FORESTRY KAIMIN 1987
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Kaimin Staff: Aaron E. Aylsworth .......... Editor
                Andy Tuller ......................... Business Manager
                Lori Ruffing ......................... Layout Editor
                Carl Rohr ............................ Wildlife Correspondent
                Dan Wichman ....................... Advertising
                Chris Landstrom .................... Photography Editor
                Kerrie Becket ....................... Staff Artist
                Steve French ....................... Alumni Contact

Thanks to all those contributing articles and photographs:
   Mike Bader, Norm Bourg, Miscese Butler, George Cleek, Sid Frissell,
   Michelle Fulgham, Lyle Gardinier, Sue Gethen, Rebecca Greenwood, Gary
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   Bob Ream, Kenn Rich, Nellie Stark, Rory Laws, Mike White
As everyone who reads the newspapers or watches television knows, the State of Montana is in the midst of economic difficulties. Problems with revenue shortfalls have resulted in several mid-year reductions in all state budgets. In addition, a special session of the legislature further reduced budgets for the second year of the 1986-87 biennium. These financial problems have hit all state agencies including the University of Montana School of Forestry and the Montana Forest and Conservation Experiment Station.

The School of Forestry and the Experiment Station are surviving. In fact, we are still aggressively seeking new opportunities in education, research and service. But the continued pressure of diminishing budgets is making life more difficult. As a result of fiscal problems, the School is down from 24 faculty to 20. We have not been allowed to fill several vacancies resulting from retirements. This has placed a severe burden in our remaining faculty and has resulted in fewer courses being offered. We now have less clerical support and less flexibility in faculty travel, the purchase of supplies and equipment, and the employment of graduate assistants.

Yet, despite these very depressing times, the faculty and staff of the School and Station continue to be creative and remain in good spirits. We’re hurting but we are by no means dead! We have just completed a major review and overhaul of the Forest Resources Management curriculum. Changes in the senior year will greatly increase student’s involvement with current concepts in resource planning and will expose them to modern technology. They will also get more experience in working in management team situations and with public involvement. A recent ruling of the Board of Regents requires the University to shift from quarters to semesters by 1991. This will mean a complete overhaul of all our courses and curricula. Such a monumental task presents us with both a tremendous lot of work and with a significant opportunity to reconsider how we do things. Hopefully the result will be a stronger, more efficient School of Forestry.

The research programs of the Montana Forest and Conservation Experiment Station continue to grow despite more difficult funding situations. During the last five years, the faculty and staff have brought in some $3.8 million in outside research funds. That amounts to an average of $189,000 per faculty member. We make up about six percent of the total University faculty, yet we bring in fifteen percent of the grant and contract income. This is an outstanding record of performance.

Forestry School enrollments nationwide have been declining. The University of Montana’s Forestry School has dropped from a high of about 1000 students in 1978 to about 500 in 1987. This is a big change, yet is actually less drastic than most schools in the west. UM is now the second largest School of Forestry west of the Mississippi. During 1986-87 our decline seems to have at least leveled off and there is a strong indication that we are growing again, particularly in Recreation Management and Wildlife Biology. We attribute our strong performance relative to other schools to our excellent nation-wide reputation and our unbeatable location.

The School of Forestry of the University of Montana has always been a leader among schools of the nation. We will continue to be so, despite all our recent economic woes, and we will be so in the future.

Sid Frissell
Dean of School of Forestry
IN MEMORY

Melvin (Mel) S. Morris, a highly respected range ecologist and teacher, died of a heart attack November 9, 1986, at St. Patrick’s Hospital in Missoula.

Mel was born July 19, 1907 in Denver, Colorado. He earned a B.S. in Forestry in 1930 and an M.S. in Botany in 1932 at Colorado State University. He taught at CSU School of Forestry a short time before moving to Missoula. Mel taught range management in the School of Forestry at the University of Montana for nearly 36 years. In 1940 and 1941 he completed advanced work in botany at the University of Chicago. Mel retired from teaching and research at the University of Montana in 1972. In 1978, the University of Montana awarded Mel Morris with an Honorary Doctorate.

Mel was a longtime member of the Society for Range Management and was involved with S.R.M. affairs and research until his death. Offices he held within the Society include Chairman, Program Committee, 1957 National Meeting; Chairman, International Mountain Section Meeting, 1960, and President, 1966. Mel also belonged to and held offices in several other research and conservation societies and associations.

During his career Mel earned a number of significant awards, among them are Phi Kappa Phi, Fellow - 1963, American Association for the Advancement of Science; Honor Alumnus - 1963, College of Forestry, Colorado State University; Outstanding Professor - 1971, Montana Druids; Outstanding Achievement Award S.R.M. - 1974; and he was honored as a Fellow in the Society for Range Management in 1977.

Much of Mel’s research on rangelands throughout Montana involved the study of the distribution of plant communities in relation to the soils and climate of the state. Mel spent much of his career identifying the environmental factors controlling the distribution of sagebrush in Montana. He also spent time with the development and implementation of grazing systems on the National Bison Range. The Bison Range was of special interest to Mel because it was the last link between wildlife and management of the land once inhabited by these beautiful animals.

In memory of Mel Morris’s accomplishments, a scholarship was established in 1981. Donations come nationwide from family, friends, colleagues and students. The scholarship is awarded to the outstanding junior or senior in range management and is based on scholastic achievement, skill and interest in range management, extra curricular activities and need. At the annual School of Forestry Awards Banquet in 1986, the Range Club presented a plaque to Mel with the recipients of the Scholarship engraved on it. The plaque is now hanging on the ground floor of the Forestry building.

In conjunction with the Aber Day festivities of 1986, the Range Club established a native plant garden on the south side of the Forestry building. Mel appeared the day of preparation of the gar-
MELVIN S. MORRIS
den and aided in its planning. The Range Club of 1987 dedicated the plant garden to the memory of Mel and had a plaque engraved with “Melvin S. Morris Memorial Garden”, which is to be mounted on a fence surrounding the garden. The garden was designed in Mel’s memory as an aid for students taking introductory range management and soils to help them become familiar with plants common in Montana.

As the Range Club president this year, and the recipient of the Melvin S. Morris Memorial Scholarship, I feel compelled to tell you that Mel will be greatly missed. Mel Morris was a man who gave to many and took from no one. Because of his contributions to the S.R.M. , the School of Forestry, the students in range resource management and to me, he will never be forgotten.

Survivors include his wife, Elinor, Missoula; a son, Alan, Moapa, Nev.; a daughter, Mary Morris, New York City; two brothers, Albert Solomon, Denver, and Joe Solomon, Colorado Springs, Colo.

George W. Cleek IV
President, Range Club 1986-87
ORGANIZATIONS

Do Not Spit In The Trash Can!!
**RANGE CLUB**

The University of Montana Range Club, during the 1986-87 school year, consisted of twelve enthusiastic students and former students. The club held its annual officer elections last spring placing this year’s activities in the capable hands of George W. Cleek IV - president, Rebecca Greenwood - vice-president, and Pat Basting - secretary/treasurer.

With the support of the Range Resource faculty, Dr. E. Earl Willard and Dr. Don Bedunah, the club started the year off with a bang. Last fall the club sponsored a field trip to the National Bison Range. Club members learned about the history and management of the bison range through video tapes and tours. During the winter quarter, the range club had its annual fund raiser - a credit raffle. The club members sold raffle tickets for one dollar each to students wanting to participate in the event. The winner received the monetary value of three university credits deducted from her bill. Fifteen consolation prizes were also awarded. These were gift certificates for donuts, pizzas and sandwiches donated by various Missoula merchants.

The club planned and developed a plant garden as part of Aber Day, 1986. The garden is dedicated to and named for Melvin S. Morris who passed away last November. Mel Morris was a range resource professor for 36 years at the University of Montana.

