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Enrollment reaches 7,960 at U of Montana

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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Enrollment at the University of Montana continued its upward trend this week, with the gross head count reaching a record 7,960 at the close of business Thursday, according to Leo Smith, UM registrar.

Smith said he expects the record figure to go even higher with between 20 or 30 more students expected between now and Nov. 1, the deadline for the six units of the Montana University System to report their respective enrollment figures to the office of Edward W. Nelson, executive secretary of university system in Helena.

A breakdown of the sizes of the respective classes at the University of Montana, Smith said, will not be available until final tabulations are run off on computers in the office of Leonard L. Lewis, manager of data processing at UM.

Enrollment figures through Thursday at UM include the 91 launch control officers who are enrolled in the University's Master of Business Administration degree program at Malmstrom 'Air Force Base, Great Falls. Seventy-eight officers were enrolled in the program fall quarter a year ago.

The figure of 7,960 students currently enrolled at UM represents a gain of 692 students, or an increase of 9.5 per cent compared with last fall's total gross enrollment of 7,268.

Smith said that an estimated 1,800 freshmen are enrolled at UM this fall, compared with the 1,549 enrolled last fall quarter, a gain this year of 16 per cent.

Earlier this week, Smith said the total enrollment gain this fall is due largely to the great number of former University students who have returned to the Missoula campus to continue their studies.

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