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Main Hall to Main St.

Vol. 6, No. 4

Connecting Campus and Community

April 2000



UM Calendar

Wednesday, May 3

Green Griz Week—UM's incentive program for Missoula's Bike/Walk/Bus week, through May 5. Volunteers will hand out buttons and raffle tickets at all UM entrances and bus stops to anyone commuting in some way other than driving alone. On Friday, May 5, there will be a trike race, music, food and fun including a drawing at noon on the Library Mall.

Dance production—Spring Dance Concert, 7:30 p.m. nightly through May 6, Montana Theatre, Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. Tickets \$9/general, \$7/students and senior citizens, \$5/children 12 and under. Call 243-4581.

Thursday, May 4

Performing Arts Series concert—Klezmatiks, Jewish Horns, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre. For ticket information call 1-888-842-4830 or 243-4999.

Saturday, May 6

World's Largest Garage Sale—set-up time, 6:30 a.m., sale begins at 9 a.m. Spaces are available for \$10, and 8-foot banquet tables are an additional \$6 each. A coffee/pastry vendor will be on site. Pick up registration forms at the University Center Information Desk or call 243-4636.

Wednesday, May 10

Lecture/book signing—"On the Other Side of Sorrow: Connections and Parallels Between the Scottish Highlands and Montana" by James Hunter, 7:30 p.m., Milwaukee Station. Book signing to follow. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by O'Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West.

(continued on back page)



Grizzly quarterback Drew Miller tosses a football to students during a visit to Lewis and Clark Elementary School as part of the Celebrate 2000 Youth Fitness Challenge.

Griz help promote youth fitness

More than 50 University of Montana student athletes teamed up with local businesses during April to promote physical fitness among Missoula's youth.

Through the Celebrate 2000 Youth Fitness Challenge, UM athletes visited with more than 4,000 elementary and middle school students to encourage them to get in shape and join Grizzly team representatives and others from the community in this year's YMCA Riverbank Run Saturday, April 29.

The Youth Fitness Challenge is a community-sponsored project designed to help provide the motivation to get kids moving. In cooperation with the Missoula YMCA's Riverbank Run and the Montana Grizzlies, all Missoula physical education teachers were provided a structured five-week conditioning program for their students.

School principals and physical education teachers were the guests of Grizzly football head coach Joe Glenn and quarterback Drew Miller at a program kick-off breakfast in mid-March. The Grizzly football leaders stressed their belief in the importance of

establishing physical fitness habits that can last a lifetime.

Miller was among the Grizzly athletes who visited Missoula schools to talk about the fitness challenge and to exercise with students. He was mobbed by several hundred youngsters at Lewis and Clark Elementary School, where his hand got the best of a lunchtime workout as he signed autographs for each student. Miller also took a few minutes away from signing his name to toss a football with students.

The Riverbank Run is held annually to raise money for the YMCA's Partner With Youth fund to provide financial assistance for youth programs and memberships. With the help of the Celebrate 2000 Youth Fitness Challenge, organizers of the run hoped to increase participation by local schoolchildren.

Community sponsors of the Celebrate 2000 Youth Fitness Challenge are UM, the Missoulian, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana, Community Medical Center, First Security Bank, KMSO Radio, KPAX-TV, Merrill Lynch, Missoula Chamber of Commerce and Smurfit-Stone.

Satellite with UM software sends back first images for analysis

Though his 50th birthday was a day earlier, UM scientist Steve Running got a late gift April 19 — the official word from NASA that all is well with its Terra environmental satellite, whose primary instrument contains UM-designed software.

NASA made the announcement during a broadcast that was watched live by a gathering at the facilities of UM's Numerical Terradynamic Research Group, which Running directs.

"Terra is measuring and documenting Earth's vital signs, many of them for the first time," said Yoram Kaufman, a project scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. "All five instruments aboard Terra are in great shape, even exceeding what our engineers expected."

Running's group designed software for MODIS, the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer. The \$1 billion Terra and MODIS successfully made it into orbit 437 miles above the Earth on Dec. 18.

Terra is designed to monitor how

Earth's atmosphere, lands, oceans, solar radiation and life influence each other. The satellite's sensors measure everything from moisture content in clouds to sunlight to Earth's total vegetation.

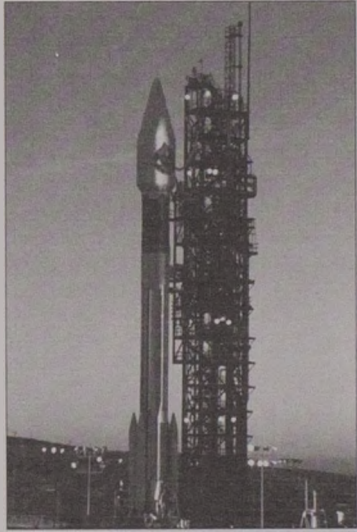
After viewing the first detailed NASA images from Terra, Running's group displayed a picture produced from their software — a color-coded image of North America's vegetation. Running said they compiled the picture from data that has been coming into UM's computers from Terra for the past four weeks.

