Enrollment shows slight decline at U of Montana

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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The nation's first draft lottery in 27 years apparently has had only a slight effect, if any, on the number of student withdrawals at the University of Montana. The lottery list was released Monday night in Washington, D.C.

An increase of eight-tenths of one per cent in the number of men withdrawing from the University compared with figures from a year ago has been recorded at the registrar's office, but Registrar Leo Smith said Friday that various reasons, including low grades and perhaps the draft lottery, may be attributed to the withdrawals.

Of the 5,294 male students who registered for classes this fall on the Missoula campus, 203 or 3.8 per cent have submitted withdrawal slips. A total of 145 male students or 3 per cent of the 4,805 men who registered for classes in the fall of 1968 withdrew from classes a year ago.

Smith said there normally is an increase in the number of withdrawals just before the end of the first nine weeks of classes because many students would rather receive withdrawal grades of W in their courses than F's.

Wednesday (Dec. 3) was the last day for University students to withdraw and still receive W grades. Smith said students who withdraw the rest of the quarter will receive completed grades in their courses, include a grade I for a course not completed, F for failure, or grades of A, B, C or D for regular credit.

Smith said there has been no increase in the percentage of coeds withdrawing from the University this quarter compared with fall quarter a year ago. That figure stands at 2.2 per cent for fall quarter of both years.

The University of Montana recorded a gross enrollment of 8,010 for fall quarter this year, a record for the school.

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