Located next to the Forestry School greenhouse, the garden consists of native and introduced plant species commonly found around the Missoula area. The garden was designed as an aid for students in introductory soils and range management to learn the different species most commonly referred to by their professors. The club planted additional species this spring and plans to add name plaques for each plant.

In February this year, a few club members went to the annual Society for Range Management conference in Boise, Idaho. They attended numerous professional meetings, heard research presentations and made many professional contacts.

The club will soon be electing new officers and introduce a new and cheerful group of range majors and other students to the field or range resource management.

George W. Cleek IV  
President, Range Club 1986-87

Rebecca Greenwood  
Vice-President, Range Club 1986-87
The Society of American Foresters represents a group of individuals dedicated to advancing the science, technology, teaching and practice of forestry in America and using this knowledge and these skills of the profession to benefit society.

The students at the University of Montana are an intergalal component of the SAF, reflecting the latest knowledge and promising leadership for the future. The Student Chapter is one of five SAF chapters in Montana.

Our involvements this year are several. On the weekend of February 13th and 14th, the Student Chapter was represented at the State SAF convention in Helena. National, state, and local membership trends and various state legislative policies were several of the many topics discussed. The meeting also included a presentation by the Honorable Ted Schwinden, Governor of Montana.

A major involvement of the Student Chapter this year was the 1987 Timber Expo held April 11 and 12 at the Southgate Mall. We sponsored a booth this year with the theme of “The SAF and Missoula”. Several exhibits displaying this relationship and a seedling identification exercise were available for the public inspection. We are thankful for the assistance provided by the National, State, and Missoula SAF organizations and the State Tree Nursery.

The Student Chapter also participated in the Missoula Chapter’s Fort Missoula work weekend on April 25 and 26. Some of the activities included laying railroad track, tree planting, and slash burning. Future plans for the site include habitat type transfer and planting, and museum construction.

During May the Student Chapter sponsored the Missoula Chapter’s May (19th) meeting held at the Carousel Lounge. Dr. William Gabriel of Biographics delivered a presentation on wildlife photography.

Also during May, elections were held. The outgoing officers were: Chair- Ken Rich; Co-chair- Dino Seppi; Secretary and newsletters- Nick Jose; Treasurer and membership- Shane Delgrasso; and policies- Wndy Wedum. The new officers for the 1987-88 year are Chair- Lyle Gardinier; Chair-elect- Nick Jose; Secretary- Peggy Wiltse; and Treasurer- Dan Wichman. Congratulations to the new officers and many thanks to those who participated this year.

Kenn Rich
Chairman, 86-87- Student Chapter of the SAF
The University of Montana Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society is an academic club whose purpose is "to develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environment upon which wildlife and man depend; to increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values, and to seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

Our goals are met in a variety of ways, trying to always mix fun, learning and friendship together. The Wildlife Society meets every Thursday and once a month on Tuesday. Each meeting features a new speaker and topic and we welcome everyone to attend. This year our speakers range from wildlife biology professionals, local and out-of-state professors, graduate students, and the president of the Wildlife Society, Lytle Blankenship.

The Wildlife Society encourages an open relationship between students and faculty in the wildlife biology program, thus a special beer and pizza mix was held among the undergraduates and faculty. Also a beer social was held among the undergraduates and graduate students.

All of The Wildlife Society’s meetings, mixers, and field trips are open to all students, regardless of academic major. The Society has members from many different academic pursuits, but all share a common interest in wildlife.

Our trips for the 1986-87 year range from pure fun to trips that provided working and field experience. During October, a group of ten members traveled to the beautiful Pine Butte area to help the Nature Conservancy clean up an old homestead site. We tore down fences and gates and also removed bottles, cans, wire, sheet metal, and any other debris found. The day ended with a barbecue around a campfire. On November 2, The Wildlife Society hosted its annual trip to Glacier national Park to watch the migrating bald eagles at McDonald Creek feed on kokanee salmon.

Winter quarter was filled with many activities and learning experiences. Dr. Charles Jonkel spent a January day on Lolo Pass demonstrating igloo building techniques he learned while conducting research in the Arctic. In late January, twelve students went cross-country skiing in Yellowstone National Park, allowing them to view the park at a time of quiet and little tourist traffic. On February 26, 60 students helped in the annual Big Game Census at the National Bison Range.

Spring Quarter began with an annual wild game feast and square dance at the Lumber Jack Saloon in Lolo, Mt. The word “feast” was an understatement, for the menu featured pronghorn, deer, elk, grouse, bighorn sheep in the form of steaks, stew, chili, sausage, and shish-ka-bob. Excess calories were burned off by a genuine Montana kick-up-the-heels and swing your partner square dance.

Throughout the year, The Wildlife Society conducted several fund-raising projects. Every Thursday The Wildlife Society sold wildlife posters in the University Center. David Neptune created a design for our T-shirts and sweatshirts, which were sold throughout the school year. After Thanksgiving, Christmas trees were cut from the Lubrecht Experimental Forest by the
Forestry Club and sold on campus by The Wildlife Society. Our Christmas tree sale was very successful, filling offices, apartments, and dorm rooms with 3 to 5 foot douglas firs.

The Wildlife Society also keeps busy with various committees. Still in the development stages is the Legislative Committee, which hopes to take a more active role in wildlife issues being discussed and debated in Helena during 1988-89. However, the Urban Wildlife Project finally received a headstart. Students on the Urban Wildlife Project are developing a plan to promote and protect wildlife along the Clark Fork River. Currently, we are taking daily mammal censuses on Jacob’s Island.

Our most successful and productive committee is the Educational Outreach Program. Students donate their time and skills in delivering wildlife programs to local elementary and high schools and to local groups. Endangered species, furs and covers, reptiles, birds of prey, and Montana Mammals are just a few of the topics students have presented. Students compliment their presentations by the use of slides, furs, skulls, and sometimes, live animals.

Through such programs as Educational Outreach, The Wildlife Society is hoping to play a more active role in state and local wildlife issues and education. The wildlife Society students learn valuable experience through the organization, and the pass this knowledge to younger students that will one day also be in the position to make a positive impact on the environment. It is this circle of communication that makes The Wildlife Society an essential academic organization to the University of Montana, the community, the state, and ultimately to the wildlife itself.

Officers of The Wildlife Society:
Dan Pletscher-Faculty Advisor
Andrea Kim-President
Chip Howeman-Vice President
Lynn Johnson-Treasurer
Rob Jensen-Secretary
Cheryl Fisher-Chairman—Educational Outreach Program
Karl Rohr-Wildlife Correspondent

Andrea Kim
President- The Wildlife Society
Karl Rohr
Wildlife Correspondent-The Wildlife Society
"The Forestry Club is, without a doubt, the liveliest club on campus. We do not claim this, we admit it." That quote comes from Jim Brooks, Club President, 1917. I want to party with that guy. I don’t think he would have any problem fitting in with the Club today and I’m sure he’d be pleased to find that it has not changed much from his day. No other club even comes close to the number or magnitude of our activities, and I KNOW no one else had more fun or drinks more beer.

This year’s Forestry Kaimin is not intended to be solely a photo album for this year’s members, although I’ll get more than a few laughs out of them. Rather, it is a record of the activities, interests and direction of this and other clubs in the Forestry School during the 1986-87 school year. It also includes articles on current research being conducted in the School to give it some “socially redeeming value”. Hopefully some forester in the class of 2057 will look back at this and say “Hey, I want to party with those guys!”

This being the first publication of the Forestry Kaimin in five years or so, I thought it wise to recap the major events of the Club over the past year and maybe make a few crude remarks in the process.

Bertha’s Bugle, our sometimes more than quarterly publication, was also resurrected this year after a three or four year absence. It is basically a Club current events memo and includes such goodies a Bertha’s Bull, Words of Wobdom and a bedtime story about a tiny impatient bunny at the Forester’s Ball. Classic stuff.

