Celebrating diversity on campus through Unity Fest

Wednesday, April 11, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Unity Through Games

- WHERE: Academic Quad, Kickoff BBQ and Free food (First come first served)
- Live Band
- Speech by Dan Robinson
- Games by various clubs

IN THE EVENING:
- Movie showing, "CRASH" 5:30 p.m., Liff Auditorium

Amanda Friar
News Reporter

The Cultural Diversity Board will be hosting Unity Fest 2007, "All for One," from April 11 – 14. This event will be sponsored by The Gallegos Corporation. "It's one of the major programs that the Cultural Diversity group does in order to spread diversity to the campus," Assistant Director of Cultural Diversity Board Darcie Miyazono said. "There are different themes on each day. There will be unity through games, arts, history and performance."

April 11 kicks off Unity Fest with games from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., a barbecue in the Academic Quad, a live band and a speech by Dan Robinson. At 5:30 p.m. CDB will be showing the movie "Crash" in Liff Auditorium.

April 12, Unity Fest continues with "Unity through History" using mini displays in Houston and Wubben Halls and the college center about various clubs on campus. There will also be a food sale by the International Student Association. In the evening Native American Student Council (NASC) will be showing "Trail of Death" and P.R.I.D.E. will be showing "After Stonewall."

April 13 continues with "Unity through Arts" with a special presentation from Josephine Dickey from Black Student Alliance (BSA). NASC will be hosting corn pot making, Ho'olokahi will host tattoo and tapa making while La Raza sponsors a food sale.

Saturday, April 14 concludes Unity Fest with La Raza, ISA, NASC, and BSA performances in Moss Performing Arts Center. There will also be a free drag show at 8:30 p.m. from P.R.I.D.E. in the Moss Performing Arts Black Box.

"Our goal is to promote all cultures in a fun way in which the community and the students on campus can come together and celebrate diversity," Director of the Cultural Diversity Board Naomi Castellano said.

Thursday, April 12, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Unity Through History

- WHERE: Academic Quad with mini displays in Houston, Wubben, and the College Center
- ISA Food Sale

IN THE EVENING:
- Movie showings from 6 – 10 p.m. in Liff Auditorium
- NASC presents, "Trail of Death"
- P.R.I.D.E. presents, "After Stonewall"

Friday, April 13, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Unity Through Arts

- WHERE: Academic Quad and Liff Auditorium with mini displays in Houston, Wubben, and the College Center.
- BSA Special Presentation by Josephine Dickey
- NASC Coil Pot Making
- Ho'olokahi: Tattoo and Tapa Making
- La Raza Food Sale

Saturday, April 14, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Unity Through Performance

- WHERE: Moss Performing Arts Black Box, La Raza, ISA, NASC and BSA performances, Free for all

IN THE EVENING:
- 4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
- Ho'olokahi Ho'ikeana
- Moss Performing Arts Recital Hall
- Adults $7, MSC Students $5, Children 12 & Under $5. For tickets call 248-1193. Limited seating. Tickets available at the door, 8:30 p.m. P.R.I.D.E. Drag Show, Free for all

"All for One"
For more information, please call the Cultural Diversity Center at: 248-1193 or 248-1664.
This week in world news...

Joel Dyar
World News Reporter

Four Years from the Fall of Baghdad

Monday, tens of thousands of Iraqis marched through the Shiite holy city of Najaf to mark the fourth anniversary of the fall of Baghdad to Western forces. Demonstrators, responding to a call from powerful cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, carried placards demanding the withdrawal of occupation troops. Al-Sadr admonished his followers, including the Mehdi Army militias battling U.S. troops in the south, to forgo the sectarian conflict which has killed hundreds of thousands and focus on resisting the West and rebuilding the country. Ten U.S. soldiers were killed over the weekend in four separate attacks, bringing official casualty counts to 3,280. Six Canadian soldiers, part of a 5,000-troop NATO operation underway in Southern Afghanistan, were killed by a roadside bomb on Sunday, raising that country's death toll to 51.

Zimbabwe

In an Easter letter, nine Roman Catholic bishops in Zimbabwe have called on President Robert Mugabe to leave office. Titled "God Hears the Cries of the Oppressed," the letter portrays "open revolt" against Mugabe's 27-year reign if he does not resign.

Zimbabwe has been rocked in recent months by inflation reaching 2,000 percent, and unemployment remains higher than 80 percent in some regions. Organized resistance to Mugabe's regime is on the rise. "As the suffering population becomes more insistent, generating more and more pressure through boycotts, strikes, demonstrations and uprisings, the state responds with ever harsher oppression through arrests, detentions, banning orders, beatings and torture," the Zimbabwe Catholic Bishops Conference said. Robert Mugabe, whose once-prosperous Zimbabwe gained independence from Britain in 1980, is among the last of a generation of African dictators credited with squandering the continent's vast natural resources and human potential in the post-colonial era.

Presidential Moneybags

Records were obliterated last week as presidential hopefuls revealed their first-quarter fundraising reports. At the top of the heap was Democratic candidate Senator Hillary Clinton, who reported $26 million in funds raised, followed by Senator Barack Obama (D) at $25 million and former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney (R) with $23 million. By contrast, candidates George W. Bush and Al Gore raised $7 million and $6 million and during their first quarters in 1999.

Both parties' nominations are considered wide open, and other candidates posted impressive returns: John Edwards (D) $14 million, Rudy Giuliani (R) $14 million, and John McCain (R) $12.5 million. Two western darkhorse contenders also showed hand: New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson (D), a popular latino who served as President Clinton's Ambassador to the U.N. and Energy Secretary, and who remains a powerful agent in U.S. negotiations with North Korea and the immigration debate, at $6 million; and Colorado Congressman Tom Tancredo (R), and outspoken anti-immigration, gun control, and abortion advocate, at $1 million. Speculation regarding a second Al Gore candidacy continues.

