcbotanic.org.
(Information provided by Clara Ward, operations manager, Western Colorado Botanical Society)
Review: Furious voice, overflowing energy

Eclectic musical artist Nina Storey mesmerizes Mesa Theater

Colleen Roach
Reporter

It is a Saturday night, so I put on my finest threads and head over to Mesa Theater to watch the Nina Storey concert. After arriving fashionably late, I realize that "doors" 8:00pm doesn’t mean the show will have started, and other people will be there awaiting my arrival. So my fashionably late appearance is approximately 45 minutes before the show starts. I take a seat and order a drink.

Looking around, I was surprised at the demographics of the majority of the audience. After seeing posters hanging all over campus, I was expecting 18-21 year olds, salivating in their seat (though there were some men acting like boys; one unknown fan proposed, "You wanna make out?!", it was undoubtedly an older crowd. Suddenly, I felt stylish with my pleated capri pants. But alas, at that precise moment, in walks a man with a tie-dye tee shirt and suspenders securing his black jeans up. I’d been had.

When the show started, Nina, who hails from Boulder, came on without any remarkable entrance. She simply walked on stage with her band and got to work. She was overflowing energy from the first song until the encore. Her dancing had to be restricted to the chair she sat in, and later to a knee brace. The first thing I noticed was the overflowing energy from the first song until the encore. Her dancing had to be restricted to the chair she sat in, and later to a knee brace.

Nina made the whole show look so effortless.

Nina's voice is crystal clear and carries throughout the entire building. Not a drop was drowned out by the rest of the band which is so common in small venue shows. About halfway through the first set, she sent her band on a break and revealed her solo talent. With just her keyboard, she played two tunes, "Circle" and the dark, tragic "Bigger than Me.

Then there were the cover songs. Stevie Wonder's "I wish," closed out the first set. This being such a remarkable song, it's hard to perform it poorly, but it just wasn't the same without the horns section. Also, "thinking back on when I was a little nappy headed boy" seemed a bit ironic coming from a girl. It was a bit unnatural.

The only other cover, which was obviously at the pleas of the lead guitar player, was AC/DC's "Back in Black." It was pretty obvious that this music wasn't exactly Nina's forte; she had to read the lyrics to get through it. Her guitar player was loving every minute of it. Nevertheless, it was a great way to throw some butt-rock into an already eclectic mix of genres.

Nina is, without a doubt, an amazing performer. By the end of the show she had, what started as one couple, at least half of the crowd out dancing. Nina made the whole show look so effortless. It made me think, "I could do this," and she made it look so fun, I thought, "I want to."

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September 30, 2004
Student Feature: Keegan Kern

Ashley Rossmann
Reporter

Mesa State College junior Keegan Kern recently won the title of National American Miss Colorado. Although the local celebrity has been competing in pageants since age 13, she says she is a regular, down-to-earth college student who likes the outdoors, loves her family and hopes to have her own family some day.

Keegan Kern: Since I was 13; about 7 years now.

C: What was your first competition?
KK: The Miss Colorado Teen competition. It actually took me four years to win that title. Each year I competed, and finally in 2001, I won the Miss Colorado Teen title.

C: Describe your experience at the pageant.
KK: It was scary, I got to meet a lot of different people, but it was also very educational. It teaches you about poise and appearance: and how to present yourself on stage, so it helps you in sort of the business sense to prepare you for the real world. Also, it's a lot of fun. You get to meet loss of different girls from across the state, and you become close with them after three days of being on stage together.

C: What's it like being friends with the people that you're competing against?
KK: Normally, everyone is really relaxed. You don't get into "cat fights" like you would imagine. You get really close to the girls, you know—you joke around, you hang out with them and you also help each other, which is really cool. But occasionally, there are some of those girls that have been competing since they were three years old that can be "catty" in their own way. You can tell that they're there for the crown and not for the title.

C: And you're not like that, right?
KK: Definitely not. If you know me, I'm a big tomboy.

C: Really?
KK: I have a dirt bike, I like getting dirty. I'm a big outdoors girl. I like to camp, hike, fish and go four-wheeling. Every weekend, I'm gone. A few weekends ago, we went backpacking into the Black Canyon and spent three days there.

C: Who'd you go with?

C: How old is he?
KK: He turned 22 last Friday. We've been together for four and a half years.

C: Wow. What was it like in high school?
KK: I have good and bad memories of high school. It was really hard for me. A lot of people look at you when you're a beauty queen, and they categorize you as stuck-up, Barbie-girl. The people who get to know me will tell you something completely different. I'm not a Barbie. I like getting dirty. I treat everyone equal. I don't feel like I'm better than everybody. High school was hard cause I had a lot of people that envied me and tended to be very rude.

C: Did you have a close group of friends that encouraged you through it?
KK: My boyfriend was probably the biggest inspiration. He just told me to ignore others and to follow my heart despite what everybody says. Unfortunately, that's how life is. You're gonna get criticism, and you have to learn how to be able to take it and go on, and hopefully become a stronger person from it.

C: So, have you become a stronger person?
KK: Yes, my skin is a little thicker.

C: What did you just compete in recently?
KK: This summer, I competed in the National American Miss Colorado State Pageant over in Denver. I was judged in three different categories: formal wear, poise and appearance, and interview. It's a lot of fun. My favorite part is probably the interview. You get to talk to so many different judges from across the country.

C: So, have you become a stronger person?
KK: Yes, and actually the National American Miss Pageant is a fairly new pageant system, so I'm actually the first representative from Colorado and I'll be going to the national pageant over Thanksgiving week in Disneyland. It's gonna be hard competition, but it should be a lot of fun. There are optional competitions, like Miss Actress, Miss Model, talent, photogenic and spokesmodel.

