

TOO MUCH INFO?

CANDYLAND

Chocolate

It is America's favorite flavor, followed by berry and vanilla.

Chocolate manufacturers in the U.S. use about 40 percent of almonds and 25 percent of peanuts produced in the country.

When it comes to decisions, 65 percent of Americans who eat chocolate prefer milk chocolate.

The melting point of cocoa butter is just below 98.6 degrees, which is the temperature of the human body. This explains why it literally melts in your mouth.

Candy Canes

For 200 years, candy canes only were white.

Candy canes have a national holiday — National Candy Cane Day is celebrated Dec. 26.

About 1.76 billion candy canes are made each year.

The largest candy cane was 58 feet and 2 1/4 inches. It was created by Paul Ghinelli.

Conversation hearts

Conversation candies weren't always heart-shaped, they once were created on other shapes including horseshoes, baseballs and watches.

The candy is produced about 11 months of the year, despite its peak selling season lasting about six weeks.

Each year, about 10 new sayings are added to conversation hearts. Some recent sayings include "Yeah Right" and "Puppy Love."

On its Valentine's Day show, "Jeopardy" includes a category about conversation hearts.

Gum

The majority of gum is purchased during the Halloween and Christmas seasons.

The largest gum wrapper collection in the world consists of 5,300 packets from all across the world. The record is held by Steve Fletcher.

It does not take gum seven years to digest. It digests in the same amount of time as any other food.

Lollipops

The world's largest lollipop weighed more than 4,000 pounds, including the stick. It was about 19 inches thick and more than 15 feet tall, including the stick. The lollipop was certified in 2002.

Original lollipop machines created about 40 lollipops in one minute. Today, machines produce about 5,900 lollipops in one minute.

SOURCE: NATIONAL CONFECTIONERS ASSOCIATION, WWW.CANDYUSA.ORG

To see what kind of candy a freshman loves, go to page 2B.

FACES + PLACES



HELLO, MY NAME IS Tracey Daniels

For kinesiology freshman Tracey Daniels, skating has always been a passion she wanted to pursue into college. And her dream came true by becoming a member of the MSU Figure Skating Club.

"Since skating has always been part of my life, I definitely wanted to continue in college and when I saw that MSU had such a great program, this school stood out," Daniels said. "It really helped with my college choice."

The club practices Sunday, Monday and Wednesday nights at Munn Ice Arena. Men and women can be on the team, but there are tryouts that every prospect has to endure.

"In April, we have a recruitment weekend where older teammates watch us as a whole and then we have separate tryouts, which are more individual," Daniels said.

—Compiled by Paige LaBarge, photo by Gabrielle Moore, The State News

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Wednesday



ANGELI WRIGHT/THE STATE NEWS

Environmental journalism graduate student Matthew Cimitile, standing by the Red Cedar River, has been helping to plan Green on the Big Screen, an environmental film festival, which will be held Thursday through Sunday at the Communication Arts and Sciences Building. "I think that it's a really good cause. People are more likely to see a documentary movie than read a book on certain issues," Cimitile said.

TURNING THE SILVER SCREEN

GREEN

Environmental journalism graduate student helps organize MSU's first environmental film festival

"My ultimate goal is to bring films that will inform and enlighten and entertain and encourage discourse on environmental issues that are so pressing in today's world."

Susan Woods, director and programmer of Green on the Big Screen

By Sarah Harbison THE STATE NEWS

A self-described "late bloomer" to environmental issues, Matthew Cimitile has turned 180 degrees in the past few years. It wasn't until late in his career as a history undergraduate at the University of Tampa in Tampa, Fla., and after a spring break trip to Costa Rica that Cimitile began reading up on environmental issues. He always enjoyed the outdoors, but now, as an environmental journalism graduate student at MSU, Cimitile is living and breathing issues, such as deforestation and climate change, through research, writing and even film. Since August, Cimitile, 23, has helped in the planning and organization of Green on the Big Screen — an environmental film festival hosted by the College of Communication Arts and Sciences.

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Environmental film festival and fair facts

Green on the Big Screen, an environmental film festival and fair hosted by the College of Communication Arts and Sciences, will be held Thursday through Sunday.

The first film, "Encounters at the End of the World," will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in 147 Communication Arts and Sciences Building. The film will last about an hour and 40 minutes. The executive producer of the film, Andrea Meditch, also will appear as a special guest.

For more information and the complete schedule, visit cas.msu.edu/filmfest.

SOURCE: CAS.MSU.EDU/FILMFEST