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MEDIA RELEASE

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Helena media

UM ALUMNI SCHEDULE PHONATHON FOR EXCELLENCE FUND

MISSOULA--

Jim and Connie Erickson of Helena will chair the University of Montana's fourth annual alumni phonathon. Jim Erickson works for the Department of Highways in the Program Development Division.

The phonathon will be held the evenings of Jan. 21 and 22 at Norwest Bank Helena. Over 40 volunteers will telephone approximately 2,000 UM alumni in Helena to raise money for the Excellence Fund, the University's annual giving program directed by the UM Foundation. Contributions to the Excellence Fund are used for projects such as academic scholarships, faculty development, planning for a new business administration building on the campus and the Mansfield Library.

Last year's Helena phonathon netted \$5,565 in contributions and was part of a year-long series of events to raise money for the University. The nationwide goal for the 1985 Excellence Fund is \$250,000.

The Helena phonathon coincides with the UM Alumni Association's House of Delegates meeting in Helena on Jan. 25. In honor of the UM Art Faculty Exhibit being held at the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, the alumni association will host a wine and cheese party for Helena-area alumni, friends and legislators on Thursday, Jan. 24, from 6 to 8 p.m.

The phonathon is conducted by the UM Foundation and the UM Alumni Office.

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