

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

Main Hall to Main Street, 2005-2010

University Relations

5-1-2000

Main Hall to Main Street, May 2000

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/mainhallmainstreet>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Main Hall to Main Street, May 2000" (2000). *Main Hall to Main Street, 2005-2010*. 49.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/mainhallmainstreet/49>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Main Hall to Main Street, 2005-2010 by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

78,786
M44ma
10.5

MAY 31 2000

LIBRARY



Main Hall to Main St.

Vol. 6, No. 5

Connecting Campus and Community

May 2000

Mansfield statue dedicated

A campus mall and bronze sculpture honoring Montana's most revered statesman and his wife were dedicated at the start of Commencement weekend earlier this month.

A life-size statue of Maureen and Mike Mansfield was unveiled on the mall behind Main Hall during a public celebration honoring the couple's accomplishments and ties to UM. The mall itself, previously known as the Library Mall, became the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Mall, named for two of UM's most famous alumni.

The bronze was commissioned by UM alumni Magnus and Velma Aasheim of Mesa, Ariz., and Antelope, Mont., and sculpted by artist Terry Murphy, a Helena native and lifelong admirer of Mike Mansfield.

The Mansfields, who live in Washington D.C., where Mike continues to work as a consultant, hold a special place in UM's history and in the hearts of the campus and Montana communities.

"With this very well publicized event, we dedicate the mall and bronze that will remain prominently in public view to honor these two people who — because of their quiet, unassuming and humble natures — tended to shy away from such visibility and fanfare," UM President George Dennison said. "Few leaders of our country, past or present, have matched the accomplishments of Maureen and Mike Mansfield. The University takes great pride in the Mansfields and all that they have done for Montana, the United States and the world."

The Mansfields met while working in Butte in the 1920s. Mike worked in the mines as a mucker and mining engineer until 1930, and Maureen taught high school in Butte. She urged Mike to finish his education, and with Maureen's financial and moral support, he entered UM.

Mike earned a bachelor's degree in 1933 and a master's degree in history in 1934, writing his thesis on Korean-American diplomatic relations. He stayed on at UM, working in administration and teaching Latin American and Far Eastern history until 1942.

Encouraged by Maureen and his students to run for political office, Mike was elected to the U.S. Congress in 1942. He served five terms as a representative before being elected senator from Montana in 1952. He is the longest-serving Senate majority leader in U.S. history, having held that position from 1961 until he retired in 1977.

Mike served under Presidents Carter and Reagan as the American ambassador to Japan from 1976 to 1988. Despite turning 97 this spring, he continues to advise American and Asian leaders on issues affecting the Pacific Rim and American-Asian relations.



The new Mansfield statue stands on the mall between the library and University Center.

UM names first woman provost

An administrator at Ohio's Kent State University will become the first woman to oversee academic affairs at The University of Montana.

Lois Muir, associate provost and professor of educational psychology at Kent State, will become UM's provost and vice president for academic affairs July 1. As UM's No. 2 administrator, she will be the highest ranking woman in UM history.

Muir will replace Robert L. Kindrick, who is leaving UM this summer for a similar position at Wichita State University in Kansas. Muir was among five finalists who visited UM earlier this month for interviews and public forums.

Muir has held her current position since 1996. Before that she served as dean of graduate studies, dean of arts, humanities and social sciences, and psychology professor at Kennesaw State University in Georgia. Muir has held other administrative positions at the University of Wisconsin in La Crosse and the University of South Dakota. Before moving into administration, she served on the psychology faculty at Indiana University, Rutgers University and the University of Wisconsin in La Crosse.

As a researcher, Muir specializes in developmental psychology with an emphasis on parent-infant relationships and the psychology of women. Her current work involves the longitudinal study of variables that influence mothers' relationships with their children. This particular study began in the third trimester of their pregnancies with follow-up studies at six weeks and one, two and nine years.

In 1982 Muir earned her doctorate in psychology from State University of New York at Stony Brook, where she majored in experimental psychology. She earned a master's degree in family and child development and a minor in clinical psychology from Auburn University in 1978 and a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in computer science from the University of Texas at Austin in 1974.