The Fall Smoker went off without too much of a hitch and good times were had by all. We added a tour and picnic at Garnet Ghost Town to the traditional activities of the ropes course, pig roast and the ever-popular “Ice Cream Social” over the weekend at Lubrecht Experimental Forest. There the incoming freshmen and transfers got an idea of what they were getting themselves into with this club. Maybe that’s why we only had 60 instead of 100 people at the first meeting.

We ran a Christmas tree sale for the first time this year in conjunction with the Wildlife Society and made just about enough to cover the beer and presents for the Club Christmas Party. The Forestry Club was in charge of cutting and hauling the trees to campus while the Wildlife Society took charge of sales. Hopefully we can turn this year’s fad into next year’s fashion with our three-foot Douglas-firs.

The Club Christmas Party itself was quite the event, nearly equaling the Third Annual Halloweenie. The house was relatively intact the next day, although I can’t say as much for the dancing maniqui-en or the victims of the butt-shark brothers. If the Passion Palace could only talk.

Activities the rest of the fall quarter were more or less dominated by preparations for the Foresters’ Ball, the grand-daddy of all parties. We did, however, manage to squeeze in a few parties here and there and consume mass quantities of beer at Tower Pizza, out post-meeting stronghold. I’ll leave the description of the Ball to someone who can remember it.
After allowing a few weeks to recuperate from the Ball, we were ready to go at it again and held our Annual Winter Olympics at Lubrecht. Football isn’t easy in two feet of snow and it definitely brings out the animal in some of our foresters. Satisfied with only two casualties we retired to the tranquility of a bonfire, a barbeque and, yes, beer.

Another first for the Club was a dance this winter at the Lumberjack Saloon, about 16 miles up Lolo Creek. The bar itself exemplifies Montana Foresters in that it stands only four logs high and has a bar composed of only one log for it’s entire length. About 50 people turned out for the affair and there was much rejoicing.

This spring ten of us attended the AWFC Conclave in Corvallis, Oregon, leaving an unforgettable image of Montana Foresters in the minds of many. Oregon State will surely never be the same.

Only one of our usual two fund-raising events came off this year. Bob Steele, a former fire prof here at UM, invited us down to his ranch to do some work there. This event is aptly named “Bob Steele Day”. We also got around to the much-needed repainting of the highwheels this year during Aber Day.

The annual Spring Dance up at Lubrecht was held in the first part of May in conjunction with the logger sports meet there sponsored by the Woodmen’s Team. A live band added to the atmosphere of drinking and dancing under the stars in the Rocky Mountains, and yes, Virginia, you can dance on crutches.

Club T-shirts were brought back into vogue this year and will hopefully remain available every year. A completely new item was added to the Club’s collection of memorabilia, that being the foam can coolers with our logo on them. They’re doing quite well at two bucks apiece and are occasionally used for beer.

Well those were the major events of the 1986-87 school year for the Club, although it was by no means all of them. As you look through the Forestry Kaimin in years to come, at the articles and especially the photographs, I hope it will bring back fond memories and a few laughs about your years here. I also hope that the Kaimin will be around for years to come, promoting and recording the events in the life of this always active club. It’s been a privilege and an honor serving you and I’d like to thank everyone for the tremendous support I’ve had to work with this year. I’ve had a blast here and I’d like to stay, but seven years of college is enough for anyone. But now that it’s all over, let’s go have a beer.

Wildlife Wob, a.k.a. Rob Jensen
Forestry Club President, 1986-87
FACULTY

Ron Barger - Visiting Asst. Professor
Donald J. Bedunah - Assoc. Prof. Range Management
George M. Blake - Prof. Silviculture Genetics
Arnold W. Bolle - Dean & Prof. Emeritus, Policy
James L. Faurot - Prof. Emeritus, Mensuration
Sidney S. Frissell - Dean, Prof. Recreation & Wildlife Habitat
Fred L. Gerlach - Prof. Aerial Photogrammetry
David H. Jackson - Prof. Forest Economics
James H. Lowe, Jr. - Assoc. Prof. Entomology
C. Les Marcum - Asst. Prof. Wildlife Biology
B. Riley McClelland - Prof. Recreation
Stephen F. McCool - Prof. Wildland Recreation Management
Alan G. McQuillan - Assoc. Prof. Forest Management
Joel F. Meier - Prof. Recreation
Lee H. Metzgar - Dir. Wildlife Biology, Prof. Zoology
Thomas J. Nimlos - Prof. Soils
W. Leslie Pengelly - Prof Emeritus, Wildlife Biology
Daniel H. Pletscher - Asst. Prof. Wildlife Biology
Donald F. Potts - Assoc. Prof. Watershed Management
Robert R. Ream - Prof. Recreation Wilderness
Steven W. Running - Assoc. Prof. Forest Ecophysiology
Richard E. Shannon - Prof. Emeritus, Policy, Administration & Law
Nellie M. Stark - Prof. Forest Ecology
Ronald H. Wakimoto - Assoc. Prof. Fire Science
E. Earl Willard - Prof. Range Management
Hans R. Zuuring - Prof. Biometrician

RESEARCH STAFF

Carl Fiedler - Research Specialist
Paul Hansen - Asst. Research Prof.
Charles Jonkel - Research Prof.
Jennifer O'Loughlin - Editor MFCES, Western Wildlands
Robert D. Pfister - Director of MORP, Adj. Res. Prof.
John Kent Riekena - Program Analyst
Michael Sweet - Research Assistant

SUPPORT STAFF

Leslie Berg - Administrative Aide
Irene Evers - Forestry Librarian
Hank Goetz - Manager Lubrecht Forest
Dusty Daubert - Word Processor Operator
Frank Maus - Forester
Pat Murphy - Secretary Dean & Student Affairs
Chris Orr - Secretary Wildlife Biology
Shirley Petterson - Faculty Secretary Science Complex
Laura Plute - Accounting Technician
Wilma Spence - Administrative Officer, Supervisor
MONTANA DRUIDS

The Montana Druids are an honorary service organization within the School of Forestry. This organization, which is unique to the University of Montana, was founded in 1924 by several of the upperclassmen. These students felt a need for an honorary professional organization within the School—an organization which would not only provide a service to the School, but also provide a means of promoting the relationships between the students of the Forestry School, the faculty, and the alumni. So with these ideals in mind, the Montana Druids were formed.

Sixty-three years later, the Druids still have the code of ethics and set of objectives which represented the ideal of continuing service to the School of Forestry. One of the primary functions of the Druids is providing a link between the students and faculty. The organization forms a common ground where the students and faculty can come together on a regular basis to discuss the problems within the School. The Druids also work toward improving the link between the students and the alumni.

Although the Druids don’t undertake many independent projects, they try to be involved in and support activities of the various clubs, the Foresters’ Ball, and the Society of American Foresters. Some activities with the Druids are usually responsible for include maintenance of the honor code, distributing and compiling course evaluations, organizing Aber Day, helping the alumni with the Spring Awards Banquet, and choosing the senior and professor of the year awards. A new project with the Druids will be responsible for is the update of the School alumni list.

In addition to these traditional activities the Druids undertook several other projects this year. These efforts included the big "spring camp push", the formation of a section 13 management group, the massive overhaul and update of the School’s alumni list, and a letter writing project to the incoming students.

The Druids membership is composed of 21 Forestry School students, plus many of the faculty and alumni. The new members are selected and initiated by the active student members each autumn and winter quarter.

Micsese Butler
President, Montana Druids
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ACTIVITIES
BADGER TWO-MEDICINE

Each year, the Wilderness Institute, which is part of the University of Montana School of Forestry, sponsors the Wilderness and Civilization program. The schedule starts with a twelve day hike into some wild area in Montana. In the fall of 1985 students in the program hiked on the Rocky Mountain East Front.