Wednesda High 63°
Thurdsay High 60°
Friday High 61°
Saturday High 62°
Sunday High 62°

Source: The National Weather Service

PBL sweeps competition

At the Colorado State Phil Beta Lambda (PBL) Leadership Conference March 30-31, 16 Mesa State PBL members qualified for the National Competition. The national conference will be held in June in Chicago. Mesa State's Chapter returned home with 48 awards total from the state conference, with all 18 members placing in at least one event. There were six other colleges in attendance. The competitions included individual and team events in business concepts such as management, computer applications, decision-making, ethics, communications, international markets, accounting, analysis, marketing and economics.

"This is an unprecedented number qualifying to represent Mesa State College and Mesa County at nationals this summer," Deb Parman in the business department said. "And with the caliber of students we have competing, we have a strong probability of bringing home national awards as well." PBL is the national organization for students pursuing business careers to develop career and technical supportive competencies. For more information on PBL, contact Parman.

Save-A-Life Day April 14

Richie Moore
News Reporter

Mesa State's Medical Sciences Club will host the third annual Save-A-Life Day this April 14 in Luff Auditorium. Participants will receive free Adult Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification after completing the class, which will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., including a lunch.

Fourteen instructors from the Medical Sciences Club, as well as a handful of other instructors, are anticipating a turnout of approximately 150 people. The instructors are certified by the American Red Cross, and most of the club members are pre-medical students who have received hours of extensive training and experience with CPR and emergency response.

"We hope the class will provide more people with the knowledge of how to save someone's life as well as the confidence they need to act in an emergency," Medical Sciences Club President Joe Afragno said.

"Hopefully, no one ever needs to use it," Piotrowski said. "But I know from my own experience I'd rather help someone than just stand there."

Anyone wishing to attend the class can register at savelifesday.org. Registration will be allowed until the start of the class, and participants will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of the event. The class is open to anyone in the community 15 years of age or older.

rae@mesastate.edu
Mesa State College hosted its 31st Annual Student Art Show at the Art Center. The annual show featured nearly 60 artists whose work ranged from two dimensional art to three dimensional figures.

The show was coordinated by the ARTE 300-Exhibitions and Management class. The show featured artists from the Bishop main campus, the Montrose campus and the main campus. Each student was allowed up to four pieces and were not required to be art majors.

Artist Sabrina May was a member of the class and had three pieces in the show. She said that the class was divided into committees to ease the work load on each student in planning such a large scale event.

"It's a great class, even if you're not in art," May said.

To accompany the opening night events, a Pianist played classics such as "Ain't Misbehavin" and "Somewhere over the Rainbow."

The show was open to all students and is free to those who present their MarvCard and $3 for others. The show will be running through April 14 from 9 am - 4 pm.

Paige Hatten contributed to this report.

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One of the winning entries from the Student Art Show. The exhibit runs from April 6-14.

An art piece submitted by a student. Some of the pieces in the show were also for sale.
Holocaust Awareness: Remembering the past and shedding light on the future

Melanie Moore
News Reporter

Six million Jews and several million more people died at the hands of Nazi Germany during the Holocaust for racial, ethnic or political reasons. This month, Mesa State University is observing Holocaust Awareness from April 9 – April 25 hosting several presentations surrounding this year’s theme: “Memory, Education, and Forgiveness.”

April 11 at 7 p.m. in Houston 230, Susan Konatz will present "Holocaust Picture Books: Filling a Need in Awareness Education." The presentation will demonstrate how children’s picture books best transmit the memories of the Holocaust to children.

P.R.I.D.E will host “Paragraph 175,” a documentary on the persecution of homosexuals during the Holocaust on a first-person basis, on April 12.

April 14, Playdates for Peace & Justice will host a rally in front of the Old Courthouse downtown at 9:30 a.m. The rally will be held to raise awareness of the crisis in Darfur and to raise support for Colorado House Bill 1184, which would divert Colorado pension money from the Sudanese government.

On April 15 at 7 p.m. Congregation Ohr Shalom, at 441 Kennedy, will have a Holocaust remembrance memorial and candlelight vigil.

April 16 will mark the first day of the “Field of Flags Display,” which will remain on display through April 20. Over 2,000 flags will be placed in the Academic Quad representing all of the major groups targeted during the Holocaust. The display will be dedicated with a moment of silence at 1 p.m. on April 16.

Four more events will take place on campus next week at 7 p.m. in Houston 230:

April 16: Assistant Professor of History Elizabeth Propes will present “Denying the Holocaust: Arguments that Reject or Reduce the Holocaust as a Historical Event.”

April 18: Associate Professor of English Barry Laga will present “Engaging Memory: The Holocaust and the Rise of the Counter Monument.”

April 19: The film “My Country” will be shown by Associate Professor of Political Science Tim Casey, during “The Healing of Memory: Genocide and Forgiveness” presentation.

April 20: Professor of Art Marilyn Wounded Head will host “Lost Art of the Holocaust.”

The final event of Holocaust Awareness Week will be April 25. Peter Van Arsdale, senior lecturer in the Graduate School of International Studies at Denver University, will be at Fellowship Hall at First Christian Church at 1326 N. 1st Street at 7 p.m.

Van Arsdale, an award-winning educator on the Darfur and Sudan situations and the author of five books, will present “Shedding Light on the Crisis in the Darfur.”

mmoore@mesastate.edu
Crazy campus: Part two

Last semester I wrote a column about what a crazy campus we have. I recently had a really crazy morning and couldn’t pass up the temptation to continue my ramblings about our wacky campus.

My day started early and after a shower and my usual breakfast, I headed down to my job at our fine library. The morning went fine until about 10 minutes before I was usually off the clock, a woman about 45 years-old came in and dropped off a book. She glared at me and told me the book is late because she was on vacation and couldn’t come into the library to renew it, so she believed she was not responsible for the late fines. I politely told her she should have planned that ahead of time and, if not, she could have renewed her books over the Internet.

After a long quarrel with my supervisor, Ms. Taylor, I'm different from everyone else-in-the-world decided to give up and pay the fine (which happened to be a whopping $1.75). I took her money and wrote her a receipt, handed it to her then proceeded to tear it up in my face and stormed out the doors as I wished her good day. Well that's the Baby Boomer generation for you - never wanting to follow the rules and expecting to have their way all the time.