'Do re me' meets Indian culture at Fort Peck

Every third summer, Missoula hosts the International Choral Festival, attracting singing groups and fans from around the world. The festival also features some U.S. and Montana choruses, so it would be appropriate that American Indian tribes be represented. Thus far, however, they haven't been.

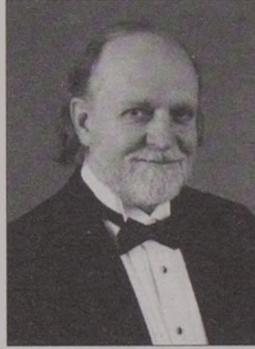
Two UM faculty members have set out to change that for this summer's festival, July 12-16.

It all began fall semester 1998 when philosophy Professor Dick Walton attended the All-State Music Festival to see and hear his daughter perform with the All-State Orchestra. As he read the program, he noted the total absence of students from Montana's Indian reservations.

Walton graduated from Harlem High School — which serves the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation — where his father, Earl Walton, was the band and chorus teacher. In those days, a group of six or so Harlem High School musicians, tribal members and nonmembers — including young Walton on tuba — went to the All-State Music Festival every year.

That this no longer was the case began to churn away in Walton's head, and a few days later he was on the phone to Gary Funk, a UM associate professor of music. Walton proposed starting a summer vocal music camp at UM for tribal youth. The idea ignited Funk, a passionate musician and UM's choral director for the past five years.

Since neither he nor Walton knew quite how to pull off their ambitious plan, Walton says, they spent hours brainstorming. They called people on the reservations and at tribal colleges. Responses weren't promising.



Funk

Bridging gaps

With their eyes opened a bit to the challenges ahead, he and Funk trimmed their plans, backing off the summer-camp idea temporarily, settling instead on preparing an Indian choir to sing at the International Choral Festival. They also jettisoned their original "naive" plan to involve participants from all the tribes, Walton says.

"The distances are too great," he says. "We realized we could do a better job with one or two tribes."

Because they'd decided the only way to open the doors into tribal culture was to go where they had contacts, they chose the Fort Belknap and Fort Peck reservations. Walton had old friends at Fort Belknap. But more recently he'd had Horace Pipe, a tribal geologist at Fort Peck, as a philosophy student, and Walton remembered him as "a fine singer." Pipe perked his ears at the proposed project and arranged to get it on the Tribal Council agenda. Soon after, Walton and Funk made their first of three weekenders — 1,000-mile round trips by car from Missoula to Wolf Point — to make their pitch.

"We made a good presentation," Funk says. "One woman had tears in her eyes because she was so moved that we wanted to do this."

But the trips, more than just long, tiring drives, have been an emotional roller-coaster ride, sending the twosome from the doldrums to the stratosphere and back several times. Culture shock was unsettling, and the learning curve was steep. They were introduced to the importance of hand shaking, of cloth and tobacco in certain rituals, of memorial feasts and more. They also learned about what tribal members jokingly call "Indian time," which operates somewhat independently of the clock.

On the evening of their first visit to Fort Peck, Walton and

Funk heard the Dakota Choir of about 12 women, and Funk conducted them in a few songs. Despite the fact that the choir didn't read music, it was a good rehearsal, he says. In fact, the members got so excited that about 9:30 p.m. one asked if he and Walton would like to hear "a drum," which Walton explains is not just a drum but also the drummers and the songs they sing and play. The experience overwhelmed them.

Still flying high the next day, they returned to Missoula and soon after had rounded up support from UM President George Dennison, the School of Fine Arts, the College of Arts and Sciences and Lloyd Chesnut, vice president for research. They scheduled their second trip to Wolf Point.

When they arrived at the agreed time, only a handful of people had gathered for the meeting and rehearsal.

