

THE Filthy Lucre

It's Highly Effective!

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Pool Redux

Lucretia Mott: Insider

It is indeed old news that the Northern Pool is closed. The pool's doors shut back in October and though we were told it would be a matter of weeks before it opened, we are still waiting. We who lost jobs there had our inquiries waved off with the vague threat of hazy, yet expensive, repairs. Obviously, if the pool was not keeping up with its expenses when open, it would no doubt generate funds when closed, or so its administrators thought.

Is there not a business professor at Northern who could have perhaps steered them from that guaranteed failure of a business plan? Now, if the pool's expenses really do amount to \$4000/month, and other students are paying as much tuition as I, then 7 paying students are all that's needed to fund

the pool. I know, from experience, that the pool was visited by seven or more people when it was open. Add yet another flaw to the grand design of the administration of the pool. And what of the Water Aerobics class? Surely those nice ladies who paid for their classes in advance got their money back?

As for Northern setting up a plan with the City Pool so that Northern students swim for free, I take issue with this also. Apparently, someone failed to inform the City Pool of this arrangement. Having visited the Pool and inquiring about getting myself in for free, I was met, not with a free pass, but with a blank stare.

A quick search through past flyers and memos did not reveal anything resembling a confirmation that Northern students swim for free. So much for a paper trail.

It is now nigh on four months since the pool barred its doors. If it was truly only a matter of weeks until the pool was up and running, how many weeks have we got left?

By the name of all that is good and pure, this is a story that will not die. One of our own agents had a contact in the Havre public pool facility, and confirmed that Northern students can in fact get into the pool for free with a campus ID; we can only assume that someone did not get the memo at the time of Lucretia's attempt.

We have also heard that Interim Chancellor Rolf Groseth is himself a swimming fan, and can often be seen during public swim hours at the city pool; we can probably take it on good faith that the man is not simply holding a vendetta against chlorine-loving land traitors. We will of course keep our loyal readers posted on any new watery developments.

-Lupé

Holy Administrative Turnover, Batman!

Lupé Tragedia: Editor-in-Chief

We recently received a letter from one "Occasionally Optimistic", titled *Another One Bites the Dust*, a rather acrid opinion piece regarding the retirement of Dean Jim Longin. The piece was certainly passionate, but was un-sourced and borderline libelous; we don't know much about Montana vehicle registration laws, but we know a sticky wicket when we see one. As such, we will not be publishing this letter in its entirety.

None-the-less, the occasion of Dr. Longin's retirement is notable, as the last vestiges of the Capdeville Administration vanish like smoke on a spring chinook wind. And let's not forget Vice-Chancellor Jensen, who

very quietly announced last week that he was "moving on," and had a going away party here on campus.

In marginally related news, we have heard that, after word got around (thanks to us) that Chancellor Groseth wrote a check for \$100 to the Hi-Line Film Festival, a flurry of terse letters floated through the staff email system.

You see, in the Long September of the previous administration, a leak of this magnitude would have surely led to a shadowy investigation/reprimand of the offending stoolie, and it was that mind-set that led to this minor frisson. It was only after Groseth said "chill" that feathers were un-ruffled.

Our point (and we do have one) is that it's going to take more than a staff turnover to change the atmosphere of Northern; old habits die hard, and the venerable atmosphere of secrecy and fear surrounding our beloved university is putting up a fight. But don't think we're just a bunch of Groseth fanboys and fangirls; to quote "Occasionally Optimistic,"

"Can we now move to a new day where administrators really do have the best interest of Northern at heart and not their own personal wellbeing? Might we focus on growth, what we can do, and serve all students to the best of our ability? Could we begin to have conversations of genuine collaboration, shared governance and enthusiasm with all the stakeholders of the institution?"

As we wait for Bozeman's plan to be laid on Northern we should all be fortified with a good dose of skepticism! Interim Chancellor Groseth should be allowed time to articulate the plan and direction of Northern. He might even be given the benefit of the doubt, but clearly, we should be mindful, watchful and aware of the motives of those who say they are here to help. They may be out to 'help themselves.'

Only time will tell whether the times truly are a changin', but rest assured, we'll be here to tell you.



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