After clocking out, I was on my way out when I noticed a brightly colored pamphlet entitled, "Why Vegan?" I picked it up and thumbed though it, hardly able to contain my laughter. I picked it up and thumbed though it, hardly able to contain my laughter.

"That girl right there. She's Russian. We need more of them around here. Mmm, mmm!"

Saving the planet sensibly

No one seems to agree on the whole global warming issue. While Al Gore crusades around telling you inconvenient truths, some German scientist rolls his eyes and says there's no evidence to support it.

But like immigration reform, presidential elections and celebrity gossip, the topic is never far from the news and the debate is hot... er, cold.

Time Magazine recently did its part to rally the efforts to reduce the effects of global warming. The current issue features 51 things to help save the planet. Rocky Mountain News columnist Vincent Carroll read the Time feature and said it's crap. Okay, so not exactly "crap," but the words he used were "trivial," "dubious" and "silly."

After reading the article myself, I determined it's not so trivial, dubious or silly. In fact, I learned that there are simple things I can do every day to help out. Even if you don't believe the polar caps are melting, you can still take care of the only planet you have.

Here are some things for starters:

**Change Your Light bulbs.**

In the fashion world they say that brown is the new black. In the environmental world CFL is the new ILB. In other words, compact florescent light bulbs are replacing incandescent bulbs. CFL bulbs cost a little bit more, but they last longer and reduce a quarter of your energy consumption. You can buy them anywhere you get normal bulbs and they can even be recycled.

**Open a Window.**

Once the hot weather hits, it will be all we can do to keep ourselves cool. The problem is that air conditioning uses a lot of energy. Windows have been around longer than AC, and all you have to do to cool off is either open one up or roll one down. Easy enough.

**Hang Up a Clothesline.**

Did you know that a T-shirt - over 10 pounds of carbon dioxide? Apparently, most of the energy associated with clothing is spent washing and drying, but the solution is not to avoid laundry. Instead of cramming your underware and towels into the dryer, hang up a clothesline and let the air do its job.

**Do It Vintage Style.**

If you can handle some pre-owned gear, do your shopping at a vintage clothing store. Buying a shirt the second time around means saving a lot of energy consumption involved in packaging, shipping, production and all the other hoopla. It's good for the environment and no one will judge you for your outfit. If you don't want to spend money, do some browsing in a friend's closet and see if there's anything she wants to trade.

**Let Patagonia Do the Work.**

Outdoor gear label Patagonia is collecting any used clothing made from Polartec and Capilene. The used clothing they collect is melted and recycled into new fabrics and clothes. The company says this could potentially reduce greenhouse gases by 71 percent while increasing energy savings by 76 percent. You can learn all about it at patagonia.com/recycle.

**Pay Your Bills Online.**

We do pretty much everything else online so why not pay bills there, too? If you don't already have an electronic billing account, sign up for one and eliminate the paper trails of normal bills. No more paper bills means no more transport of bills, which means less fuel consumption to get you your bills.

**Consume less, share more, live simply.**

It pretty much boils down to this: Be conscious of your consumption, ask to borrow from a friend, lend to a friend who asks to borrow, think a bit more about your planet and try to live with less indulgences. Like Michael Jackson sang when he was still kind of cool, "Heal the world, make it a better place."

It's really that simple.
Editorial: start voting

Mesa State College Associated Student Government elections will be next week, bringing several promising candidates to the table (see our election guide, pages 8 and 9). While many of the candidates are running unopposed, those who are competing for the same position seem to come from very different backgrounds and beliefs, which promises to show some variety come debate and election day.

What's more is that ASG now has provided its students the opportunity to vote online. This is the first year online voting has been available for Mesa State students, and we are pleased with the effort ASG put into making this happen.

Just like regular voting, students will have to provide their 700 numbers when voting online to keep everything fair and even. One thing ASG should prude themselves on is the amount of effort they put into making voting as accurate as possible. We hope this election goes as flawlessly as in the past.

And while this is looking ahead a bit, we have a message for the next senators: leave your phones at home, or turn them off. Unfortunately, our staff members, Mesa State faculty and staff, and several other students have had the chance (over several occasions) to watch several members of ASG texting during their meetings. This is a habit that needs to stop, and we hope the next senate will enforce this next year.

We also hope that students take advantage of these open meetings next year. Do your research on the hills that your senators bring to the meetings and give them your input.

Several students wanted to see the college center fee go to a student vote. We feel ASG was right to keep the vote to the senate because they did their homework, they gathered as much student input as they could, and students had the opportunity to go to the meeting to further voice their opinions.

While the students, staff, and faculty members who came to those meetings provided excellent feedback, we still hope more people come to future ASG meetings. Take initiative, Mesa State, and be the change you want to see.

We look forward to what active and election weeks bring, and we wish all the candidates the best of luck.

Editorial Board

Ulysses Simmons, news editor
Nate Nichols, opinions editor
Heather Dunphney, features co-editor
Paige Hatten, features co-editor
Baker Geist, sports editor
Taylor Stonehouse, editor

Content for editorials is determined by the editorial board and written by the editor.
This just in: Rait Hall sucks

Why is it that in the New Residence Hall there are flat-screen TVs; yet where I live in Mary Rait Hall, I can't even plug my cable cord into the wall jack without pushing the female end through the drywall, lost forever in the spaces between the walls with the rats and roaches? Why are the “guest” bathrooms in the newest five-star hotel on campus better than the one I'm forced to use every day, complete with extra fungi growing in the corners with the rats and roaches? Why is it that in the computer lab on the third floor of Rait Hall, all linked to a brand-new printer with fresh paper and ink, I could finally see where all of my hard-borrowed money was going. As I typed my column, not even one of the keys got stuck, and the printers didn't use the paper you have to tear off the holed edges. Another recent decline in dormitory living came in the elimination of the drinking fountains. What a great commodity to have at three in the morning after a hard Saturday night of, uh, studying. But this year, I remain eternally parched due to the fear of contaminated bathroom sink water. On the same stroll through the New Hall, I realized that not only did they have nice new drinking fountains, but the arctic waters that came out and cleansed my palate was so delicious it suddenly became clear what the good life was. But as I strolled back to the far side of the campus where the grass is never greener, a sudden calm came over me and the affirmation of how terrible my dorm really is was no longer an issue. At that moment I realized that not only do the people in the New Dorms pay an arm and a leg more than I do, but they have to buy their own toilet paper, too. Suckers.

