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Connecting Campus and Community

May 1998

Montana's congressional delegation backs Six-Mill Levy

In a rare show of bipartisan unity, Montana's congressional delegation last month gave strong endorsement to the effort to renew the Six-Mill Levy for Higher Education.

Rep. Rick Hill and Sen. Conrad Burns, both Republicans, and Democratic Sen. Max Baucus said they support Referendum 113, which will appear on the November general election ballot. The levy is a property tax that has been approved every 10 years since 1948. Passage this fall would renew the tax but not increase it.

Almost 14 percent of state support for higher education comes from the levy. It contributes about \$14 million a year to University of Montana units at Missoula, Butte, Dillon and Helena and Montana State University units at Bozeman, Billings, Havre and Great Falls. The two-year and four-year institutions have combined enrollment of about 35,000 students.

The levy accounts for about \$23 of taxes on a \$100,000 house. Supporters say the money is used only for educational programs, not for construction of facilities.

Burns said the levy gives Montanans "more bang for the buck than any other tax we pay."

"A strong university system allows our state to compete in the emerging global marketplace and provides the foundation for the prosperity of our children."

—Rep. Rick Hill

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"A strong university system allows our state to compete in

UM drops parking structure plan

The University will not proceed with plans to build a new \$12.5 million parking structure as part of a Series E bond issue, President George Dennison announced last week.

The proposed project and others were dropped from the bond issue after campus task forces submitted reports to the president and additional analyses to assess the feasibility of the projects were conducted.

"The funding for the facility appears to require fee increases that must come in more rapid increments than we can justify," Dennison said. "We have concluded that we cannot make this project work at the present time because of the numbers."

Also excluded from the bond issue was a proposed child-care facility, after it was determined that a prohibitive cost would have to be charged in order to finance the project.

The new proposal still includes plans to spend \$3.6 million for more improvements to the University Center and \$2 million to create a campus center that offers students academic and career counseling under one roof.

The Board of Regents approved the \$10.1 million bond issue proposal at its May meeting.



Montana's congressional delegation — Sen. Conrad Burns, Sen. Max Baucus and Rep. Rick Hill — recently endorsed the Six-Mill Levy for Higher Education.

the emerging global marketplace and provides the foundation for the prosperity of our children," Hill said in a news release the trio distributed to Montana media last month.

In a statement, Baucus said: "The university system not only teaches and trains our young people, but the world-class research conducted there improves the economy and well-being of Montanans. Passing the Six-Mill Levy will help insure that Montana is prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st Century."

University breaks ground for pharmacy addition June 9

Construction of the new \$10.4 million addition to the Pharmacy/Psychology Building will begin with a groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday, June 9.

The public is invited to attend the 3:30 p.m. ceremony on the building's north side. Campus and state leaders will speak, then scoop the first shovels of dirt to officially launch the construction project.

The 1997 Montana Legislature appropriated \$2 million for the building project. The School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences and the UM Foundation raised \$5.7 million from the private, Utah-based ALSAM Foundation; \$2.5 million from American Stores Co.; and about \$200,000 from faculty, alumni and friends.

The new building will allow the school to house its pharmacy and physical therapy programs under one roof for the first time. Three campus buildings currently house the school's programs.

Men of Distinction

UM confers honorary degrees on prize-winning journalist and best-selling author

A revered Montana journalist and a best-selling author and historian received The University of Montana-Missoula's highest honor during Commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 16. President George Dennison conferred honorary Doctor of Letters degrees on Mel Ruder — the only Montanan ever to win print journalism's highest honor, the Pulitzer Prize — and Stephen E. Ambrose — whose recent book "Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson and the Opening of the American West" won international acclaim. Dennison said the University is honored that Ruder and Ambrose accepted the degrees. "The University of Montana has bestowed this honor upon a select group of people over the years," Dennison said. "Mel Ruder and Stephen Ambrose will take their places among that distinguished group and add luster to it."

Their names were added to bricks in the Honorary Doctorate Circle, located on the south end of UM's Oval.

Stephen E. Ambrose Doctor of Letters

Stephen E. Ambrose — a distinguished scholar-author who has written more than 20 books — has consistently stayed on the New York Times best-seller list with his latest book, "Citizen Soldiers," and "Undaunted Courage," which will become an ABC mini-series this year. It was the latter book that landed him a role as commentator in a Ken Burns documentary on Lewis and Clark, which aired last year on the Public Broadcasting Service.



Ambrose

In nominating Ambrose for the honorary doctorate, UM history department Chair Harry Fritz called "Undaunted Courage" a labor of love. "He has always been a true Expedition aficionado — following the trail, reviewing books, attending foundation meetings," Fritz wrote. "But the book is more than just history. It's made a connection with American yearnings and aspirations. Somehow this biography is larger than Lewis; it's an expression of American values."