"We call it our leaf-area index," he said. "It's our way of quantifying the vegetation. This spring it will be like watching the whole North American lawn green up."

Running said they will be able to put out a leaf-area index map of the entire world every eight days once their automated processes are in place. But for now his group is still working to perfect the data

coming in from Terra, so NASA information can begin to be passed on to land managers in a few months. Like a stethoscope in the sky, UM software is designed to measure many facets of the Earth's health.

—Cary Shimek



The Terra satellite was launched Dec. 18 from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

Campuses gain new volunteer program

Montana Campus Compact, a statewide higher education organization that supports campus-based public service, has been awarded funding for a new program that has placed 15 volunteers on college campuses around Montana.

Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) participants will serve full-time, one-year terms at Montana Campus Compact member institutions. They will work to strengthen the service infrastructure for low-income populations by coordinating volunteer efforts and expanding the financial resources available for community service.

To meet these objectives, VISTA members will engage in grant writing, resource mobilization, community agency coordination, fund-raising and event planning for campuses in Billings, Bozeman, Browning, Butte, Crow Agency, Dillon, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Kalispell, Miles City, Missoula and Pablo.

The program, which began in April, joins a list of successful student and faculty

development programs already offered by Montana Campus Compact. They are the Campus Corps and Montana Reads volunteer programs, as well as the prestigious Faculty Fellowships, which are awarded to faculty members in all disciplines who demonstrate commitment to academic service learning.

The UM-based Montana Campus Compact is a coalition of college presidents and chancellors committed to helping students develop the values and skills of citizenship through civic engagement and participation in public service. By creating a supportive environment for involvement in community public service, participating academic leaders believe that their institutions can best prepare the next generation of informed, active, committed citizen leaders for Montana.

VISTA is part of AmeriCorps, a national service program that allows people of all ages and backgrounds to earn help paying for an education in exchange for a year of service.

Law school teams receive large gift

The UM School of Law has received its largest outright gift ever — \$750,000 that will be used to support the school's seven competitive student

teams. The gift was made by Billings attorney and 1974 UM law school graduate A. Clifford Edwards.



Edwards

Edwards' gift, which creates the A. Clifford Edwards Advocacy Center Endowment, comes just weeks after UM's student moot court team won the national championship. Over the years the law school's academic teams have consistently performed well in regional, national and even international competition.

Edwards' endowment will provide a steady stream of funding for travel, resource materials, competition registrations and other expenses associated with fielding the UM teams. It also will support the school's Advanced Trial Advocacy course, which Edwards has helped teach on a volunteer basis since 1986.

Radio fund-raiser goes to the dogs

Montana Public Radio exceeded its fund-raising goal by \$11,000 during Public Radio Week April 1-9, earning \$326,000 from 3,642 loyal listeners. The money raised accounts for about one-third of Montana Public Radio's annual budget.

Dogs once again beat the cats in the fund-raiser's ritual finale, "Pet Wars," with 961 pledges and votes for dogs and 933 for cats.

Many callers responded to 21 challenges issued during the week, in which individuals or businesses offered more than \$15,000 as various types of matches for donations. Examples included \$1 for every \$3 pledged or \$1,000 if the station reached a certain goal by noon. Listeners also donated 1,990 gifts, called premiums, that were given to those who gave to public radio.



Bear Briefs

Career Fair—UM once again will host the most extensive and successful educators' career fair west of the Mississippi May 7-8 in the Adams Center. The 15th annual Multi-State Educators' Career Fair brings together school administrators and candidates from the field of education for interviews and networking. More than 1,500 job openings will include classroom, special education, counseling and administrative positions. The fair kicks off at 3 p.m. Sunday and continues from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday. Last year's fair drew administrators from 138 school districts in 14 states, along with candidates from 21 states and Canada. Job candidate fees are \$40. For more information or to register, call (406) 243-6150 or visit the Web site at <http://www.umt.edu/career/ecf.htm>.

Knapweed Abatement—Ragan Callaway, UM ecologist and associate professor of biological sciences, has been awarded a three-year, \$360,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to learn why knapweed beats up on plants in Montana but coexists peacefully with similar plants in Eurasia. Callaway visited former Soviet Union country Georgia in 1996-97 to study knapweed in its native environment, where it's an uncommon, minor player in the plant community. Experiments Callaway has done lead him to think that knapweed is successful here because it uses chemical weapons that Montana plants are unable to combat.