While on the trip, students hiked through the Badger-Two Medicine area, located on the Lewis and Clark National Forest. This area is adjacent to Glacier National Park, the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, and the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

The “Front” is where the Rocky Mountains meet the Great Plains. Nearly 450,000 acres of roadless land lie adjacent to the Bob Marshall and Scapegoat Wildernesses. Rugged battlements of rock jut straight up 4000 feet out of the prairie. The Front is the most wildlife rich segment of the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem. It contains the largest populations of grizzly bear and bighorn sheep in the Lower 48 states. Other rare species such as gray wolves also exist there. It is one of the most unique and diverse ecological areas in the U.S.

The students learned of plans to develop this wilderness area by means of oil and gas exploratory drilling and associated road construction. After spending time in the area, many members of the program decided to form a group to try to prevent the development from taking place. We allied ourselves with the Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance, a small group of people living in the East Glacier, Montana area. We began calling our-
Rocky Mountain Front Roadless Area Proposed as Wilderness by The Badger Chapter

Other Roadless Areas Recommended for Wilderness but Not Covered by Our Proposal
selves the Badger Chapter and we went to work immediately.

This place is the most vital segment of the Glacier/Bob Marshall area, serving as the major wildlife migration corridor between the northern and southern halves of the region. It is subject to ever-increasing threats of being “opened up” to possible large scale development including roads, drilling pads, worker camps, pipelines and refineries. We think there must be other areas to explore which are not so environmentally sensitive.

It has also become apparent to us that the Badger-Two Medicine is of very religious significance to the Blackfeet people, as well as other Native Americans. This prompted three of our members to jointly file an appeal of the Lewis and Clark National Forest Plan with Blackfeet Tribal members. The appeal centers on First Amendment Rights to religious freedom. The Badger area is very sacred to traditional Blackfeet who continue to practice the ancient Tribal religion. In order to ensure the survival of their culture and religion, they say that the area must be kept in a totally pristine condition. The Badger Chapter also filed an appeal of the plan based on environmental laws, wildlife, and wilderness values.

More recently, the Badger Chapter sponsored the three-day First Annual Northern Rockies Rendezvous, a conference based on the conservation of wildlife and wildlands in the Montana, Idaho and Wyoming area. Presentations were made by top biologists, conservationists and spiritual leaders from throughout the region.

Next we co-sponsored the Blackfeet Nation Spiritual Wilderness Gathering. Along with Blackfeet traditionalists and spiritual leaders, we went from the University to downtown Missoula with over 350 people. We protested the Forest Plan and the Forest Service rejection of the Blackfeet religious freedom rights appeal. This event was covered on national television news and brought widespread recognition of this battle.

People who are interested in helping save these wildlands should write to their congresspeople immediately. For additional information, please come to our weekly meetings, which are open to everyone. They are held on Wednesdays, at 5:30 in the Montana Rooms.

Our involvement in Badger Chapter has added to our educational experience at the University of Montana. Many of our members are students in the School of Forestry. We will continue to remain involved in resource management issues on the Rocky Mountain Front and other areas in the Northern Rockies. We believe that active involvement in real issues, combined with attendance at the University of Montana, provides an excellent experience that will last forever.

Mike Bader
Badger Chapter President
On A Limb

Stand aside a tree
The air is the same - is life
The legs are the roots
The limbs are the arms
The back is the stem
The crown is the mind
The rain is the same - is life
Standing is all the same

Nahokoos b. da din deeb
(North Arctic Lights)
Cold Arctic air
New life
Birds white Beads
Enhanced spirits
Aurora Borealis
Fertility

Hocho, Hocho, Beauty
FALL SMOKER

The 1986-87 school year was kicked off with another successful Fall Smoker. The Forestry School has hosted annual fall events since it opened in 1915. In 1924 the fall event was a picnic “to get new members and old timers acquainted with one another”. By 1929 the event progressed to the Annual Foresters’ Moonlight Hike to a “beautiful camp site about fifteen minutes’ hike from the road, within the newly purchased timber area of the Forestry School laboratory” - Lubrecht to us now! Over 100 couples attended this event, a hundred percent turnout for the Forestry School. Finally, in 1935, the fall event was the Forestry Club Smoker, over 150 guests attended the boxing match.

Boxing is not the main event today, but the Fall Smoker does serve a purpose. As in 1924, the primary objective is to get people acquainted. The Forestry School is one of the most active organizations on campus. Interactions between new students, transfers, the dreaded “old timers” and faculty is crucial.

That brings us to another function of the Fall Smoker, showing students what Western Montana looks like, and getting us into the field where we will be working. The Smoker is a perfect place to introduce people to burning, chainsaws, ecology, Montana’s history, ongoing research, range wildlife and the facilities available at Lubrecht. All of this done first hand - not in a lecture in a classroom on campus. The Fall Smoker is an informal introduction to almost everything the Forestry School has to offer.

All seriousness aside, the single most important purpose of the Fall Smoker is to kick back, let loose, and try to lose a few people on the way to the “Ice Cream Social”. The whole ordeal began this year on Wednesday with Nick Jose - “THE HOG MASH ER”- and his gang out at the Missoula Stockyards. The 270 pound sow did not stand a chance with these blood-thirsty foresters.

Friday started out clear and calm, but soon turned into a sloppy scene as more and more of the dreaded “old timers” showed up. Somehow the pig managed to end up in the pit and the beer was tapped. Bruce Shultz stood guard all night to see that no one would dig up our dinner.

After a short stop at Lubrecht on Saturday morning, the new arrivals were herded back on the bus for a trip to Garnet, one of Montana’s ghost towns. A chilly afternoon was spent poking at the past. Once back at Lubrecht, the infamous ropes course, headed by Sue Gethen and Mike Wolfe, broke the ice. Second hand, I’ve heard that Kerrie Becket was the last to make it over the “wall” after being chased by a pack of bears. Before dinner a hot volleyball match started up, wetting everyone’s appetite, while the pig slid off its bones.

After the slide show by Rob Jensen and Rory Laws, the lights went out and the fun began. The fire crew (Kevin Conran, Kevin (precious) Wolfe and John “Shrub” Walters) did a superb job on the bonfire and we didn’t lose anyone on the way down. This night could almost have been called a disaster — foresters were partying and left two FULL kegs!!! Alas, the night was saved when the Chief Push
was woken up at 4:16 to be wished happy birthday. I won’t repeat what he said.

The chainsaw wake-up did wonders to improve moral, and almost everyone showed up for a cheery breakfast on Sunday morning, but ten professors in a kitchen all at once? Anyway, forgetting to call the state about the “forest fire” we started did nothing to discourage our future firefighters. Dr. Wakimoto put on a great talk and burn.

And so passed another Fall Smoker. Most people left a little dirty, a little smokey and a little tired, but hopefully with a few new friends and a better understanding of what the Forestry School is all about. Thanks to all who put their time into the Smoker (thanks for all your help Maynard!!).

Mary Mindrup
1987 Fall Smoker Organizer
WS BISON RANGE TRIP

As I worked my way down the steep draw along the fence on the boundary of the National Bison Range, I wondered where the bison were hiding. The path had been deeply eroded by the bison’s pounding hooves. I was clearly in their trail. I paused to look across the valley to the awesome range of the Mission Mountains, but my eyes shifted downward to the oncoming cloud of dust and the sound of approaching thunder. I did not want to be in the embarrassing position of being trampled by bison at a game count on the National Bison Range, so I decided to either climb the fence or climb out of the draw. The roaring herd came into view less than one hundred yards away. The lead bison halted in his tracks. After a brief pause, the entire herd ran up the side of the draw and out of sight, thus sparing me from being trampled.

This close encounter with the bison herd was the most memorable time on that day of February 26, when The Wildlife Society traveled to the National Bison Range near Moiese for the annual big game count. The range keeps an annual census of the big game living within the range and this year 60 students helped to conduct the census.