Ambrose has led travelers on historical tours of Montana for more than 20 years, as he and his family fed an obsession for the history of Lewis and Clark. He has written about the state in "Crazy Horse and Custer: The Parallel Lives of Two American Warriors," and again in "Undaunted Courage." In recent years, he and his wife, Moira, have lived in Helena part of the year.

Three of their children have attended UM.

His other works include "Rise to Globalism," a standard college text, and "D-Day June 6, 1944: The Climactic Battle of World War II," which sold half a million

copies in the first four months after it was published on the 50th anniversary of the Allied invasion of Europe. He has written several books about Richard Nixon and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Ambrose is director emeritus of the Eisenhower Center, retired Boyd Professor of History at the University of New Orleans and president of the National D-Day Museum. He has served on the faculty of the University of California at Berkeley, Kansas State University and Johns Hopkins University.

"The University of Montana has bestowed this honor upon a select group of people over the years. Mel Ruder and Stephen Ambrose will take their places among that distinguished group and add luster to it."

—UM President George Dennison

Mel Ruder Doctor of Letters

Mel Ruder was an assistant professor of journalism at the University of North Dakota, his alma mater, when he came to Montana in 1940 to see Glacier National Park and gain more practical experience. He intended to return to teaching one day. Instead he founded the Hungry Horse News in Columbia Falls in 1946 and turned it into one of the best weekly newspapers in the nation.

His tenacious, death-defying coverage of the Montana floods of 1964 earned him his crowning achievement. Dorothy Johnson, herself an award-winning writer and then a UM journalism professor, nominated Ruder for a Pulitzer Prize in 1965.

"He flew over flooded areas in Glacier National Park in a rented plane," Johnson wrote in her nominating letter to the Pulitzer committee. "When he couldn't rent a plane, he begged a ride in one... The disaster grew. He found a boat and took pictures in the flood. He brought out a Saturday paper, too. This time he threw out the advertising

he dedicated himself to covering the news for his readers. On some of his news-and-picture expeditions, he drove his car on the railroad track because the road was washed out."

Johnson told the Pulitzer committee that Ruder was "a man of integrity, of high ideals, of resolution and dedication."

It was for those reasons that Joe Durso Jr., interim dean of the UM School of Journalism, nominated Ruder for an honorary doctorate. "These are precisely the qualities we hold up to our students for them to adopt as they pursue their careers in journalism," Durso wrote in his nominating letter. "In this regard, Mel Ruder is a superior role model."

Ruder is known among his peers as a stalwart defender of the First Amendment. He co-founded the Montana Newspaper Hall of Fame in 1958 and in 1981 was one of the first Montana journalists to be designated a master editor/publisher by the Montana Newspaper Association.

He has been a strong supporter of UM's journalism school and boasts strong family ties to the University. His late wife, Ruth, his daughter, Patsi Morton, and her husband, Doug, all have degrees from UM, as do his granddaughters, Melissa Morton Engellant and Diane Morton Hogan.



Bear Briefs

Blending In—Recent construction won UM another Missoula Historic Preservation Award for Excellence. The addition to the University Theatre earned UM this year's award in the category of "Most Compatible Addition to An Historic Building." The addition was part of a \$2 million renovation project that was completed last fall. The University also won an award for the design of Pantzer Hall, which opened in 1995.

Helping Hands—As befits a student population that claims some kinship with Greece, home of the Olympic Games, members of UM's Greek sororities and fraternities volunteered their time to the Special Olympics held on campus last month. As part of their philanthropic activities during Greek Week April 20-24, about 40 fraternity and sorority volunteers helped nearly 250 Special Olympians compete in the shotput, softball throw, wheelchair dash and long jump.

Recognizing Philanthropy—On April 30, the All Greek, Interfraternity and Panhellenic councils presented awards for a year's worth of community service projects by UM sororities and fraternities. In awards for philanthropic activity, Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and Kappa Alpha Theta sorority took top honors. In 1997, Phi Gamma Delta raised \$5,000 and worked 1,200 hours for such charities as Habitat for Humanity, Missoula Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the American Red Cross. Kappa Alpha Theta won by raising \$2,000 and working more than 3,000 hours for charities that included Poverello Center, the Salvation Army, the YWCA and the Missoula Humane Society. As a community, local Greeks raised \$23,555 for charity and volunteered 7,115 hours last year.