Top Librarian—Karen Driessen, librarian and director of the Media Services Division of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, has received the 2000 Sheila Cates Award for Librarian of the Year, presented by the Montana Library Association. She is the first UM library faculty member to earn the award, which was established in 1968. Driessen has worked at UM for 28 years. Her 1995 book, "A Library Manager's Guide to the Physical Processing of Nonprint Materials," is used in library schools nationwide.

Assistive Technology—Re/Max Realty Consultants of Missoula has donated \$850 to UM's Disability Services for Students to buy equipment to help the students the office assists. The donation was raised from a Re/Max tailgate

party at a UM athletic event. DDS Director Jim Marks said the donation will fund voice recognition software, which will ensure that computing is readily accessible to students with disabilities. The software, Dragon Naturally Speaking, allows a computer user to type with his or her voice. Students who can't use their hands or have difficulty expressing themselves because of a learning disability or motor impairment use Dragon instead of the keyboard, giving them an equal opportunity to participate in their studies.

Boosting Businesses—UM's research office has taken a leadership role in the newly created Northern Rockies Research Park and Technology Corridor, formed to help technology-related start-up businesses in western Montana that are compatible with Montana's environment and provide high-paying jobs for a skilled workforce. UM's role in the organization is to coordinate the creation of a Montana Venture Capital Fund and lead efforts to provide the needed communication systems. Building facilities to house new technology companies and providing mentors for them are the other two main priorities for NorCor. Jon Rudbach, who works in the Office of the Vice President for Research at UM, is NorCor's director.

Goldwater Scholars—Two UM students have won prestigious Goldwater Scholarships for the 2000-2001 academic year. They are Andrew Van Eck of Portland, Ore., a UM sophomore with a double major in biology and wildlife biology, and Scott Jones of Marion, a junior math major. The scholarships award up to \$7,500 a year to outstanding sophomores and juniors in math, engineering and the sciences.

Finally, Finals—UM students will be cramming for finals the week of May 8. The last day of spring semester classes is Friday, May 5. The first summer session classes run May 22-June 23, while the second five-week session runs June 26-July 28.

Commencement's Coming—Cameras will be clicking for up to 1,500 new UM graduates as family and friends visit campus Saturday, May 13, for the University's 103rd Commencement ceremonies. Recipients of this year's honorary doctorates are Gerald R. Molen, a renowned Hollywood movie producer,

and Joe Reber, a well-known Montana entrepreneur. Born in Great Falls, Molen achieved success through his association with films, including "Hook," "Jurassic Park," "Schindler's List" and "Rain Man." Reber, founder of the Reber Co., one of the West's largest mechanical contractors, has served on many corporate, nonprofit and state boards, including the Montana Board of Investments.

Online Offerings—UM offers a variety of online courses and degree programs as a result of the Earth Observing System Project's pioneering design of the University's academic Internet portal — umtonline.net — and its strong relationship with eCollege, the portal developer. The expansion of [umtonline](http://umtonline.net) was instrumental in securing a recent NASA grant award of \$300,000 to the EOS Education Project. The grant will be used to enhance Earth System Science online courses designed for the K-12 education community and intended to provide professional development opportunities for teachers worldwide.

Good Citizens—Academic achievement, philanthropic efforts and other marks of excellence for 1999 shared the limelight April 10 when UM's sororities and fraternities held their annual awards banquet. Sigma Nu fraternity and Delta Gamma and Kappa Alpha Theta sororities took honors for earning the best grades. Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and Delta Gamma won the Kliber Philanthropy Award for raising money for and working at various Missoula charities.

Grizzly Golf—OK ... and Bobcat golf, too. The third annual Flathead Bobcat/Grizzly Classic is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, May 18-19. No-host cocktails and a silent auction kick off the event at 6 p.m. at Cavanaugh's Outlaw Inn in Kalispell. Dinner follows at 7:30 p.m. with guest speakers — each university's new head football coach — and a Calcutta auction of golf teams beginning at 8:30 p.m. The fun on the golf course begins at noon Friday at Eagle Bend Golf Course in Bigfork. Fees for three-person teams are \$300. Non-golfers can attend Thursday evening events for \$22. For more information, call Don or Leslie Rich at (406) 756-3787 or Dave Hergesheimer at (406) 752-1040.

Spaces still available for 'largest garage sale' at UM

Whether the weather cooperates or not, the fourth biannual "World's Largest Garage Sale" will be held Saturday, May 6, in the UM parking garage.

The last sale, held in September, featured more than 100 sellers and thousands of shoppers.