C: Have you done modeling before?
KK: Yes, I did modeling first, and then I got into pageants. Freshman year, I actually got a contract to go to Greece to model, but I turned that down because they were having bombs over there and I was only 14 and I'd have to go by myself.

C: Do you have any other dreams?
KK: I'd like to have a cabin up in the mountains and have a family of my own and be a stay-at-home mom. I would love to work for CNN. I'd love to take Katie Couric's spot. That would be my ultimate dream.

Keegan's Stats
Age: 20
Hometown: Grand Junction
Major: Mass communications with a concentration in broadcasting
Minor: Graphic arts
Ambitions: Event designer, a successful career in television and to be a good wife and have a family
Favorite Class: Art
Favorite Foods: Mexican and seafood
Favorite Music: Classical rock and variety (depends on her mood)
Favorite Book: "The Giver"
Help wanted: Athletic male model needed for college photography project. Contact Kristine at 256-7388.


1999 Harley Davidson Road King, 40,000 miles, dyna jet power commander and aftermarket pipes - $13,500 - Excellent condition 257-1805.

Small 2 bedroom house for rent Oct. 1. Located close to campus. Deposit, first last months rent required. Responsible diligent students please inquire 970-618-8915.

96-Hour-to-Victory Campaign seeking Republicans to volunteer. Any amount of contribution is much appreciated! This is also a great way to get rid of community service hours. Contact Heather Gierhart at 243-8500, or e-mail her at heather.gierhart@96-hour.com for more information!

Juniors or seniors earn money this Fall and Spring semester 2004-2005. Mesa State student with physical disability needs someone to help type papers and assist her with library research. Contact Denise Allison at 255-2492.

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criterion@mesastate.edu
Sweeping through the RMAC

Volleyball stays perfect at Brownson Arena, shuts out Fort Lewis

Todd Earl
Reporter

The Mesa State College women's volleyball team improved their record to 9-1, and remained unbeaten at home, as the Mavericks defeated the Fort Lewis Skyhawks on Friday.

"Our number one goal this year is to be undefeated at home," Nikki Green said. "At the beginning of each game, we get together as a team, put our arms around each other and tell each other to honor the home court and to leave it all out on the court."

Nikki Green led the Mavs to victory Friday night with 22 kills. Green leads the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference in kills with 297 and ranks sixth in the nation in Division II volleyball.

Nikki Green said she trained hard for this fall. "In the off-season, I played a lot of sand doubles, lifting and trying to strengthen my arm," Green said.

Drew Choules and Leah Hickman also had an outstanding night with several kills each.

The Mavs won the match in three straight games, 30-22, 30-21 and 30-25. In three of the last four matches, the Mavs have swept the match in three straight games.

"We are fairly dominate this year," Head Coach Rusty Crick said. "I haven't had a team as consistent as this team in these last three games. They have played really well."

Coming up for the Mavs are Fort Hays State University and the University of Nebraska-Kearney. UNK is 6-0 in conference play and 16-0 overall.

"Kearney has only lost two games this whole year, so for us to go in and take some games away from them will be a real confidence-booster for us as a team," Green said. "If we can take some games, maybe we can walk away with a win."

Not only has his team been consistent on the floor. Last Friday, he celebrated his 40th wedding anniversary with his wife, Agnes.

Football still hunting for first victory

The Mesa State football team fell short of the Western New Mexico University Mustangs on Saturday, losing 49-24 in Silver City, N.M.

The Mavs are on the road this weekend, where they will meet the rival Western State College Mountaineers in Gunnison on Saturday at 1 p.m.

Soccer team drops two over weekend

The Maverick soccer team lost both matches it had this weekend. The Mavs lost their first match, against the New Mexico Highlands University Cowgirls, 3-1, and their second match, against the Adams State Grizzlies, 3-0.

The Mavs will be home on Friday at 4 p.m. for a match with Angelo State College, and again on Sunday at noon for a match with Midwestern State College.
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On the Sports Page, we have featured a variety of events:

**WEDNESDAY**
- Ladies Nite
  - Free Dance Lessons 7-8:30PM
  - Live Country Music
  - Check Out Our Balloon- $200 Give Away
  - Every Wednesday
  - $1 Wells, Wines, and Drafts for ladies

**FRIDAY**
- FAC 5-8PM - $5 Cover
  - Free Wells, Wines, and Drafts
  - Live Band at 9PM - Live Country Music

**SATURDAY**
- $5 Cover
  - Live Country Music

At FAC, you can enjoy a variety of offers:

- 5PM to 8PM
- 1/2 Price Appetizers
- $1 Domestic Drafts and Wells
- Come in to FAC and get a chance to win a Jager Machine

**CAB**
Club Advisory Board

**Calling all clubs!**
Come hang out with FCA, and worship the Lord!
Monday nights, 7 p.m., Sanders 132. You do not have to be an athlete to join us.

**Christian Student Fellowship**
Come for music, inspirational messages, and friendships. College Place/North Ave. Old St. Matthews Church Thurs. 7-9 p.m.

**Pizza!**
Join Association of Information Technology Professionals this Thursday @ 6 p.m. in Houston Hall for pizza as they discuss exciting new plans for this semester and tell you can become a member.

**Applications for Director & Assistant Directors of Club Advisory Board (CAB)**
Applications for Director & Assistant Directors of Club Advisory Board (CAB) now available inside of the CAB office. Contact Kathy at ext. 1111 with questions.

Contact Kathy or Matt in the CAB office or call 248-1111.