Cody Cochran
Columnist

Why divorce is good for America

Spring is a time of year when many young couples take the step from dating to engagement and subsequently to marriage. With many schools having graduation in May, it is no surprise that June is the number one month for tying the knot. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 83 percent of all American males between the ages of 20 and 24 have not been married; however, that number drops to 48 percent for men between 25 and 29. Americans embrace the idea of being a matrimonial society, and if the first marriage fails they are more than likely to try it again.

I reject the notion that marriage is good for a capitalistic society. As a matter of fact, I am proposing quite the opposite: divorce is really a good thing in our society. Divorce drives the American economic engine and for this reason I wholeheartedly encourage marriage, followed by dissolution.

First, when people get divorced, they go from owning one house, microwave, dishwasher, washing machine, refrigerator, bed, television, table, and cetera to one spouse having to purchase all of the mentioned items. This in return helps drive up the gross domestic product and adds to an increasing economy.

Second, married couples receive an unfair tax advantage from Uncle Sam. With a large married population, tax revenues will be low, forcing our government to cut needed services and programs. By getting divorced, however, Americans are helping support the common welfare of the nation by providing the tax base that allows us to build roads, prevent harmful diseases, protect citizens from criminals, and promote a highly educated society.

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**Asg Election Guide**

**President and Vice President**

**Desired position:** ASG President  
**Name:** Adam Davenport  
**GPA:** 3.8  
**Major:** Marketing  
**Hometown:** Windsor, Colo.

**What is your role in ASG?**  
If elected to President I believe my role would be to encourage and facilitate positive involvement on campus. As the highest student-elected official on campus, it would be my responsibility to do my best in building a stronger college-wide community. Finally, the ASG President should be an advocate for students, always ensuring every person’s voice is heard.  
**What makes you the best candidate?**

**Desired position:** Vice President  
**Name:** Lisa Lind  
**GPA:** 3.6%  
**Major:** English Literature  
**Hometown:** Bayfield, Colo.

**What is your role in ASG?** To provide a voice for the students and to make sure that the student is always put first is my ultimate role in ASG.  
**What makes you the best candidate?** The two-year experience I have had in ASG has prepared me for this vice presidential position. I have seen great leaders of Associated Student Government and have witnessed what works and also what does not. I have loved being a part of ASG and would love to continue playing a major role in the organization. If elected, I will continue to be a voice for the students and work to better Associated Student Government and Mesa State College as a whole.

**Desired position:** President  
**Name:** Travis Dove  
**GPA:** 3.12  
**Major:** Business Administration - concentration Finance, Economics, and Marketing  
**Hometown:** Grand Junction

(Asphalt Rinehart is running for Vice President with Dove but did not provide responses to election guide questions)

**What will your job entail as a member of ASG?**  
Currently the Associated Student Government does not have a role that best fits me. I believe that ASG does not reflect the current student body's views and they have done a poor job reflecting the student body's interest. The Associated Student Government is working very hard at protecting the wellkept secret that Mesa State students are paying for many student government officials' tuition. If I were to have a role in the ASG it would be a role that maintained the integrity of the school and still provided strong leadership for the student body; this would not need the price tag of 175 percent annual tuition.

**What makes you the best candidate?**

**Business and Professional Studies Senator**

**Desired position:** Business and Professional Studies Senator  
**Name:** Ryan D. Hendershot  
**GPA:** 3.29  
**Major:** Accounting  
**Hometown:** Cheyenne, Wyo.

**What will your job entail as a member of ASG?**  
I would represent the Business and Professional Studies students and also the students of Mesa State with their and the college's best interest in mind.  
**Why are you the best candidate?**  
I have been a Senator for the last year representing the Montrose campus making sound decisions for the future of Mesa State.

**How will you represent your department to ASG?**  
My #1 goal is to improve the feel of togetherness for all the students.

**Which crayon color would you be?**
As a service to our readers, the Criterion has created this election guide for the 2007 Associated Student Government spring elections. Voting is now online at www.mesastate.edu.

Student Trustee

Desired position: Student Trustee
Name: Ashley Mates
GPA: 2.87
Major: Political Science
Hometown: Loveland, Colo.

What will your job entail as a member of ASG?
Connecting the students and ASG to the Board of Trustees.
Why are you the best candidate?
I have experience. I have the ability to connect with all kinds of people, and listen to all kinds of views, even if they differ from my own. I have the time and the will power to get lots of things done. I hope to be an effective link to the BOT.

Desired Position: Student Trustee
Name: Mary Cardona
GPA: 3.7
Major: Liberal Arts with a Political Science Core and Minors in Philosophy and Classical Studies
Hometown: Silt, Colo.

What will your job entail as a member of ASG?
As Student Trustee I will be involved in the “big-picture” issues facing Mesa State College and its students.

Math and Natural Science Senator

Desired position: Math & Natural Sciences Senator
Name: John Jancey
GPA: 3.4
Major: Biology
Hometown: Denver, Colo.

What will your job entail as a member of ASG?
Representing those students seeking a major in the School of Math and Natural Sciences

Desired position: Science Senator
Name: Noah Barnhart
GPA: 
Major: Radiology
Hometown: Idaho Falls, Idaho

What will your job entail as a member of ASG? I will attend meetings dealing with the different science departments. I will listen to what is needed to improve the science departments, and then take their requests to the ASG meetings. I will also be active in different groups around campus and listen to people’s opinions to improve this school.

Desired position: Math and Science Senator
Name: Diane Dauven
GPA: 2.96
Major: Political Science
Hometown: Grand Junction, Colo.