The range is divided into several sections, and each section is assigned a crew leader and several students. The crews walk through the 19,000 acres, flush the game, and cause the animals to move in the same direction. Each student is assigned a route to follow through his section, some working the draws and gullys, while others remained on the ridgetops and in the wooded areas.

Inevitable problems arise with students counting game that has been previously counted by other students. The likelihood of this occurring decreases when each student counts only the game on his left. Before the final count is tallied, the students in each crew compare their final results to be sure that no game has been counted twice.

The final results of the game count, excluding bison, were as follows:
- Elk--145
- White-tailed Deer--159
- Mule deer--170
- Bighorn Sheep--48
- Mountain Goats--27
- Pronghorn--119

Although rarely sighted at the Bison Range, groggy black bears were disturbed from their winter slumber by students. One bear grumpily left his den and simply went searching for a quieter place. The other bear simply raised a sleepy head and dozed off once more.

The Bison Range game count provided The Wildlife Society with experience in large scale game management, as well as the opportunity for excellent close range wildlife photography.

Karl Rohr
Wildlife Correspondent-The Wildlife Society
Wildlifers at Pine Butte
SECTION 13

Section 13 is the 640 acres located at Lubrecht Experimental Forest which is managed by the students of the Forestry School. This year was highlighted by several major accomplishments. Management committees were formed, a Section 13 management class was established, and the annual "Section 13 Day" was a success.

At the beginning of the year committees were formed to distribute various management activities of the section among interested students. This was done to encourage wider participation in student management. The committees and the chairman of each were as follows: Timber- Kevin Conran and Kevin Harmon; Range- Cheri Seebecker; Wildlife-Ross Baty; Fire- Mike Gagen and Lisa Heiser; Christmas Tree Plantation- Shane Del Grosso. Section 13 was under the direction of Miscese Butler and Mike White.

One major project undertaken by the students was the Section 13 class. This class was set up with Professor Ron Barger to develop a management and harvesting plan for the section. The class was organized by Kevin Harmon and approximately 13 students participated. This class provided the students a chance to gain valuable resource management experience. The following students gave their reasons for taking the class. Kevin Wolf, "To learn how to set up a timber sale, taking into consideration different management objectives. There's more to timber than just timber." Kathy Murray, "Since I haven't had the opportunity to make management decisions with the Forest Service, I can actually be the boss for a change." Ross Baty, "I would like to gain and overall understanding of how to set up a timber sale or management plan, taking into account all aspects, with an emphasis on wildlife management of the area." When talking about the management objectives for the section, Bruce Schultz said, "I would like to see Section 13 utilized for the benefit of the students educationally and financially, and to give students the advantage to work together in a teamwork situation."

Section 13 Day, held during the fall quarter, was another highlight of the year. Students gained valuable chainsaw experience while cutting posts and poles for the Foresters Ball. According to Chief Push Rory Laws, "It was one of the most productive days I've seen the four years I've been in school. We brought down over 200 poles." The cutting of the posts and poles also provided some much needed thinning on the northern end of the section. Students under the guidance of Kevin Harmon were introduced to the act of burning slash piles. The successful day ended with a delicious chili dinner organizes by chief chef Mary Mindrup. There was a drawback in preparing the chili. Mary said, "Our house stunk for days and so did my car. It smelled like chili."

Fun and experience. Activities such as the Section 13 class and Section 13 Day not only provide students with valuable experience, but also provides them a chance to have a whole lot of fun. The high level of participation from the students clearly showed the value of Section 13. Hopefully next year even more students will become involved and take advantage of the opportunities available on Section 13. Thank you to everyone who helped make this an outstanding year for Section 13.

Miscese Butler & Mike White
Directors, Section 13- 1986-87
For a refreshing, restful break, come to the coast and visit the San Juan Islands

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Ev & Charlie Tuller
WS GLACIER TRIP

On November 3, The Wildlife Society hosted its annual trip to Glacier National Park for the fall eagle watch. Bald eagles arrive in the fall to McDonald Creek to feed on the spawning kokanee salmon. Most of the eagles presently observed at Glacier Park are migrating from their summering areas in the MacKenzie River system in Canada to the wintering areas farther south, including Montana, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Nevada and Oregon.

The morning of November 3 was cold enough to easily wake up the fifty sleepy souls that left on the bus at 4:30 am for Glacier Park. Sleeping on the hard, straight-backed seats of a rattling school bus was impossible. The sudden shock of cold wind that greeted us in Glacier awakened us once again and everyone silently walked to the Apgar Bridge over McDonald Creek.

Anyone approaching Apgar Bridge for the first time during the eagle watch will at first be amazed at the intense quiet among the spectators. The large crown on the bridge speaks only in whispers, giving the appearance that people are in silent reverence of a spiritual occurrence.

The scene upstream from the bridge does indeed command reverence. The early morning mist blanketed the dark pines that served as silent launching pads. The eagles glided through the mist, gracefully skimmed the creeks, pulled salmon from the icy waters and returned with their prizes to their perches in the treetops.

Another interesting scene was the method of fishing used by the immature bald eagles which were not quite as adept at flying. Immature eagles often wade in shallow water near the bank to pounce on nearby salmon. The young eagles would then hop back on the bank to eat their dinner.

Although the number of eagles viewed this year in Glacier was lower than in previous years, the National Park Service has placed restrictions on public viewing areas and has better instructed the spectators on proper viewing procedures. Many students from the University volunteered in weekend interpretive positions during the eagle watch.

Prior to our departure from the Lake McDonald area, research biologist Riley McClelland instructed The Wildlife Society on the radio telemetry techniques used to track the migrating eagles. With the use of the telemetry techniques and wing markers, better information is provided about the eagles’ migrations routes, wintering areas, and nesting sites.

The Wildlife Society spent the early afternoon hiking to Avalanche Lake. The snowy trail, according to the Park Service, was only 2.2 miles. Apparently, something was lost in the metric conversion. All of the hikers agreed that the 2.2 mile hike was actually 22 miles and that someone misplaced the decimal. However, the hike to the lake along Avalanche Creek was spectacular.

Once again the rattling school bus carried the students back to Missoula. Although the trip was only a day, those that made the journey carry vivid memories of nature’s fall spectacle in Glacier National Park.

Carl Rohr Wildlife Correspondent
The Wildlife Society
To Avoid Disturbing
BALD EAGLES
This Area Is
CLOSED
Please Use Viewing Areas At
SPCA

[Image of individuals at a location with a sign indicating the area is closed to avoid disturbing bald eagles.]
Several members of the U of M Range Club took a field trip to the National Bison Range at Moise, Mt. last fall. Most members were interested in seeing the wildlife and bison residing on the Range's 19,000 acres as well as learning about its management policies.

Range personnel opened the museum for our group and showed a video tape of the history and management of the Bison Range. Afterwards, our guides entertained questions from the group, expounding on and updating information from the video tape.

Our group then drove through the Bison Range. A few bison were seen at the higher elevations but one of the more interesting sites was a series of fungus circles on a hillside. These were easily detectable by the lighter colored, taller Idaho fescue that grows well in the presence of the fungus.

Our group also observed a herd of antelope including sparing among several bucks as one defended his harem. Two small groups of elk were also observed but both were resting peacefully with their respective bulls.

The tour ended with a drive through the buildings and corrals, housing personnel and a few bison kept for year around viewing. A few white-tail and mule deer were seen along the river bottom as we left the Bison Range, ending a very enjoyable and informative field trip.