"We're just the place to get rid of all that junk you dredge up during spring cleaning," said Andrea Schmitt, UM Advocates coordinator. "There's no chance of rainouts since the parking structure is covered."

Vendors from campus and community may rent parking spaces for \$10 each and 8-foot by 30-inch banquet tables for \$6 each.

Setup begins at 6:30 a.m. and the sale is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Vendor registration forms are available at the University Center Information Desk

and will be accepted through 5 p.m. Thursday, May 4.

The garage sale is an important fundraiser for UM Advocates, a campus service organization with more than 100 members. Campus Security donates use of the parking garage, while Facilities Services provides tables. Advocates will use proceeds from rental of spaces and tables to cover a \$1,000 shortfall in ASUM funding.

"One percent of the undergraduate population are Advocate members, so we do spend more money than other volunteer groups," Schmitt said. "We have to work hard for other sources of funding."

Advocates provide volunteer labor for many campus functions, including Homecoming, building dedications and openings, and campus tours for prospective students and their parents.

For more information, call 243-4636.

Montana's plants, wildlife draw conservation biologists for meeting

The Society for Conservation Biology will hold its 14th annual meeting at UM June 9-12. More than 1,000 scientists and students are expected to attend the conference, titled "Large-Scale Conservation: Genes, Landscapes and People."

The idea behind this year's theme is "to search for conservation solutions at different scales, from the backyard to the continental," said Daniel Pletscher, director of UM's Wildlife Biology Program. Pletscher and Biology Professor Fred Allendorf are the meeting's co-chairs.

The conference is international in scope, Pletscher said, with invited speakers coming from six continents. Gov. Marc Racicot and University of Montana President George Dennison will open the meeting on Saturday morning, followed by plenary speakers Daniel Simberloff, a professor at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and seminal author in the field of conservation biology; Michael Soule, a founder of the Society for Conservation Biology and now with The Wildlands

Project; Jamie Rappaport Clark, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and Jack Ward Thomas, Boone and Crockett professor of wildlife conservation at UM and retired chief of the U.S. Forest Service.

Some events, such as the plenary lectures and screening of films from the recent International Wildlife Film Festival on Saturday and Sunday evenings, may be open to the public if space is available.

"We're very excited the meeting is being held here in Montana," Pletscher said. "Throughout the country, Montana is seen as the last, best place because much of it is still in relatively pristine condition and contains a nearly complete complement of native plants and animals. The Society for Conservation Biology conference will put a spotlight on what we do so well here in the state and at The University of Montana in particular."

This will be the second major conference at UM in as many months. The National Conference on Undergraduate Research brought more than 2,000 people to campus April 27-29.

Calendar—continued

Thursday, May 11

Alumni reunions—Classes of 1940 and 1950, through May 13. For more information call the UM Alumni Association at 243-5211.

Friday, May 12

Dedication—Maureen and Mike Mansfield Statue, 11:30 a.m. (tentatively), Library Mall. Campus community and public welcome.

Honored Alumni Art Show—featuring artist Jerry Rankin. Reception for School of Fine Arts graduates and families. Time and place TBA.

ROTC Commissioning Ceremony—2:30 p.m., Urey Lecture Hall.

Saturday, May 13

Commencement ceremonies—professional schools' ceremony, 10 a.m., Adams Center; professional schools hold separate ceremonies at various campus locations afterward. College of Arts and Sciences and College of Technology ceremony, 2 p.m., Adams Center, separate ceremonies also follow. Check UM's Web site at <http://www.umt.edu> for specific locations.

Thursday, May 18

Board of Regents meeting—Kalispell, through May 19.

Friday, May 19

Concert—"The Wizard of Oz," concert version performed jointly by the Missoula Symphony Orchestra and the Missoula Children's Theatre, 8 p.m., Missoula Children's Theatre Center for the Performing Arts. For tickets and information contact the MCT Box Office at 728-7529 or the Missoula Symphony Office at 721-3194.

Monday, May 29

Holiday—Memorial Day; UM offices closed.

Tuesday, May 30

Big Sky Education Technology Rendez-Vous—teacher training on GIS with a focus on Lewis and Clark in a one-day workshop each day through June 2; also space camp for middle and high school age students. To register, e-mail Lauren MacKay: lmackay@eoscenter.com. Rendez-Vous also features Fritz Hasler, Research Meteorologist for the Visualization Analysis Lab at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., University Theatre. Free and open to the public.



The University of
Montana

Main Hall to Main Street is published by University Relations at The University of Montana. Send questions, comments or suggestions to Rita Munzenrider, editor, 327 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT, 59812, or call (406) 243-4824. Photos are by Todd Goodrich. Terry Brenner, David Purviance, Cary Shimek and Patia Stephens are contributing editors and writers.