What will your job entail as a member of ASG?
I will be attending all ASG meetings and participating in all ASG activities, which I thoroughly enjoy doing. Also, I am an active member of Math Club and will again help in the coordination of Math Extravaganza.

How will you encourage student involvement with the Board of Trustees’ issues?
I hope to help the Trustees to see the real issues that students are facing, like high book prices, outdated books in the library, the need for better technology on campus, along with many changes that students have suggested to me. I pledge to bring a sense of real community to this campus, something we are all striving for.

Which “Friends” character do you relate the most with?
Hmmm? That’s a tough one because I don’t really watch “Friends.” But I think probably Rachel. She’s my favorite.

Why are you the best candidate?
I am not a politician.

How will you encourage student involvement with the Board of Trustees’ issues?
I will initiate student surveys of the current issues facing students, ASG and the Board of Trustees.

Which “Friends” character do you relate the most with?
I like to watch CSI and my favorite characters are Gil Grissom and Sarah Sidel.

Why are you the best candidate?
I’m a great candidate because I’m a huge people person! I care about people’s opinions and I’m always willing to listen.

How will you encourage student involvement with ASG events?
I’m not a person who is scared to meet new people to get the word out. My involvement around campus allows me to communicate with many.

Would you rather hang out with Michael Jackson or Hulk Hogan?
Definitely Hulk Hogan!!!

Why are you the best candidate?
I am the best candidate because of my experience and involvement as Math and Science Senator for the past two semesters.

How will you encourage student involvement with ASG events?
I will encourage student involvement with ASG events just by my enthusiasm for ASG and Mesa State.

Which Power ranger would win in a cat fight: the pink or yellow ranger?
Pink because she has mad skillz and a pterodactyl!
The dynamics of dating
Swinging or bringing sexy back?

Q: Which is better: single or group dates?

A: Single dates win hands down. Who really wants to go on a date with three or five or however many other people? The whole point of a date is to get to know one person—not five people.

The only time I can think of a group date being appropriate is if you and your significant other have been dating for a long time and need a change of scenery. So you go to a romantic dinner with your girlfriend or boyfriend and your two friends. This is only going to work if you know the people really well with whom you're going. A group date is no fun if you go with strangers because, well, what are you going to talk about? Plus there would be that awkward, "Oh yeah, remember when Big Billy Jim entered the hot dog eating contest and barfed all over himself? Oh yeah, that's right — your fellow daters weren't there and have no idea who Big Billy Jim is. If you do decide to go on a group date and happen to encounter an awkward moment, try diffusing the situation with another story about something else totally unrelated. Bring up a movie you saw recently. Hopefully this will remind someone else of a story to counter that moment.

Who knows, maybe people are into swinging like group dates. I guess it's like an interview for the people with whom you're going to be sharing your significant other. In that case, just make sure no one eats anything with garlic or onions and make sure to use protection.

Heather Dunphrey
Love Lifesaver
hdunphey@mesastate.edu

A: Early in a relationship, I personally prefer the single date because it's easier to get to know the person you're dating. Guys, if you agree to go on a group date with your new female friend, you most likely will be dating her and essentially six of her friends. It's awfully hard to add to the conversation and show your personality when the person you're dating is discussing moments in which you "had to be there" to appreciate.

Trust me, when the conversation shifts to how Mark enjoyed a few too many libations that night after prom back in high school and passed out in Jenny's bathtub ripping the shower curtain off in the process, an awkward moment will commence as you try to fake a laugh and relate the experience to one of your own, only to fail miserably.

Likewise guys, if you invite her to hang out with six of your buddies, I strongly doubt that a night of romantic bliss will take place. We all know that when we're with friends, we tend to act more at ease and by doing so, let loose with a barrage of swear words and off-color jokes such as how Dog the Bounty Hunter's wife Beth has "assets" that rival the size of Mt. Rushmore. While that will seem funny to you and your friends, it will most likely kill any chance of a second date.

Something to keep in mind also is the lasting effect that bad dates have. Both guys and girls talk to their friends about dates and if the group date doesn't go well, you will not only get the chance to date that guy or girl again, but at least 10 friends will be off limits as well. Stick to the single date until you feel comfortable enough with who you're dating to introduce him or her to your friends.

Ladies, if you want to see a good date drop me an e-mail. After all, we all know who really brought sexy back.

Mrs. Max Ryan
Over the Top
mryan@mesastate.edu

The decline of worthwhile TV
Frying brains one student at a time

That gol-durned entertainment industry is at it again. They've decidedly taken it upon themselves to single-handedly destroy and recreate our minds. Anyone notice the third dimension is making a comeback? The new Disney flick comes hand-in-hand with those funny blue and red goggles. Now, I'm not knocking what kind of fashion statement you like to make on any given Saturday evening, I'm just saying that this fad might have died out for a reason. Are they mocking us? These must be the same people who put the CourtTV channel on television, where the daytime television consists of a sociopathic nurse, three murder victims and an overzealous CourtTV anchor whose idea of an exciting time is a multiple homicide and a bottle of Vitalis.

Simpler days did exist, you know. There was a time when there were 10 channels and Saturday Night Live didn't suck. A time when Sundays were for football, chicken wings and the sweet smell of machismo, not eating moon pies and drinking RC Cola. Network television actually made sense, and I actually thanked God that it was Friday, more for the fact that the weekend was beginning rather than a block of early evening sitcoms. More to the point, I only watch about five different channels anyway. I waste more of my life looking for something to watch, swearing at people like the Tool belt Diva and the boy who made the grill.

If television was in my hands, there would be a Michael Jordan channel, the "Girls Gone Wild" Channel, probably a soap opera channel for the ladies, the world's sweetest movie channel (on which I would pick all the films, where criteria met would involve massive amounts of nudity, even more massive explosions, and no Shaquille O'Neal appearances) and last but not least, HBO, just for the fact that I've been a fan of "Real Sex" since I was eight. Hey, who hasn't, though?

