

S. Rodriguez: Regular Contributor decided that Donaldson Hall, one of the

he Filthy Lucre would like to students, faculty, and administration to the illustrious halls of our hallowed university, that bastion of success and ambition, Montana State University Northern.

Returning alumni will notice a few dramatic changes around campus; jutting from the center of the quad like an alien monolith (or a prop from Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory) is the new clock, donated by the Havre Rotary Club.

Although the clock was installed in May, its hands remained fixed at 10:30 until well into August; we had all sorts of great wisecracks lined up for the fall issue, *e.g*: "Even a broken clock is correct twice a day, which puts it two points ahead of Northern's administration."

Sadly, the clock is now up and running, providing everyone access to accurate, joke-less timekeeping, assuming of course that any students still know how to read a clock that isn't attached to a cell phone. Remember kids, the big hand is minutes, the little hand is hours; just thank the deity of your choice that it doesn't use roman numerals.

While the whacky purple clock is the most obvious change at Northern, you might notice something else around campus; the creepy cobwebs and eerie haunted house sounds may make you think Halloween is coming early, but don't worry! It's just Donaldson Hall slowly crumbling to dust. You see, over the summer, Northern's administration

*† Havre Daily News, July 25, 2008 †† http://msun.edu/msunalert/* 

oldest and most attractive buildings on campus (Northern's architectural MILF, if you will), was too expensive to heat, repair, or retrofit<sup>†</sup>.

According to Chancellor Groseth, since Donaldson is classified as a residence hall, Northern can only use auxiliary funds (comprised of student fees and residence fees) to maintain the building, and that a study commissioned by the previous administration estimated a cost of at least five million dollars to return the building to a state suitable for student habitation.

True, Northern doesn't need to use Donaldson as a residence hall, and the cost of retrofitting it as an administrative building would be far less. For that matter, such a beautiful and classic building could surely be listed as a historical site, and qualify for federal preservation grants.

{As a matter of fact, on May 5th of this year, Northern received an award from the Havre Hill County Historic Preservation Commission for the University's work in



Antimony Obfuscation: Comm. Sec'y Ph.d

realize that finding quality Ve writing talent at this fine institution of higher learning is about as likely as Professor Edwards voting for Obama.

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upgrading Pershing Hall's infrastructure over the previous school year. Pershing Hall is the oldest surviving building at Northern, and while we don't know the exact price of the renovation, we assume it was a substantial amount. Perhaps one of our more informed readers knows the official *price of that job? -ed.*}

Such suggestions are surely pointless, however; Northern is all about looking to the future, not the past! We spent five million dollars on the lovely ATC building, which is now utilized by literally dozens of students and community members on a yearly basis!

Forget about beautiful, historic buildings, so long as we can get text messages on our cell phones in the event of dire emergencies or rampaging english professors.<sup>††</sup> And have you seen the new Northern website? We can guarantee that didn't cost five million bucks.

The Filthy Lucre says good riddance to bad rubbish, and looks forward to seeing the new Donaldson Parking Lot!

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