Becky Greenwood
Range Club Vice President
70TH FORESTERS' BALL
ODE TO BE A FIREFIGHTER
by Norman Podswell
(aka Rob Jensen)

A firefighter, that's what I'd like to be,
If only to save one little tree.
And then I would feel oh so good,
To know that I could save some wood.
To be out in the forest,
fighting the heat,
The feeling is genuine, the feeling is neat.
Being at camp, eating great food,
I'd be one great firefighting dude.
The battle would be between the fire and me,
All alone with my trusty pulaski.
And if you can't stand the heat, stay out of the kitchen,
But I could stand it, I'd be bitchin'.
I'd be fighting, not afraid to be basted,
It'd even feel better than being wasted.
Fighting with all the sweat, tears and blood,
I'd be the great Rocky Mountain Stud.
And if the fire would sweep across the land,
I'd have my two-inch hose in hand.
Fighting hard, not afraid to die,
I'd be the BEST firefighting guy.

Written by Paul Jensen
for 70th Annual Foresters' Ball Convocation.
BOONDOCKERS' DAY

photo by Roger Maier
CONSTRUCTION
FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN

Lightning struck on the night of Wednesday, May 19, 1986. The 70th Annual Foresters Ball "Fire on the Mountain" raged up Mount Sentinel.

Firefighters began digging line immediately with the selection of the Sage I Incident Command Team. Throughout the summer the fire roared, with letters sent to the Governor, Senators, and House Representatives requesting their presence for advice. The blaze was slowly brought under control in the fall with the additional help received from fresh fire crews brought in from around the country.

Many local merchants helped control the fire with donations to make the crew's lives more comfortable. Kelly Hughes and the Border Patrol was called in from Idaho to entertain the troops. Gallons of paint, hundreds of pounds of nails & wire, thousands of board feet of wood, and plenty of enthusiasm slowed the fire to a small smoke.

Estimated time of containment was the week of January 19-23. Fire fighters dug line through the night to keep the blaze from burning down the U of M. On the 23 & 24 the fire was contained. Bertha arrived and this gave the tired firefighters their last boost of enthusiasm to stop the fire.

Finally at 1800 hours on Sunday the 25th weary firefighters congratulated each other as the last smoke was put out. Not a word was said as the Incident Command Team departed the sight. Nothing needed to be said. There was a sense of pride in the air for they knew the had successfully completed a difficult task.

Incident Command Final Notes:
Fire cost- $9,000.00
Money left in fire fund- $8,300.00
* 17- $500 scholarships were presented

When asked if he would take on a task this big again, the Incident Commander, Rory Laws replied "Burn Baby, Burn!"

Thanks for everyone's help & a great time.

Rory E. Laws
Chief Push

Incident Commander: Rory Laws
Information Officer: Mary Mindrup
Preconstruction Officer: Nick Jose
Logistics Officer: Bruce Schultz
Construction Officers: Craig Blubaugh & Kevin Wolfe
THE BIG EVENT
SMOKEY HELPS THE SAF

Smokey the Bear and the Society of the American Foresters attracted people from all walks of life into their 1987 Timber Expo exhibit at the Southgate Mall. Seventeen students from the Forestry School, coordinated by Lyle Gardinier, committee chairman for the Expo, and volunteers from the Missoula Chapter of the SAF, helped Smokey put smiles on a great many faces, both young and old. The booth was sponsored by the Student Chapter of the SAF.

Goals and objectives of the Timber Expo display were to expose and familiarize the general public with the function of the SAF and how SAF relates to the people in the Missoula region of western Montana. The purposes of the SAF, projects and activities, as well as fire prevention, safety, and educational details, were among the many topics of the Expo’s display.

Steve Laursen, Missoula SAF Chapter Chairperson and Montana State Extension For­ester, assisted by handling many of the admin­istrative matters. The National SAF provided pamphlets and funding for the booth. The Montana State Department of Lands donated the use of Smokey, balloons, seedlings, and display items to help attract the public.

Student involvement included more than the SAF members as students from wildlife, range, and recreation contributed manning personnel and informative and educational items. The combined efforts of all those participating made it possible to cover most aspects of the public’s interest and entertain questions of people at the mall.

The exhibit was very well received by a variety of interest groups and was thought to be very successful. The teamwork of those involved and input from others provided more ideas for the planning of next year’s display.

Lyle Gardinier
Committee Chairman-Timber Expo
WILDLIFE FILM FESTIVAL

The International Wildlife Film Festival had its 10th anniversary celebration April 3-12, 1987 at the University of Montana. Sponsored by the School of Forestry, ASUM, the Institute of the Rockies, and the Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society. This annual event is organized by student volunteers, a faculty advisor, and various campus and community contacts. The main goal of the Festival is to "improve the quality of wildlife films through juried film competition, technical workshops and panels, and various wildlife and natural resource media symposia that bring together not only film makers but also biologists, administrators, government officials, native peoples, writers and others in a productive mix of opinions and ideas.

Founded by Dr Charles Jonkel in response to the harm that poor and inaccurate films were doing to wildlife, the IWFF has grown from a small gathering of people watching films and sleeping on the floor in sleeping bags to an internationally recognized event attracting films and professionals in the filmmaking industry from around the world. During the 10th IWFF, 65 films were entered and 55 filmmaking professionals, along with approximately 2500 members of the public attended the various events and film showings. Award winning films from this year included "Edge of Ice" - Best of Festival, a powerful film about arctic culture, flora and fauna produced by the National Film Board of Canada; "The Secret Leopard" - Best of Festival-Runner up, a film that documents the life of a leopardess and her cubs in Kenya’s Masai Mara National Reserve made by Richard Matthews; “Northern Wanderers: the George River Caribou” - Best Television Runner-up, a presentation on the effect of the James Bay Power Project in Quebec on caribou herds produces by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; and “Meerkats United” - Best Television Runner-up, a British Broadcasting Corporation film portraying the interesting ecology and social structure of these small mongooses of the African Desert.

Highlighted events during the Festival included a producer/filmmaker forum, a music-in-wildlife-films presentation, a night filming workshop, an amateur filmmakers’ workshop, a workshop on making wildlife films for children, and a low cost media technology workshop. Coordinated the the IWFF this year was the Wildlife International, a series of symposia and panels designed to address natural resource media problems in less developed countries and native American/native Canadian cultures. This included a 3rd world/4th world media symposium, a Native American/Native Canadian Natural Resource Media Symposium, and the Small World Festival, an event organized by the EVST Advocates. Several other groups, such as the Kiy-Yo Club and the International Students Association, also coordinated events with the IWFF during Festival Week. All in all, the 10th IWFF was a huge undertaking and the IWFF committee would like to thank all of the campus and community people, and organizations who helped make it a reality, in addition to the public for their continuing support.

Norm Bourg  Student Director
10th Annual International Wildlife Film Festival
photo by Karen Nichols
SPRING CAMP


After a year’s absence, 24 forestry students with varying degrees of sanity are back in the old logging camp cabins of Lubrecht. Calk marks on the floor, poems penciled on the walls remind us that we are just one of many groups who came through here and found a remnant of true education. The forest teaches. Here, finally, we could apply what we have learned, said Nellie, Bob and Hank. Work with it. Learn from it.

Two dozen people, freed from the inhibitions that even a small town and moderate-sized campus creates, were able to relax a bit up here. Some more than others. We found out who the true madmen are. Chainsaw-wielding maniacs coexist with gopher-control technicians, fraternity men, Christians, environmentalists, a rugby player and even a nut who likes to jump out of airplanes. Hank regrets the day he OKed dogs at camp. Eight dogs and eight puppies provided a vocal, energetic addition to the atmosphere. They even participated in most labs. How ya doin’?

Hopefully, next year will see another group of people up here. It is hard to believe that some people are actually opposed to spring camp. Forestry is supposed to be an art as well as a science and becoming adept at an art required practice. Cruising, surveying and ecology cannot be learned solely from textbooks. We will not graduate into cushy desk jobs where we can make our decisions through theoretical computer models. This is Montana. We will be in the field. Part of Spring Camp’s role is to give people a feeling for how the actual work is done, how a crew operates. How to observe and piece together the events that made and will make a forest. It’s also a good opportunity to have fun and drink some beer. People will have to communicate and work hard to keep camp alive. It’s worth the effort.