Other Awards—Fall semester academic awards went to Sigma Chi fraternity and Delta Gamma sorority, both with collective grade-point averages of 3.03. Spring semester awards recognized Alpha Tau Omega fraternity members for their GPA of 3.26 and Delta Gamma members for their GPA of 3.13. The Most Improved GPA Award went to Sigma Phi Epsilon. The Campus Involvement Award went to Phi Gamma Delta and Delta Gamma for members' outstanding interactions with UM organizations.

Big Numbers—During UM's recently completed Capital Campaign, the math department received its largest gift ever — a \$500,000 endowment. The gift came from retired math Professor Charles Bryan, who taught at UM for 23 years, and his brother and sister-in-law, John and Martha Bryan of Lake Oswego, Ore. Department Chair Gloria Hewitt said the gift will endow the Undergraduate Math Scholars Program, which coordinates mentors with students in lower-division math courses.

Krysko's Back—Larry Krystkowiak is back in Grizzly country after being named assistant coach for the Grizzly basketball team. Krysko is the all-time leading scorer and rebounder in Grizzly basketball history. Since leaving UM in 1986, he has played pro basketball in San Antonio, Milwaukee, Orlando, Chicago, Los Angeles, Utah and France. Back at UM as assistant coach, he'll be in charge of post player development and the team's academic program. He'll also have a hand in Montana recruiting as well as conditioning and weight-training programs.

Canadian Alliance—UM and the University of Alberta, in Edmonton, have entered a long-term agreement to foster collaborative research and promote international student exchange. The accord will enable UM students to study at UA while paying tuition and fees at UM. An equal number of Alberta students will do the reverse. The accord's primary emphasis will be to share expertise in natural resources, forestry and environmental studies. Future areas for collaborative research include tourism, Asian studies, natural resource management, global trade relations and cultural studies. UM also entered an exchange agreement with the University of Calgary in February.

Listeners Call—Thousands of Montana Public Radio listeners called their favorite station with generosity in mind and wallets in hand March 28 to April 5. When all was said and done, they had donated \$295,168 to support programming for KUFM in Missoula and KGPR in Great Falls.

As in years past, the week closed out with Pet Wars. Dogs stripped the best-loved pet title from cats this year by a margin of 29 votes.

GLOBE Training—K-12 students statewide will soon become field scientists for a project that helps scientists study Earth's environment. This year, UM became a national training site for Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment, a worldwide network of students, teachers and scientists who work together to study and understand global conditions. The University hosted a train-the-trainers workshop that brought scientists from St. Olaf College, the University of Mary, Utah State University, NASA Stennis Space Center and the universities of Texas, South Carolina and Idaho to campus May 18-23. Science teachers from across Montana participated in the workshop to learn how to teach their students to measure temperatures and precipitation in soils. Students will go out into their schoolyards and do hands-on science that is relevant, studying the atmosphere, hydrology, the water cycle and the biology and geology of the Earth's surface. GLOBE students will report their data via the Internet to scientists, who will use the information in their research. GLOBE's Web site address is <http://www.globe.gov/>.

Quality, Access, Cost—Business, government and university leaders from Western states will gather in Missoula June 7-9 to mull the financial future of higher education. The 1998 Quality... Access ...Cost: The Financial Future of Public Higher Education in the West conference is sponsored by UM, Gov. Marc Racicot and Commissioner of Higher Education Richard Crofts. Major corporate sponsors are AT&T Corp., IBM, Salomon Smith Barney, PeopleSoft, Microsoft, KPMG Peat Marwick, Sun Microsystems and D.A. Davidson & Co. This is the third such conference UM has hosted since 1995.

Miller Barber Time—Miller Barber's Montana Pro-Am golf tournament to benefit UM is slated for Monday, July 27, at the Missoula Country Club. Senior PGA Tour professionals — including Bob Charles, Gibby Gilbert, Larry Laoretti, Walter Morgan and Tom Wargo — will hold a golf clinic at 9:30 a.m. Tournament play begins at 11 a.m. Gallery tickets will be available for \$15 in advance at Ole's and Albertson's stores and from Sentinel Kiwanis Club members.

Top Alum

This month, successful businessman Earl Morgenroth told UM business students it's key for them to have fun and nurture relationships during their careers.

As an example, Morgenroth described a raft trip he took down the Clark Fork River with some important lenders. The group wound up camping on an island near Tarkio where a tepee had been set up. When the businessmen went to inspect the tepee, they found a full-course, elegant dining experience awaiting them — all courtesy of Morgenroth. The lenders were duly impressed.

"Relationships can be extremely important down the road," he said. "If you have fun as you go along and keep yourself rooted in the beauty of Montana, I'm sure you will succeed."