"This deflated our helium balloon," Funk says, "so we had a discussion. We told them we could not have a choir with six people. We needed 25 to 30." The six singers promptly went out and rounded up 16 more people — anyone they could find — and the group rehearsed. Another invitation to hear a drum, a different group this time, followed the rehearsal. When Walton and Funk returned to their hotel at midnight, Funk had a call.

"They wanted a meeting at 8 a.m. the next morning (Sunday)," he says. "So we had a meeting, and we told them, 'Here's what needs to happen. This has to come from your soul. It has to become your idea because I'm going to be gone for three months.' They agreed to get it organized, get a choir together, select music and rehearse."

Pumped up

Relieved and excited, the twosome talked nonstop about outcomes all the way back to Missoula, Funk says.

"They have to do well," he says. "We want to provide support for them to sing their music in their own way. The project is so full of hope and uplift if we can just get it to go."

Between that weekend in February and the next one Walton and Funk arranged in March — just before Funk took a class of UM music students to study for three months in Europe — the group made great progress, Walton says. Calling themselves the Fort Peck Oyate Singers, they rehearsed every week with one of two local conductors: the Wolf Point high school choral director, Doug Trost, and Lynn Munson, the choral director at the tribal college and grade school. Still, the singers "have a long way to go," Walton says.

"They'd never heard of the International Choral Festival," he says. "In fact, choral music in the usual forms is alien to their culture. They sing, but they sing in unison. They don't employ the same scale system, and they do different things with their voices than we do."

Walton has been working to raise money from various community agencies to sustain the momentum of the project, which now includes some Fort Belknap singers. The plan is for the singers and a drum to perform at the festival.

It will be a "stunning program" if they pull it off, Walton says, adding, "and I believe they will."

He and Funk hope eventually to broaden the project, bringing the tribal culture to campus. They share an admiration for values that tribes are working to preserve, such as respect for their elderly, value of family, importance of ceremony and sense of tradition.

"Americans tend to think of this learning as going one way — that we'll teach the Indians about our culture," Walton says. "I happen to believe that we have a lot to learn from them."

—Terry Brenner

"One woman had tears in her eyes because she was so moved that we wanted to do this."



Bear Briefs

Leading Woman—Barbara Hollmann, vice president for student affairs, received a Montana Excellence in Leadership Award 2000 from the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee for Women this month in Helena. The award recognizes her exemplary leadership and outstanding efforts to help women excel in the workplace.



Hollmann

UM President George Dennison nominated her for the honor, citing her support for the promotion of women — often to positions previously held by men — and her innovative workplace strategies to change working relationships in offices reporting to her. Hollmann is one of UM's top-ranking women administrators.

Voluminous Collection—UM's Mansfield Library celebrated a major milestone May 2 with the acquisition of its millionth volume. (The library held a mere 187 volumes in 1895.) The millionth book is "Ecological Stewardship, a Common Reference for Ecosystem Management" and was acquired with funds from the Irene Evers Endowment. The book is available in print and CD format.

Ticket Time—The deadline for purchasing season tickets for 2000 Grizzly football is June 1. The Griz open their season in little more than three months against powerhouse Hofstra Sept. 2 at home. Other home games are Cal Poly, Sept. 16; Sacramento State (Homecoming), Oct. 7; Northern Arizona, Oct. 21; Idaho State, Nov. 4; and Montana State (100th meeting), Nov. 18. Call (406) 243-4051 or (888) MONTANA for ticket information.

Getting Acquainted—New students and their parents will visit campus for the first in a series of summer orientation sessions June 14-16. For more information, call Admissions and New Student Services at (406) 243-6266 or (800) 462-8636.

Udall Scholars—Three UM students have been awarded Udall Scholarships of up to \$5,000 for the 2000-2001 academic year. The students are Sarah Canepa of Troy, Jonathan Rothman of Roswell, Ga., and Andrew Van Eck of Portland, Ore. Udall Scholarships go to outstanding sophomores and juniors who plan to pursue a career related to the environment.