Tom Parker
Spring Camp ’87

Campers:

Todd Beliel   Wendy ‘Speedum’ Wedum
Craig ‘Limea’ Blubaugh   Keith Pereira
Lolene Little   Dan Rassmussen
Rick ‘Ranger Rick’ Connell   Eric Ross
Lori Rendel   Dave ‘How ya doin’ Ross
Steve ‘Dibi’ Dybdal   Pat Schiemer
Coco ‘Borealis’ Riker   Bruce Shultz
Chris Hathaway   John ‘Shrub’ Walters
Kim Sherwood   Steve French
Kevin ‘Coon-ran’ Conran   Tom Parker
Tim ‘Conkhead’ Gerhardstein
Nick ‘Drooping Leader’ Jose
Peggy ‘Peppermint’ Wiltse
Leigh ‘Range Duke’ Redick
SENIOR TRIP

At Saturday May 2nd 1987, "Moose Turd" and "Red Baron" departed on the annual senior trip. The 11 students and Dr. Burke enjoyed the 6 day trip to the west coast. Not only did we learn about forestry on the coast but we also had an unforgottably great time.

Some of the things we saw and areas we visited included Seattle, the Olympic Peninsula, Quinault Rain Forest, the Pacific Ocean, Simpson Timber Company, 3 seed orchards, a "pole" harvesting operation, aerial herbicide spraying operation, numerous doug fir plantations, Mount St. Helens, the Olympic Brewery, Summit timber Company's new computerized saw mill, several cable logging shows, the North Cascade Highway, Twisp Smokejumpers Base and the Grand Coulee Dam.

Miscese Butler
Member, Senior Class Trip, 1987

COMMENTS ON THE TRIP

"C.B. singing is an art."—Mike White

"The highlight of the entire trip was the Mullen Stump National Monument."—Miscese Butler

"Too many seed orchards." “Computer-ized logging is where it’s at.”—Rory Laws

"The trip was great and so were the accomidations. But there were those two guys in my room that giggled all night."—Kenn Rich

Senior Trip 1987:
Miscese Butler, Mary Mindrup, Rory Laws, Lisa Heiser, Scott McGhee, Sue Gethen, Mike White, Sarah Snyder, Eric Eggen, Paul Kain, Kenn Rich, Ed Burke

PlumCreek Timber Company
SRM CONVENTION

A few members of the U of M Range Club went to the annual Society for Range Management meeting held in Boise, Idaho this year. One of the members, Brad McBratney, made two presentations at the Vegitational Rehabilitation Equipment Workshop held during the three days prior to the SRM meeting. Brad is involved with the Missoula Equipment Development Center in developing a publication about vegitational rehabilitation equipment. Several of the VREW meetings were attended by the club members who came away with a new perspective on related branches of range management.

The SRM meeting started with a large opening ceremony in which several panel members voiced their opinions on the state of range management and the problems they felt needed immediate attention. While conflicting views were expressed, the proceedings were informative and civil. The rest of the week was devoted to paper presentations by various students and researchers from around the country. Topics ranged from technical, biological aspects to various management practices.

The annual banquet was hosted and entertained by local Basques who served a fine meal and dance representative of their native culture.

Friday following the meeting, a tour of the Snake River Birds of Prey sanctuary was conducted. The entire week was exciting and informative for the Range Club members who are looking forward to next year's meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Becky Greenwood
Range Club Vice President

Connie's

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5:30-7:30

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BOB STEELE DAY

Bob Steele was inspired by McDowell Day and felt the experience of ranch life would be beneficial for all. It all began back in 1982 when the first crew arrived on his doorstep. With the same eager and anxious attitude we still have today, they arrived at his doorstep and set off to pick rocks out of the pasture. Well you know how we are! One thing led to another and before they knew it, they were throwing rocks at each other. Oh ya, we’re all such little kids! Well the fun ceased when someone threw a rock through the window of a borrowed pick-up.

Yes, you may think the purpose of Bob Steele Day is to have fun, but that’s because it is. However, expect to put in a good days work. Fences are a necessity on a ranch and be assured that there is always another fence which needs to be replaced. That’s our job and a job well done indeed. For those who missed B. S. Day, ha ha, you missed a great time!

With the shimmering hot sun blazing above

| I remember a place          | The fish are happy          |
| Full of beauty and peace    | And jump in the air         |
| The water flowed            | Catching insects            |
| Unimpeded and smooth        | They see so clear           |

| I remember a time           | Yesterday I returned       |
| So natural and free         | To the place I love        |
| Completely relaxed          | Only to find               |
| To enjoy the peace          | It was no longer mine      |

| The river’s clean            | No longer a place          |
| And sediment free           | Of beauty and peace        |
| Clean to the bottom         | Murky and muddy            |
| For my eyes to see          | Dirty not clean            |

Andy Tuller
1987 Bob Steele Day

The fish are happy
And jump in the air
Catching insects
They see so clear

Yesterday I returned
To the place I love
Only to find
It was no longer mine

No longer a place
Of beauty and peace
Murky and muddy
Dirty not clean

by Andrew Tuller
RANGE ABER DAY

maintaining the Melvin S. Morris Memorial Garden
FSA ABER DAY

painting those old Michigan Wheels
A.W.F.C. Conclave '87 found us at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. UM was represented by 9 1/2 people: Ken Hirst, Paul Kain, Nick Jose, Kevin Harmon, Steve French, Bruce Schultz, Rob Jensen, Wendy Wedum, Louis Hartjes & Sue Gethen. During the week we had tours of Weyerhauser and Philomath Mills, Tillamook Beach, Cyclocrane, Cheese Factory and the World Forestry Center in Portland.

Friday and Saturday was the Logger Sports Competition. Um made a pretty fair showing and the strong competitors in the meet were:

- Louis Hartjes - 2nd Pole Climb
- Lou and Paul Kain - 2nd Mens Double Buck
- Lou and Wendy Wedum - 3rd Jack & Jill
- Wendy - 1st Caber Toss
- Ken Hirst - 2nd Burling

Seven and one-half people competed and I think we ended up in third place overall. Humboldt State U., with 33 people, took first place, Bulls and Bells of the Woods. Not like last year when our own Lou Hartjes was Bull of the Woods at Humbolt's conclave. At the Awards Banquet after the meet, we learned a few new things:

1. The grizzly bear isn't the most dangerous animal in Montana.
2. OSU should be changed to OSM - Oregon State Monastery.

Other colleges present were Cal Poly, Sierra, College of the Redwoods, Northern Arizona and Washington State.

For a new twist, credit was offered to those who went to Conclave. A survey was made up and students attending Conclave from other schools were asked:

- What school they went to.
- Why they came to Conclave - social or academic.
- What they'd like to see at the next Conclave.

This is only a sample of the questions asked. Incidentally, we may be holding Conclave at University of Montana next year.

On the way home, many friendships were made and/or broken due to the fact we were packed like sardines in the van. I MAZDA admit, all in all, Conclave '87 was a good time.

Wendy Wedum
Conclave '87
This year, several students from the School of Forestry were very active in school politics.
Wolves were exterminated from the entire Western United States over a 50 year period (approximately 1880 - 1930). Glacier National Park (GNP), and the entire West, were without wolves for another 50 years (1930-1980). The recent arrival of wolves in GNP marks the beginning of a new era in the ecology of Western wildlands. This major predator has been absent as an ecological influence on ungulate populations for well over 50 years. The Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE) has a very rich and diverse ungulate fauna, including elk, moose, whitetailed deer, mountain goats and bighorn sheep. Virtually all of the major ungulate species found in North America occur here. We have a unique opportunity to study prey selection, and to monitor how prey selection changes over time, as initial prey species become harder to find or their behavioral response to wolves changes. As wolf recovery occurs, there will be shifts in the entire ecosystem, and these shifts should be monitored closely, not only for their scientific value, but because they are critical to management decisions in the future.

