

THE Filthy Lucre

Is phoning it in.

Issue 2.7 October 9, 2007



Lupé is terribly busy, so this week we're turning the reigns over to the astute citizen journalists of Montana State University Northern. Remember dear readers, we value each and every written contribution we receive, and are happy to publish... most of them.

Also, all of our t-shirts are gone, so stop asking! Don't worry too much, because a new series of shirts may be available before the end of the semester. We'll have some exciting announcements next week, so until then, "The Frequency is Courage!" -Antimony

DEATH ON THE HELLO WALK

Rico Tenzen: Field Reporter

Upon the first dew of the freshly painted and heavily leaf covered Hello Walk, my reporter-issued boots started to give way to the five individual drops of water covering its surface. And in a flash, I had a Nostradamus-like vision of professors and members of the student body, their faces bloody and bruised as the corpses of fallen comrades piled up at the base of the steps.

What ever would cause such a nightmarish sight? Was it the winds of doom? The signs stating, "Walkways not maintained"? Or perhaps it was the sight of three students slipping and stammering all within five feet of each other? This question lead too a brief investigation, and a shocking discovery.

This semester, the Hello Walk is being painted with a latex based product, which is intended to have a longer lasting finish without chipping and fading. This in comparison to the old, acrylic based paint that chipped by the time the next batch of smiling hoodlums came to paint with the permission of Mother Nature.

While this latex based substitute is brighter and more durable, it is also much more slippery when wet. With the switch of the paint, a question must be asked. Is a colorful finger-painted step worth the lives of countless unsteady walkers, or will the fresh coat of students' blood be the right chemical to subdue the shine of the latex paint? With the first snow on the horizon, look forward to the memorials of those who have fallen and not gotten up. Be safe, and remember, "Walkways not maintained in winter."

FEBREZE™ To SPONSOR MSU-N?

Lucretia Mott: Concerned Citizen

Just yesterday, I stepped out of my dorm, unable to resist the allure of the fresh autumn air. While we all admire MSUN's somewhat skewed and unmeritable attempt to keep our campus bright and beautiful (at the expense of the RAs), my moment outside was far less pleasant than I had expected. Though the sidewalks are pristine and unclotted with garbage, the air was so foul I was forced back inside. The stench rose not from refuse heaps (since the now enslaved RAs have been doing a fine job cleaning up), but from the three smokers puffing away right outside the door.

Now, if Northern is as environmentally committed as it recently appears to be, then should they not have the RAs out there, standing amid the smokers, spraying clouds of Febreze to chase away the smell and ease the lungs of all nonsmokers who must pass through those doors? Would this not further Northern's goal of a clean campus? Admittedly, the air is harder to clean than the sidewalks, but Northern has already proven their willingness to exploit the efforts of the Resident Assistants.

On a more serious note, I realize that smokers are people too, and are guaranteed the right not to be discriminated against. However, democratic though my mind might be, my lungs are thoroughly annoyed at the concept that air polluters are allowed free reign over our campus, especially after Northern has proven itself so willing to go to any length for campus cleanliness. Could we not spare the smokers some little corner, out of the way of the nonsmokers, where they might proceed to give themselves cancer in peace? Would that not be fair, even generous?

My lungs are sickened, my stomach nauseated, and my nose offended that the smokers are allowed to force their befouled air upon me as I exit the dorm. I call for action. Move the smokers from the doorstep to the sidewalk, to the parking lot, to the other side of the building, to the top of the hill, anywhere but where nonsmokers must endure them.

[Given the demographics here at Northern, it may be more cost effective for the Administration to simply issue oxygen masks to all of the non-smokers. -ed]

LETTERS TO THE LUCRE

Antimony Obfuscation: Mailperson

Once again, I have taken the liberty of editing W.K's letter, because he makes the English language cry.

Hello Lucre,

Good article on janitors. I suppose you know that janitorial work has been cut back in Cowan Hall and Brockman to only a couple of days a week.

Northern's athletic teams could help save money as well:

Football – field just ten players, or less!

Basketball – maybe three, not five.

Volleyball – five players instead of six?

Golf – who cares!

Also, teachers could shorten their classes to thirty minutes, foot long hotdogs at lunch could be seven inches, sloppy joes could be "slopy joz"... Well, you get the idea, I bet you could think of more. Is a "void university" a black hole?

-Wan Karoo

P.S. Where is your web page?

Here's a few more our staff came up with;

- Only run the Max P. Khur Memorial Fountain on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

- Start a chicken farm in the quad, and sell eggs at the Farmers Market on Saturdays.

- Rolling blackouts for all buildings to conserve electricity. (Think of it as College Unplugged!)

- Start charging dorm residents for the use of the laundry machines, pool tables, and big-screen televisions.

- Cut the library's book collection in half, and burn the remainder in the Sub Fireside Room to reduce heating costs.

As a matter of fact, our technicians are currently working on an internet presence for the Filthy Lucre. It should be ready for action by the next issue, along with some treats for our more technically proficient readers! Stay tuned for that announcement.

Know Your Place.

The opinions expressed here do not represent the views of anyone, including the writers. We are always open for new written pieces, photos, artwork, and financial patronage. Send hate mail, love notes, and creative contributions to northernlucre@gmail.com.