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Main Hall to Main St.

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Connecting Campus and Community

August 2001

Dashing debut Former Griz great lifts Chargers to NFL win

Three former University of Montana football stars met on the national stage Aug. 12 when the San Diego Chargers and San Francisco 49ers faced off in an NFL preseason match.

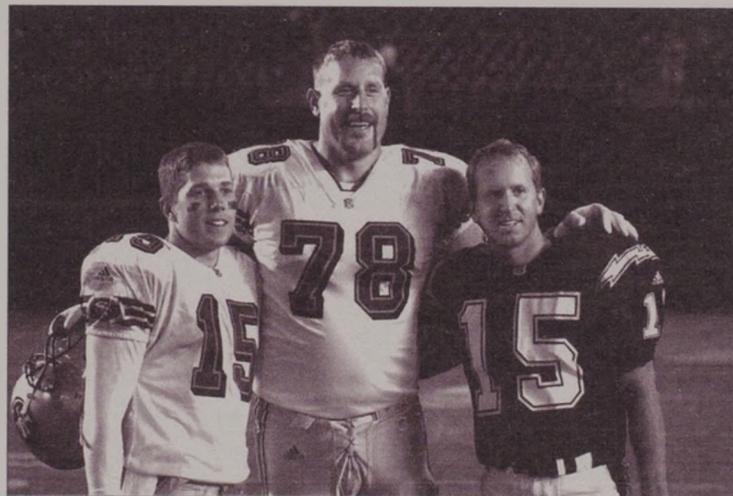
Receiver Jimmy Farris and lineman Scott Gragg suited up for the Niners, but San Diego quarterback Dave Dickenson stole the show — as UM and Canadian Football League fans have seen him do so many times before — by rallying the Chargers for a late-game victory.

In his NFL debut, Dickenson jogged onto the field with 3:59 left to play and his team trailing by seven points. He proceeded to drive the Chargers 54 yards in 10 memorable plays for the win. The drive was capped with a 3-yard scoring pass to DeRonnie Pitts that cut the lead to 24-23. When the Chargers went for the 2-point conversion, Dickenson dropped back and, just before getting laid out, fired a winning pass to Patrick Batteaux.

Gragg, Dickenson's teammate during 1992-94, knew the contest wasn't over when Dickenson came out for the final drive.

"I don't like being on the other side of that," he stated in the *Missoulian*. "I've been in the huddle knowing that we were going to win the game when we were down a touchdown because he's in there."

For the game, Dickenson completed 17 of 27 passes for 192 yards, no interceptions and one touchdown. He started slow, gaining just 5 passing yards in the second quarter, but he finished



Former UM football standouts (left to right) Jimmy Farris, Scott Gragg and Dave Dickenson pose for a photo following an Aug. 12 NFL contest in San Diego. (Photo courtesy of the *Missoulian*)

by going 10 of 14 for 119 yards in the fourth.

Though he won the game, Dickenson's future with the Chargers isn't certain. The No. 1 unit with quarterback Doug Flutie looked sharp, and second-round draft pick Drew Brees will likely be Flutie's backup. But after the game Dickenson said, "This was a good start."

If he makes the team, Dickenson will join his brother, Craig, a Chargers assistant coach who helps with the offense and special teams. Craig Dickenson was on UM's coaching staff during 1993-98.

During the game Farris caught one pass for the Niners, a 19-yard strike from backup quarterback Rick Mirer in the second quarter.

Dave Dickenson didn't play in the Chargers' next preseason game, an Aug. 18 contest against the Miami Dolphins, but Brees was 15-24 for 194 yards and a touchdown.

Excellence Fund to create more student scholarships

When the Missoula Business Drive for Excellence kicks off on Sept. 22, the local business and professional community will be asked to increase its 2000 gifts for academic programs at UM and earmark the additional amount for student scholarships.

"Missoulians have generously contributed when asked for an Excellence Fund gift, but this year we're asking them to make a larger gift so that we can increase the number of scholarships provided by the Excellence Fund," said chair Carol S. Williams, who works for Missoula's Worden, Thane & Haines PC.

Last year 15 scholarships were awarded,

including seven designated for graduates of each local high school. "Scholarships are a wonderful recruiting tool that helps UM attract and retain talented students," she said. "Through our efforts, we hope UM will be able to award more Excellence Fund scholarships."

Williams heads a team of 100 volunteers who will contact more than 1,000 colleagues during an eight-week period this fall asking support for the University. The Business Drive, started in 1978 to forge partnerships between "town and gown" and provide funding for academic areas that give UM its margin of excellence, raised \$362,000 last year.

The drive provides funding for UM's

academic priorities. Although these vary from year to year, UM President George Dennison typically has designated priorities such as annually funded scholarships, faculty and staff development, outreach efforts and pre-professional activities for students. The Excellence Fund does not pay salaries, buy office supplies or fund building construction.

While the main thrust of the Missoula Business Drive begins at a tailgate party preceding the UM-Western Washington University football game on Sept. 22, solicitation of Pacesetters, those who contribute at least \$1,500 before the drive's official kickoff, has begun already.

New Way to Pay—UM is implementing a new pay and classification system this fall titled MAP — the Montana University System Achievement Project. The wide-ranging MAP plan will involve more adherence to institutional missions, goal setting and two-way communication between supervisors and employees. The plan also should make it easier for administrators to reward high-achieving staff members with raises, lump-sum bonuses and other compensation. Representatives of Human Resource Services are now meeting with all UM departments to begin implementing MAP, and all MUS campuses will eventually adopt the new system.