Features
Heather Dunphrey, Paige Hatton, editors
hdunphey@mesastate.edu, phatten@mesastate.edu

Absolutely no news channels, though. I'm tired of seeing car crashes, kidnapped children and who got what recent face lift. I don't care about so and so's saggy jaw line, and I cringe at the fact that seven to 15 car pileups are shown in panoramic view. Now, instead of getting lucky with viewing a little carnage in your everyday life, turn on the evening news, where every murder, crash and victim are made public. You can even see the blood and guts in high definition. Trust me, bits of skull, brain and gore never looked so good in 1080i, or whatever Charlie Sheen, Christopher Lloyd and Benton Manning get paid to advertise. People should get their current events from the paper anyway. Either that or plug into the Internet, where you can have all the news, bad television and stupid programming you want. Technology is so beautiful it makes me cry.

Yes, things would much different if I was in charge of the entertainment media. First of all, everything would be a separate entity. Television, print media and the Internet would be akin to cliques, with social wars happening between the prime time players, the bloggers and the purists. Competition is healthy, anyway. It would really rejuvenate the way each of these organizations handles their business. The Internet would be competing with television for the number one entertainment outlet in the world, instead of being a trash can for cast-offs, spin-offs and really bad fiction writing. That would certainly spice things up a bit. One can't have his TV and his Internet showing the same crap at the same time. People need variety. The print media is simply there so humans don't spend all their time plugged in and switched on. Reading used to be fun, something you did as a family. My teacher used to read to me each day and boy, did I love it.

Hank the Cowdog was my very first idol. Please don't take that away from me.

bguest@mesastate.edu
The Blunders by Alex Tuthill

I'm sorry about the fight we had.
Here, I got a rose for you to say I'm sorry.

Ow! It still has thorns on it!
That's what you get for calling me stupid! Giving you a rose with thorns on it? Now that was smart!

Dorm Dorks by Mike Hankins

I can't believe you got her to sign those dorm orders?
Our dorm faces the Internet?
Dorm Dorks: www.webcomicsnation.com/hankinsbentstudios/dormdorks/.

Susan's date with Destiny wasn't going as well as she expected.

WONDERMARK by David Mark

Remember the last time we were together?

Then, once you got on the bus, I haled a cab and met you at the park station.

After it rained the team,
I brought you to bed
and fell in love with you there.

We stole an hour from the hands of fate.

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

Mesa State by Nate Nichols

You're still playing video games? Don't you have an economics test tomorrow?

Yeah, well, I planned to study. However, new World Map came out last week and the bot to polish my professor's skills before those maps hit the maintenance playlist.

But what about the test?

I'm hoping it's an essay on opportunity cost.

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College student looking for female roommate to share 2 bedroom apartment. $265/month rent + half of utilities. If interested call Laura at (303)885-5392.

Sports Bahr: Many Florida stars have bright futures

Pat Bahr
Columnist

There were so many reasons why Florida should have lost in the tournament. One being that they weren’t as hungry this year. Also, Ohio State had better post play, Joakim Noah wasn’t as dominant blocking shots as he was last year, and there were just too many other solid teams.

There were six reasons why the Gators did win the big dance: Corey Brewer, Lee Humphreys, Billy Donavon, Al Horford, Joakim Noah and Taurean Green.

Florida’s starting five played great in the final four and Billy Donavon coached well so there really wasn’t anything UCLA or Ohio State could do.

Now that the Gators have the title, let’s take a look at the future of these individuals.

Coach Billy Donavon:
Donavon did the smart thing by staying at Florida. The man has always been able to recruit so the Gators will be able to be back in title contention in two or three years. No team that has been this successful has ever been down for too long. Think about Duke winning titles in the early ‘90s, and then resurfing in the late ‘90s. The same thing happened to North Carolina after winning the title in 2004 as they have reloaded with Hansbrough and the boys at Chapel Hill. The Gators will be fine and Donavon is a few years away from getting every single basketball court in Gainesville named after, even if he does look like a used car salesman.

Forward Corey Brewer:
Goodbye college, hello Memphis, Boston, Milwaukee or Atlanta. This guy is a guaranteed NBA lottery pick. His Most Outstanding Performance of the Tournament Award will push him to the top of the draft board with the likes of Kevin Durant and Brandon Wright. Some still have Joakim Noah as the Gator that will be drafted highest this June, but if you’re a smart general manager, you would go with Brewer just based on his versatility.

Forward/Center Al Horford:
Horford is a great post presence. He is a classic college center who blocks shots left and right while being able to dominate with his low-post moves. Horford, like Brewer, will most likely be a major contributor at the next level. He will improve his offensive game once he arrives in the NBA and he has the potential to be an Elton Brand type of player.

Forward/Center Al Horford:

Forward Joakim Noah:
Noah hustles and brings energy. He is similar to Tyson Chandler early in his career or Anderson Varejao. While both those players are serviceable post players, would you spend a lottery pick on either one of those players now? No. Noah’s game will not translate to the pros, and his ability to play 15 minutes and draw four fouls probably won’t be too desirable by top general managers.

Guard Taurean Green:
Green is a solid point guard. Don’t look for a lot of point guards to be drafted this year, but with Ohio State’s Mike Conley returning to school, Green has a great opportunity to be one of the first and few point guards selected. This draft will feature big men, and while Green is a good player, he will not have the impact of someone like Chris Paul or Deron Williams. But he can be a valued point guard in the pros.

Guard Lee Humphreys:
Hi, my name is Lee Humphreys and I can hit a three anywhere on the court. Now that might not seem important, but I can do for you what Jason Kapono does for the Heat, Kyle Korver does for the Sixers, and what Steve Kerr did for the Bulls.

Nuggets Bucket: Pippen is the key to a Nuggets championship

Kevin Vicker
Columnist

I can still hear Chicago Bulls longtime public address announcer Ray Clay announce his name when introducing the Chicago Bulls starting lineup. Scottie Pippen was always the second player introduced, after the power forward.

Now Pippen wants to comeback as a player/coach and help a team get over the top. The Nuggets need to bring him in.