Morgenroth, a 1961 UM graduate, passed on such creative nuggets of wisdom during the 51st annual School of Business Administration Scholarship Awards Banquet, held in the University Center Ballroom May 1. He made his remarks after receiving the business school's 1998 Outstanding Alumnus Award.

Now living in Reno, Nev., Morgenroth is president and chairman of the board of Western Communications Inc., an international broadcasting company comprising 25 corporations with interest in everything from hotels and heavy manufacturing to cattle ranching and modular home construction.

Morgenroth also is active in public service. He has personally contributed more than \$200,000 to the UM music

Business school honors Earl Morgenroth

department and has sponsored numerous musical events, festivals and programs. He supports the Missoula Symphony and Chorale, the String Orchestra of the Rockies and recently helped the Sentinel High School Choir attend a choir festival in France. In addition, he has served with numerous organizations, including the UM Century Club, Missoula Chamber of Commerce, Rocky Mountain Broadcasters Association and the Boone and Crockett Club.

Success didn't come easily. A Sidney native and the youngest of six children, Morgenroth's family was forced to live in a tar-paper shack after his father died when he was 11. From such humble beginnings he went on to work at area ranches before joining the U.S. Army in 1954. After three years of "character building," he used the GI Bill to attend UM.

Morgenroth credits much of his later success to his education at UM.

"No student in America has received a better business education," he told students.

Morgenroth became sales manager of KGVO Radio while attending UM. He eventually became general manager and grew the 5,000-watt station into a multinational corporation over the next 25 years.

While he was sales manager at KGVO, Morgenroth was offered a job in New York at twice the pay, but he declined the job.

"Sometimes there are diamonds in your own backyard," he said.

—Cary Shimek, University Relations

UM Calendar

Monday, June 1

Art exhibit—"To Dance! A Dancers Vision," drawings and baskets by former Atlanta Ballet prima ballerina Sofia Bauerle, 9 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri., through June 9, Paxson Gallery, Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center. Free.

Field Seminar—"Grassland Ecology and Noxious Weeds," by Mike Hillis, Lolo National Forest, 9 a.m.-noon. Free for Montana Natural History Center members; \$5 donation suggested for non-members. Call 243-6642 to register.

Missoula County High School graduations—Sentinel High School, 10 a.m.; Big Sky High School, 12:30 p.m.; Hellgate High School, 3 p.m.; Harry Adams Field House.

Sunday, June 7

Concert—Alison Krauss and Union Station, 8 p.m., University Theatre. All seats reserved, all ages, tickets \$21/advance, \$23/day-of-show. Call (800) 526-3400.

Wednesday, June 10

Summer orientation—June 10-12; also June 24-26.

Saturday, June 13

Mount Jumbo family outings—"Butterflies and Blossoms," 9 a.m.-noon. Free for Montana Natural History Center members; \$5 donation suggested for non-members. Call 243-6642 to register.

UM summer kids' camps and classes offer academics, arts, athletics

The University offers summer classes and camps to entertain youths of all ages, whether they're budding botanists, musicians or athletes.

The Montana Natural History Center will offer classes that take students to the Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge to study water and out into the field to take casts of human, bear or wolf tracks.

Students can study topics like urban ecology, garden science and homestead cooking at the center's Living Wild in the City camp. The daylong camps are offered July 6-9 for ages 6-8 and Aug. 3-7 for ages 9-12.

Call the Montana Natural History

Center at 243-6642 for a schedule of summer classes for children. Classes cost \$55, with some requiring additional fees for materials.

Members of UM's music faculty will offer a Piano Strings Camp for high school pianists and string players June 14-20. Cost is \$170 for students who commute each day to campus and \$350 for students who stay and eat on campus.

Junior high and high school musicians can attend Band Camp June 21-27. Cost is \$120 for commuters and \$300 for resident campers. Musical Theater Camp runs July 5-11. Call UM's

Department of Music at 243-6880 for more information.

Athletes can improve in their preferred sports with help from UM coaches. Summer sports camps kick off with girls' basketball June 13-15, June 16-20 and Aug. 3-6.

Other sports camps include football June 14-17; soccer for girls June 15-19; soccer for boys June 29-July 3; boys' basketball June 27-29, June 30-July 3 and July 27-31; and volleyball July 6-10 and July 11-13. Camps are held for varying age groups. To find out about costs or to register, call Grizzly Athletics at 243-5331.



Main Hall to Main Street is published monthly by University Relations at The University of Montana-Missoula. Send questions, comments or suggestions to Rita Munzenrider, editor, 317 Brantly Hall, Missoula, 59812, or call 243-4824. Photos are by Todd Goodrich, unless otherwise stated. Terry Brenner, Janelle Lamb, David Purviance and Cary Shimek are contributing editors and writers.