No Dumb Jocks—UM student athletes turned in academic performances during spring semester 2001 that were well above average. Compared with other UM undergraduates, athletes earned higher grade-point averages for the semester, maintained a higher cumulative GPA, took more credits, had a greater percentage of students on the Dean's List, and had a lower percentage of students with GPAs below 2.0 or on academic probation. All the women's teams had average GPAs higher than 3.0, with the women's golf team leading the pack at 3.25. The football team topped the list for UM's men's teams with a 2.85 average GPA.

Stuff Galore—It's time again to clear out all those unwanted items you just can't throw in the trash and join vendors at UM on Saturday, Sept. 8, for "The World's Largest Garage Sale." The event will be held in both levels of UM's covered parking garage from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For \$15 vendors will get two parking spaces, each 9 feet by 18 feet. Additional spaces are available for \$10 each. The biannual sale is a fund-raiser for UM Advocates, a campus service organization.



Literary Woman—Kate Gadow, adjunct associate professor of English and director of UM's nationally ranked Creative Writing Program, won Sarabande Books' 2001 Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction for her novel, "Pushed to Shore." The prize includes a publishing contract, and the novel will be included in the company's 2002-2003 listings. "Pushed to Shore" is based on Gadow's 1983 experience teaching classes for Hmong and Vietnamese refugees who came to Missoula in the first immigration after the Vietnam War.

Literary Event—Missoula will celebrate authors, literature and the writer's craft Sept. 6-8 during the second Montana Festival of the Book. The three-day event will bring together more than 80 regional writers for readings, panels, exhibits, demonstrations, book signings and much more. Most events are free and open to the public. For a schedule, visit the festival Web site at www.bookfest-mt.org or call coordinator Kim Anderson at (406) 243-6022 or (800) 624-6001. University Relations will host a children's book drive in conjunction with the festival. If you would like to donate children's books, call Bridgit Sommer, UM outreach coordinator, at 243-2488.

Money Man—A wealth of experience in higher education and government fiscal management has landed Robert Durringer of Maine the job of UM chief financial and administrative officer.

Durringer has been vice president for finance and administration at the University of Maine since 1998. Before that he was director of business affairs at Oregon State University and chief financial officer for the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky. He holds a master's in business administration from Indiana State University. His UM job begins Sept. 10.

Music Maestro—Gary Funk, UM associate professor of music, will join the Helena Symphony staff next season as chorale director. He will replace his brother, Eric Funk, who will work solely with the orchestra. Gary Funk has directed choral activities at UM for six years. In addition to conducting choirs and teaching choral courses, he directs the Vienna Experience, a semester-abroad program for UM students to live and study in Vienna, Austria. He also is a composer and arranger, and his latest work, "Requiem for Native America," premiered at UM in December 2000. Funk will continue with his normal class load at UM.

Take to the Sky—One of the best-kept secrets on the UM campus is the Grizzly Sky Club, located high in the Adams Center overlooking Dahlberg Arena. During football season, anyone interested in seeing the Sky Club is invited to stop in for coffee, soft drinks and cocktails during or after the game and pick up details about a Sky Club membership. Or make the Sky Club your home away from home when the Griz are on the road. Call for details and a reservation to attend an Away Game Telecast Buffet. It's a feast to appease a Grizzly, and, with seven screens, everyone has a great seat. The buffet costs \$25 per person and provides an ideal opportunity to experience the Sky Club. Call Mary Muse at 243-4261 to make a reservation.

Fall Orientation and Registration—**Aug. 30-31**, call UM Admissions and New Student Services at (800) 462-8636 for more information.

State of the University Address—**Aug. 30**, by UM President George Dennison, 10 a.m., Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center, Montana Theatre.

Welcomefest '01—**Aug. 31-Sept. 1**, employees and the public help students move into dorm rooms, noon-8 p.m. Call 243-6266 for information or to volunteer. Volunteers who commit one hour will receive a free Welcomefest T-shirt and meal at the Food Zoo.

Holiday—**Sept. 3**, Labor Day, UM offices closed.

UM Calendar

Parade forms available—**Sept. 3**, theme is "2001 — A Homecoming Odyssey." Call 243-5211 for information. \$15 entry fee. Application deadline is Oct. 5. Homecoming parade is Oct. 13 at 10 a.m.

Instruction begins—**Sept. 4**

Art exhibit—**Sept. 4-28**, "Relics/Doll's Anatomy," recent media works by artist Kelly E. Hart, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon.-Fri., University Center Gallery. Free.

Moonlight Mix 'n Mingle—**Sept. 4**, dinner from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., students can use meal plans, community can attend, \$5.95 or \$3.95 for children, Mansfield Library Mall. From 7 p.m. to midnight, '80s

music by Cool-Ade, dancing, karaoke and prizes. Call 243-6189 for information.

Concert—**Sept. 4**, The David Crisman Quintet, acoustic "Dawg" music, 8 p.m., University Theatre. Call (888) MONTANA.

Faculty and Guest Artist Series—**Sept. 7**, flutist Maggie Schuberg, 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall. Tickets \$6/general, \$4/ students and senior citizens.

President's Lecture Series—**Sept. 13**, "China's Strategic Role in the Twenty-First Century" by Robert S. Ross, Boston College, 8 p.m., Montana Theatre. Free.

Stargazing—**Sept. 14**, open house at UM's Blue Mountain Observatory, weather permitting. Observing begins about an hour after sunset. Call 243-4299 to confirm.



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