Pippen was always my favorite player on the Bulls when they won six championships in eight years. That’s not to say that I didn’t like Michael Jordan, but there was always something about Pippen’s game that I admired.

Many criticize Pippen’s comeback aspirations, but I think he can help an NBA team this year. That is if he comes back to help a team that has talent, but has problems preventing them from playing well. The Nuggets are a team with plenty of problems.

Denver hasn’t been able to string together a streak of consistently good play since Allen Iverson got to town. Even with Iverson and Carmelo Anthony playing their best, the Nuggets still get outscored and lose.

The Nuggets have tremendous offensive talent now, but their defense is anything but. Denver loses close games because they struggle to get big stops late. While Marcus Camby provides good defense in the lane, the Nuggets’ perimeter defense is abysmal.

Pippen is fourth in NBA history with 2,307 steals. But he doesn’t just bring a defensive prowess. He’s ranked No. 23 all-time in assists, which is pretty impressive for a small forward. Pippen’s team made the playoffs in 16 of his 17 NBA seasons, so he knows how to win.

Obviously, as a player, Pippen is not going to be nearly that good anymore, especially being away from the game for a few years. Still, he can help the Nuggets gel and run an organized offense.

A lot of people like to talk about how the Nuggets struggle to develop chemistry, but nobody can say why. Well, here’s the answer: Iverson is not a run-and-gun type of player, which is the style of offense Denver likes. So Iverson runs set plays and the rest of the Nuggets don’t, which usually creates a one-on-one play with Iverson or Melo, unless it’s a fast break. That makes it tough to get easy baskets. It’s pathetic that the Nuggets have so much offensive talent and can’t even run a half-court offense.

Pippen’s presence on this team can help organize the offense, get the defense playing somewhat respectable, and help bring about a winning culture in Denver.

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Maverick baseball strikes gold against Mines
Series sweep keeps Mesa in the hunt for national attention

Kurtis Murchison
Reporter

The seventh-ranked Mesa State College Mavericks baseball team got their broomsticks out again. The Mavericks swept their fifth opponent of the season, with the latest victim being the Colorado School of Mines Orediggers at Suplizio Field. Mesa State remains in first place in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference with a record of 22-2, five and a half games in front of New Mexico Highlands in the Mountain Division. Overall, the Mavs are 33-6.

The Mavs have been perfect against Mines (10-25, 6-17 in the RMAC) in the past four years, and they have a 16-game winning streak against the Orediggers.

On April 5, the two teams took the field in the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life Night. The Mavs made up for the loss they sustained in last year’s Relay for Life Night to Fort Hayes State University, by beating the School of Mines 9-4.

Mesa State was down for much of the game, but took advantage of some miscues by Mines in the seventh inning. The Mavs were down 4-2 entering the inning when Mines’ pitching went awry.

With no outs, the bases were loaded for the Mavericks, all runners courtesy of walks given up by Oredigger pitchers. The Orediggers had already used up two pitchers in the inning when the Mines coaching staff decided to bring on a third pitcher, who gave up a two-run single to Mesa State catcher Blaine Bernades, which tied the game 4-4.

“On the throw home to prevent the tie, Bernades advanced to second and the Mavs’ Curtis Englehart advanced to third. Englehart scored on a past ball and Bernades moved to third. Bernades was then brought home on a wild pitch, securing four runs for the Mavs in the seventh inning on only one hit. Brett Armour picked up his ninth win for Mesa State, pitching eight innings and only giving up five hits.

The next three games of the series were very close. The Mavs won the first game of a doubleheader on Friday 11-4. Mesa State led early and maintained the shutout deep into the game, leading 10-0 going into the sixth inning. Maverick pitcher Owen Williams kept his perfect record intact, winning his sixth game of the season.

In the second game of the doubleheader, the Mavericks stampeded their way to a 15-6 win with the help of a 10-run first inning. The Mavs had eight hits in the first inning, five of them being doubles and five Mavericks had at least two hits in the game. Sophomore pitcher Jack Amidei pitched four innings and earned the win for the Mavs, with much thanks owed to the offense.

In the final game of the series, the Mavs won 10-7. The Mavs controlled much of the game, blanking Mines 9-0 heading into the sixth inning. Mesa State pitcher Dustyn Powers struck out seven batters, gave up three hits, and allowed only one run in six innings of work, giving him his third win of the season.

Chandler Herdt hit two home runs for the Mavs. He has 11 on the season, which ties him for the team lead and second place in the RMAC. Englehart also hit a three-run blast in the second inning, earning his seventh home run of the year.

The team will look to continue its four game winning streak as they travel to Denver April 13 to play a four-game series against Regis University (15-19, 8-12 RMAC). The series starts with a game at 3 p.m. on April 13 two at noon on April 14 and one at noon on April 15.

Mesa State women’s golf team finishes first at Regis Invitational

JB Sadler
Reporter

The Mesa State College women’s golf team kicked off their spring season at the Grand Canyon Women’s Invitational on March 26 and 27. They had a rocky start at the invite, placing seventeenth out of 20 teams.

The top performer from Mesa State was Junior Maggie Cole, who finished the invite 19 strokes over par with a total of 158 strokes. She finished 10 strokes over par on the first day and nine strokes over par on the second day.

It didn’t take long for Mesa State to get back on the winning side of things as on April 2 and 3, the lady Mavericks competed in the Regis University Women’s Golf Invitational in Denver. At the Fox Hollow Golf course, the Mavericks took first place. Amanda Preston, a junior from Eagle, finished in first place individually with a total of 158 strokes. Preston’s win marked her first individual title, and she was recently named Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Golfer of the Week.

Preston finished just one stroke above Cole, who finished tied for second-place with Cecilia Silfverskio of Regis University. Silfverskio ended the day with a total of 159 strokes.

While a few Mesa State golfers finished in first and second place at the Regis Invitational, two other Mesa State golfers finished in the top 7. Sadie Peavler finished in fifth place with 163 strokes and Amanda Rollins posted 67, placing her seventh overall.