Emmy Hopeful—A documentary produced by the Mansfield Center for Pacific Affairs at UM is one of six cultural/historical documentaries nominated to receive a regional Emmy from the Seattle chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. The film, "From the Far East to the Old West: Chinese and Japanese Settlers in Montana," describes through archival photographs, diaries and letters the lives of these settlers who came to Montana before 1920 and their oft-forgotten contributions to the state's development. The award will be presented June 17 in Seattle.

Prestigious Positions—Five UM journalism students have been picked for prestigious Dow Jones Newspaper Fund internships for this summer. The students will train at various universities before joining the staffs at top newspapers and news services across the nation. To win the internships, the students had to take a "real stiff editing test," said UM journalism Associate Professor Dennis Swibold. He added that in his seven years of monitoring the program, UM has never had five of these internships at the same time.

Rankin Retrospective—Brilliant, abstract Montana landscapes by a UM alumnus are displayed in UM's Museum of Fine Arts through June 16. "Jerome Rankin: A Retrospective" features intensely colored, mixed-media artworks "infused with mythological and spiritual presence," according to the artist. Rankin, who earned a master of fine arts degree from UM, now lives near Bozeman and devotes most of his time to printmaking, painting and sculpture. Rankin's exhibit opened on campus May 12 as a feature in the Honored Alumni Art Show. The museum is located in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Historic Grant—UM's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center has received a three-year, \$450,000 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation in New York. The grant, the largest the center has ever received, supports the "America's Wars in Asia: A Cultural Approach to History and Memory" project. Led by center Director Philip West, the project is a collaboration with scholars, artists, writers and teachers from Japan, Korea, Vietnam and China. It aims to put a human face on the complexities of American-Asian relations by looking at them through literature, art, letters, biographies and more that arises out of war. The project has three distinct components: the Asia-America dialogue series, weeklong summer sessions begun in 1998 and ending in 2002; the digital resource library on the Internet, to be ready for use by 2001; and teacher training institutes starting at UM in summer 2003.

Bright Scholars—Seven UM students have been recommended for 2000-2001 Fulbright Scholarships by U.S. screening committees, a number that ties the University's all-time high in 1995. The prestigious scholarships cover the basic costs of training in the creative and performing arts or academic study abroad. Their purpose is to increase mutual understanding between Americans and people in other countries. The UM students will receive their scholarships when Fulbright committees in the host countries give approval. The scholars are Hannah Thompson, a senior in art and German from Missoula; Kelsi Camp, a senior in English and German from Sandpoint, Idaho; Caitlin DeSilvery, a graduate student from New York; Paul Lachapelle, a graduate student in resource management from Shelburne, Vt.; Elizabeth Morse, a senior honors student in communication studies from Anderson, S.C.; Scott Pankratz, a graduate student in environmental studies from Thousand Oaks, Calif.; and Joshua Tewksbury, a graduate student in organismal biology and ecology from Brattleboro, Vt.

Stay Connected—Stay current on campus news by visiting the University's Web site at <http://www.umt.edu>. The story and photo change daily, and campus events for each day are listed. You also can subscribe to TGIF, UM's e-mail newsletter, from that site.

UM Calendar

Thursday, June 1

Application deadline—Musical Theater Camp, June 18-24, for high school students between the ages of 14-18. \$135/commuter campers (includes tuition, t-shirt, and photo), \$315/resident campers (includes tuition, t-shirt, photo plus room and board). For more information and applications, call (406) 243-6880.

Registration currently open—Band Camp, June 25-July 1, for 7-12th-grade musicians. \$135/commuter campers (includes tuition, t-shirt and photo), \$315/resident campers (includes tuition, t-shirt, photo plus room and board). For information and applications, call (406) 243-6880.

Registration deadline—Journalism Camp, July 5-8, for high school journalists. \$100 plus meals and lodging. For more information or an application, call (406) 243-2577.

Registration currently open—Continuing education seminar, "Getting More Grants and Gifts: Strategies for Success with Limited Resources," by Diane Hodiak, fund-raising consultant, June 20-21. \$149 before June 12 preregistration deadline, \$169 after June 12, Best Inn Conference Center. Open to the public. For more information call (406) 243-5617.