The Wolf Ecology Project (WEP), School of Forestry, University of Montana, has been monitoring wolf recovery in Montana since 1973. The first documented wolf reproduction occurred just north of the U.S. border in 1982, when a liter of seven pups was born. Additional litters in 1984 and 1985, also just north of the border, brought the winter 1986 population to 15-20 wolves. In November 1985, a pack of 12 wolves moved down into GNP and stayed through the winter. Their 1986 den site is located within the Park and five pups were seen in early July. Thus, the first documented wolf pups were born in the Western U.S. in over 50 years.

Besides monitoring recovery in GNP, we will also have an outstanding opportunity to learn more about the role of dispersal in wolves leaving the park area and traveling to other wildlands or to agricultural lands outside the Park. Studying natural wolf recovery in GNP will provide badly needed information for sound management as well as essential biological information before recovery occurs in other Western national parks.

Reintroduction of wolves has been suggested in Olympic National Park, in Rocky Mountain National Park and in Yellowstone National Park. It is biologically feasible in all three areas, but each will undoubtedly be decided on a sociopolitical basis. Now, however, with natural recovery just beginning in GNP, we have a splendid opportunity to collect information on wolf ecology that can be applied to other Western national parks, perhaps before reintroduction is attempted.

Bob Ream
Professor, Wildlife Biology
Head of the Wolf Ecology Project

following page-
The Great White Wolf
of Stanford, Montana
one of the last wolves
killed in the state (1933)
The idea behind growing the plants in cultivated gardens is that we would be able to apply cover in the winter, moderate the cold during flowering and irrigate to counteract summer drought. All of this should work well, but we do not yet know how well the plants will grow in the wide array of garden soils at low elevations where most of the private land occurs. In particular, we do not know if the tart flavor of the huckleberry that grows at high elevations with cool nights during the summer can be duplicated at lower elevations where summer nights are much warmer. To attempt to answer these questions, we have established 20 field plantings of huckleberry seedlings at low elevations on a wide variety of soils. This summer will be their first growth season in the field.

No one knows what will happen to the cultivated plantings, but one thing is certain: the wild fields will decline in production over a 25 to 30 year period. To counteract this predicted decline, we have set up field tests at high elevations where huckleberry production is hampered by the growth of brush. These plots have been treated with herbicide painted into the cut stems of competing brush, fertilizers, and other amendments to see if a declining berry field can be rejuvenated. After all, we want some huckleberries left in the wild for your sons and daughters when they come here to the Forestry School!

Research by Nellie Stark, Steve Baker and Don Essig is designed to find out if the wild huckleberry from the mountains of Montana can be grown in private gardens and still maintain its quality and flavor. Huckleberry chocolates, preserves, pie filling, and fudge are products that are already helping the state's economy, but this new industry is plagued by unpredictable crops. The last two years have produced poor crops at low elevations and in many areas at high elevations as well. The result is many thousands fewer gallons available to the industry and local freezers than usual. The prospects for 1987 are not bright either because shallow snowpacks at low elevations allow the tops of plants to stick above the snow during the winter. It is the tender new growth at the top of the twigs from last year that will bear this year's fruit. If these twigs become dessicated, then there will not be a fruit crop. Frosts and snow during the May flowering period and summer drought can also ruin the berry crop.
So by now you are wondering why any sane forester would want to grow huckleberries instead of trees. If you think about it, the answer is in economics. Trees are expensive to cut and process. They grow relatively slowly, with usually only one harvest per human lifetime. The stumpage value tends to be low and hauling costs are high, especially for Montana. Huckleberries, under the right conditions will produce a crop at least one out of two years. A prime field in a good year can produce about 900 kg/ha/yr, as a conservative estimate. That would mean approximately 290 gallons (1100 liters) at a minimum of $10 per gallon, yielding $2900 per hectare every two years. That is a lot of pie! The earnings from berry products is at least ten fold higher. Wherever you go, remember the huckleberry!

Nellie Stark
Professor, Forest Ecology
An Arctic Ecology Field Trip is offered each year by the School of Forestry and Continuing Education. The course (For 399, 2 credits) is given in cooperation with the Salish-Kootenai Community College, Pablo, Montana. It is taught by Dr. Charles Jonkel, School of Forestry, an expert on the Arctic and the Northern Boreal Forest.

The course is unique in many ways. For example, much of it is taught “out the window” during a slow train ride to Churchill on CN’s “Polar Bear Express”, a passenger line that goes north twice a week from Winnipeg. The train doesn’t go “express”; it sometimes stops at rivers or lakes to let out or take on board Indian trappers; it will wait for you while you park your car. Dogs line up and watch at each small town; a trainman may take a fancy to you and stop the train on the Nelson River Trestle to show you the sights.

It is a comfortable, 24 hour train ride from The Pas, Manitoba, to Churchill; the train goes slow enough to study the forest and tundra, identify tracks, and see wildlife right out the window. On board, students group into seats to hear lectures, watch films and slides at night, and even conduct projects on the other passengers on the train.

The course covers a total mix of topics on people, the land, animals, habitat, local cultures, land forms, and the impacts of humans on the environment. It includes a stop at the Provincial Museum in Medicine Hat, and includes studies of the Hudson Bay/Mississippi Divide area, the northern pot hole country, and the northernmost Great Plains.

In the past, trips (2 so far) have always gone at “the peak” of the polar bear season (early November)— in 1987 a September trip is planned when fewer bears, but lots of other things, can be seen. You can always split a plane or helicopter charter, too, and go see 50 to 100 polar bears in one hour, on either trip.

Once in Churchill, the course switches to field trips out onto the tundra, into the Taiga and boreal forest, “beach combing”, and out onto the sea ice. Animals you may see include polar bears, seals, gyr falcons, ptarmigan, Arctic foxes, wolves and caribou. (During the September trip, one would see fewer bears, but literally hundreds of thousands of waterfowl streaming south, whales in Churchill River, arctic tundra flowers and ripe berries in profusion.)

A lecture at Keewatin Community College by provincial wildlife officials, Parks Canada programs in Churchill, and a visit to the Arctic Eco-Physiology Lab are all part of the trip. Meeting with local native peoples, a local sportsmen’s group, and high school science students are part of the course. A full day in the Eskimo Museum and local craft shops is an extremely interesting sidelight, packed with cultural impacts, history, primitive customs, and cultural interfaces.

You get very cold at times, very tired, wet when you flop down to look down a seal hole, and have to work hard to keep the costs down, but you will come back a different person. This course literally changes peoples lives!

In 1986, the group saw about 200 caribou and about 15 polar bears (some people got “treed” up a tower by a polar bear), and several people
got free trips out to Cape Churchill to visit the bear research site. Day trips on the "Tundra Buggy" are interesting, but costly.

Total costs for the course have been less than $300 for 9 days. A similar trip from the University of Minnesota costs nearly $1100 for fewer days. Our secret is that we are able to use the Churchill Northern Studies Center, and we take and cook our own food. Nonetheless, 1987 costs will be higher to help cover instructor fees which were donated in the past.

Charles Jonkel
Professor, Wildlife Biology
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Kaimin Staff: Carl Rohr, Aaron Aylsworth, Andy Tuller
Dan Wichman, Lori Ruffing, Chris Landstrom

not pictured: Steve French, Kerrie Becket
THANK YOU

The staff of the Forestry Kaimin 1987 thanks those businesses that had the faith to place advertisements in this journal, and thus helped rejuvenate the tradition.

The staff also expresses deep appreciation and gratitude for the efforts and contributions of Ken Green and the Montana Forestry Alumni Association in making this yearbook possible.

The staff also gives a big "THANK YOU" to Pat Murphy for her time and energy that she contributed towards this project.