During the spring season, the lady Mavericks will compete in just four events. The Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference championships will be held in Grand Junction at the Golf Club at Redlands Mesa on April 16 and 17.

While the lady Mavs will compete against some of the top golfers in the conference, they look to finish the season with a win in the RMAC championship.

jsadler@messtate.edu
Lady Mavs Softball team continues strong play against Ft. Lewis College
Three game sweep improves record to 20-3 in RMAC Play

Ali Vasvili
Reporter

On April 6, the Mesa State College softball team headed south to Durango for a weekend series against the Fort Lewis College lady Skyhawks.

"We need some big wins and we need to stay in first place," sophomore pitcher Jessica Rayman said. "(We need to) play defense and stick together."

It was a successful weekend sweep for the lady Mavs, who are currently 22-7 overall and 20-3 in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. Mesa State did everything they needed to in order to win, which puts the team one step closer to achieving their ultimate goal.

"This season our goal is to win the RMAC title," sophomore catcher Megan Hennessey said.

Game one was won 3-2 with offensive contributions coming from Nicole Zuniga, followed by home run in the seventh inning from Anita Diaz.

Game two was a close one as well, with help from Hennessey who went two for three on the day and chipped in two runs batted in. An eight-run fourth inning would also help lead Mesa State to a 14-12 win.

The lady Skyhawks tried to hold onto a lead in game three, but the combination of a successful defense and offense gave the lady Mavs the 12-10 win.

The fourth game of the weekend was cancelled, leaving the series a clean 3-0 sweep for Mesa State.

"This season our goal is to win the RMAC title."

-Mesa State Catcher Megan Hennessey

The Mesa State softball season is almost over, as the lady Mavs have only six games left before the RMAC tournament begins on April 4. Mesa State will head back out on the road to battle the CSU-Pueblo lady Thunderwolves on April 14 and 15. After that the four remaining games are all at home. Mesa State will host Nebraska-Kearney on April 21 and 22, and then the regular season will come to a close with a series against the lady Mountain Lions of CU-Colorado Springs on April 28 and 29 at Bergman Field.

Mesa State pitcher Cassie Phillips hurls the ball toward home plate during a game against Chadron State on April 2.

Mesa State track and field meet cancelled

The season for Mesa State College women's track and field team came to a sudden halt on April 7 as the CU Invitational was cancelled. According to the University of Colorado athletics website, the track and throwing rings were covered with ice the day of the meet due to an ice storm that blanketed Boulder on the night of April 6. There is no word on when or if the meet will be rescheduled.

The lady Mavs will resume their season on April 21 when they visit Fort Collins for the Jack Christensen Invitational.

Sports Question of the Week:

With the major league baseball season underway, and the numerous acquisitions made by the Colorado Rockies in the off-season, how many wins will they get this year?

A: 85 wins or more
B: Between 60-70
C: They will be lucky to win 50

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Mesa State College tennis seasons wind down:
With two more matches to go in regular season, women’s team sits first in RMAC

Women’s Season Record:
9-7 (3-0 in the RMAC)

Men’s Season Record:
8-9 (2-1 in the RMAC)

The last two weeks for the men’s and women’s tennis teams have included sweet victories, tough losses and a lot of learning experience. The end of the season is in sight for both teams, but they’re not done yet.

The Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference tournament is rapidly approaching. The women have only two more conference matches remaining in the regular season while the men have three more. After that, both teams will head to Pueblo for RMAC championship play on April 20-22. If the teams win the RMAC tournament title, they will receive an automatic bid to the NCAA regional tournament, which is the ultimate goal for the season.

Women’s Tennis:
The women are sitting at 8-7 overall and 3-0 in the RMAC. Such strong play has the lady Mavs sitting in first place. Beating CSU-Pueblo and Nebraska-Kearney helped propel the women to the top of the conference. Mesa State beat CSU-Pueblo 7-2, giving the lady Mavs their first victory over CSU-Pueblo in two years.

“(We) and Pueblo were tied for first in preseason polls and we beat them pretty easily so it was a huge confidence booster,” junior Drisa Carrizo said.

The women needed this added confidence heading into play with Nebraska-Kearney. The women beat Nebraska-Kearney 8-1. Kata Killenberg, an undefeated freshman, believes both of the wins were really big because both Pueblo and Kearney were RMAC contenders.

Along with Killenberg, Carrizo and Teri Mayeda are undefeated. Their wins along with team leadership and camaraderie have led the women to their last two victories, and will help them in future RMAC play.

“(The) ladies really have a good shot to win,” men’s and women’s tennis coach Dan MacDonald said. “They don’t mean to sound cocky, but we are confident. It will be a disappointment if we don’t win.”

The women have two more conference matches to help prepare for the RMAC tournament. On the morning of April 14 they play Western New Mexico and that afternoon they play Metro State in Denver.

Men’s Tennis:
The men have had a little tougher of a time over the last two weeks but are currently 8-9 overall and 2-1 in RMAC play which has them sitting in third place. They suffered a tough loss to Nebraska-Kearney by a score of 5-4. The men didn’t let the loss affect their game against CSU-Pueblo as they bounced back with a 5-4 win.

“It’s a real tight conference this year. We really think we have a shot to win it,” senior Cory Rockow said.

MacDonald said he believes the key for the men’s team is doubles play. They need to win two out of three doubles to win a dual. Nick Provenza and Jordan Chomko are undefeated in doubles play and hope to continue their strong play through the rest of the season.

“I keep telling those guys (we) have to win the RMAC tournament,” MacDonald said.

Right now, the worst the men can finish is in fourth place, but MacDonald keeps pushing his team because the higher the seed they get in the RMAC tournament, the better chance the team has of winning.

The men have three matches left in regular season to play before they can worry about the RMAC tournament.

“(We) have a couple of tough ones ahead—Western New Mexico and Sonoma State,” Rockow said. “These teams will only get us better for the RMAC tournament.”

The men play Sonoma State at home on April 11 at 2 p.m. They will then join the women in Denver for conference play on April 14 to play Western New Mexico and Metro State.