Friday, June 9

Society for Conservation Biology's annual meeting—through June 12. International event with 1,200-1,500 attendees from around the world. At various campus locations.

Wednesday, June 14

Summer orientation—through June 16. Call Admissions and New Student Services at (406) 243-6266 or (800) 462-8636.

Monday, June 26

Summer session—second five-week session, through July 28. For more information or to order a summer catalog, call (406) 243-6014 or visit the Continuing Education Summer Program Web site at <http://www.umt.edu/summer/>.

Wednesday, June 28

Summer orientation—through June 30. Call Admissions and New Student Services at (406) 243-6266 or (800) 462-8636.

Men of Distinction

UM confers two honorary degrees at Commencement

The award-winning producer of "Schindler's List" and an entrepreneur turned public servant received honorary doctorates at UM Commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 13.

President George Dennison conferred the honorary Doctor of Fine Arts on film producer Gerald R. Molen and the honorary Doctor of Business Administration on Joe Reber, construction entrepreneur and former chair of the Montana Board of Investments.

Both candidates hail originally from Montana — Molen from Great Falls and Reber from Butte — and now, years later, both reside part of the year in Bigfork.

During the intervening years, however, their lives took vastly different turns.

Molen left Montana for California with his family at age 12 and went to work part time at his father's lunch counter and hotdog stand. There he came into tantalizingly close range of famous actors, directors and producers who frequented his father's establishment during breaks from work at the movie studio across the street. Bitten at a young age by the movie industry bug, Molen took his first industry job as a truck driver for Republic Studio. From that he slowly moved up the production ladder at various studios to become the producer — with Tri Star and Universal — of "Hook," "Jurassic Park" and "Schindler's List," which won 15 awards, including the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1993. Along the way he worked on "Tootsie," "A Soldier's Story," "Rain Man" and "The Color Purple," among many others.

Over the years he's found time to give talks at UM and spend hours with students in the media arts and drama/dance programs, commuting from his home in Las Vegas, where he lives most

of the year. He also serves on UM's Media Arts Advisory Board and works with the McLaughlin Research Institute in Great Falls.

Reber is the third of nine children born to a copper miner and a newspaper reporter. Forced to leave school at age 14 after his father's death from "miner's consumption," he worked for the Work Projects Administration (WPA) while

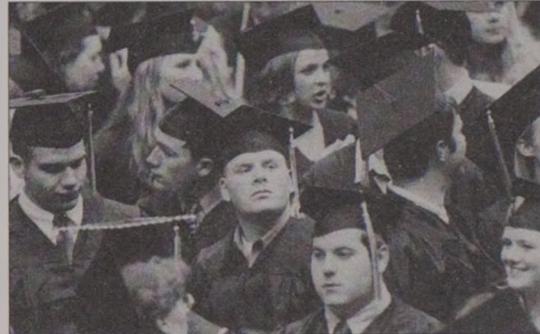
attending trade school for pipe welding. Later, after serving in the Merchant Marine during World War II, he opened a plumbing shop in Helena that grew to become the Reber Co., one of the West's largest mechanical contractors.

The company's projects included large subcontracts on the Minuteman and Polaris Missile systems.

Reber also has a distinguished record as a public servant. He served in the Montana Senate, where he took the lead in establishing the State Vocational-Technical Education Program. He played a significant role in calling for the Constitutional Convention that produced the Montana Constitution of 1972. Finally, he served under two governors as chair of the Montana State Board of Investments. In that post he was instrumental in getting the financial backing that helped Montana Resources to reopen the mine in Butte, Montana Rail Link to reopen the Rebuild Center in Livingston, and the aluminum plant in Columbia Falls to continue operating. Reber now lives part of the year in Indian Wells, Calif.

"In my view, these two candidates, in very different ways, embody the reasons that we confer honorary doctorates," Dennison said. "Even so, they have in common the wonderful example they set for young people to emulate."

—Terry Brenner



Students await the start of UM's 103rd Commencement May 13.



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.