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2007-2008

A season of many firsts:



- New building
- New technology
- New dean
- New faculty

Dean Peggy Kuhr notes beginning of a new era

3

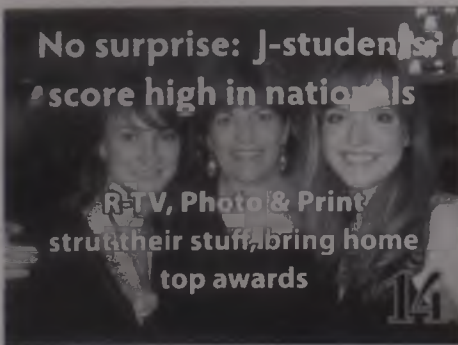
**REZNET**  
REPORTING FROM NATIVE AMERICA

Online site provides unique news & features—and helps train Native journalists for news media jobs

[www.reznetnews.org](http://www.reznetnews.org)

7

No surprise: J-students score high in nationals



R-TV, Photo & Print strut their stuff, bring home top awards

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## Anderson Hall gets totally wired with \$1 million in new technology

Wiring and cables for the J-School's new technology run through Anderson Hall's five floors, hooking up computers from the basement classrooms all the way up to the faculty's computers on the fourth floor. On the first and third floors, television and audio suites allow R-TV students access to state-of-the-art equipment.

"We have increased sevenfold the amount of hardware and software we had," photojournalism Professor Keith Graham said.

For the print and photo program the school purchased new digital still cameras, digital video cameras, tripods and audio/video kits and a light kit.

In all, technology costs topped \$1 million. "What is really exciting is that all this new technology is seeping into the curriculum," Graham said.

In the fall students will be offered a

"Reporting Across the Media" class in which, once again, print, photo and R-TV students are together for a sophomore reporting class. Reporting for print, broadcast and online will be taught by both print and R-TV professors.

Over the last year the professors and students quickly appreciated even the small pleasures the new technology provided, Graham said. All classrooms are electronic rooms.

"You push a button and those wonderful blinds go down and the room is dark," he said. "That's a huge difference from the old building." And it doesn't stop there. "If you need to show Final Cut Pro, you can show Final Cut Pro. If you need to do Photoshop, if you need to do Illustrator, if you need to show a multimedia piece from the Internet — you can do that," Graham said. "It is

See **WIRED**, page 2

## R-TV's 50th anniversary all-class reunion date set for Homecoming

University of Montana radio and television students have called every corner of campus home in the past 50 years, but now the department is settled in Don Anderson Hall and ready to throw a big party for all its alumni.

The R-TV Department is planning an all-year reunion for Homecoming weekend, Sept. 19 and 20. Alumni from across the decades are asked to return to Missoula to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the R-TV Department as an official part of the University of Montana School of Journalism.

The past five decades have seen R-TV housed in an old gymnasium and

crammed into the little house on Eddy Avenue. Now, faculty, staff and current students want to introduce alumni to their new, high-tech home in Don Anderson Hall.

Christine Tutty, a 2005 R-TV grad, is heading up organization efforts for the reunion. She said tours of Don Anderson Hall will be part of the events.

"Ninety percent of the people coming haven't seen it yet," Tutty said.

Homecoming weekend is scheduled to start with an R-TV reception on Friday, Sept. 19, the day before the homecoming football game. On Saturday, the group

See **R/TV reunion**, page 2

## R-TV reunion

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will have a float in the homecoming parade, tickets available for alumni to the football game and tours of the new Don Anderson Hall. Invitations to the reunion events were sent to more than 600 alumni and friends.

Tutty and a committee made up of alums from each decade are planning the events.

R-TV Chairman Ray Ekness said it's rare to find a station in the Big Sky state where a UM grad isn't working.

"I think the R-TV department has done a lot for broadcasting in Montana," Ekness said.

R-TV graduates have moved up to national markets as well, like Emmy Award winner Shane Bishop, a producer on NBC's *Dateline*, and CBS News' "Up To The Minute" anchor Meg Oliver.

"We're a small group and very tight-knit," he said. "It will be the perfect opportunity to show the new facility and for (alumni) to get back in touch with the school."

For more information, contact Christine at [rtv.reunion@gmail.com](mailto:rtv.reunion@gmail.com).

—Whitney Bernes

## Blessing opens Native American room



Crow tribal leader Scott Russell burns sweetgrass in blessing ceremony last October.

As participants looked toward the East, a prayer in traditional Crow language marked the blessing of the School of Journalism's Native American room in Don Anderson Hall in October.

A sweet scent filled the room as Scott Russell, secretary of Montana's Crow Tribe, closed the ceremony by lighting a braided strand of ceremonial sweetgrass.

"We all pray to the same creator," Russell said. "We just have different ways of expressing that. This culture is so rich and [the center] shows appreciation for the first Montanans. For too long the perception has been negative."

Russell said he hopes the blessing will help people bring positive energy to the room and leave with new knowledge.

In the last academic year, 527 Native

American students attended the University of Montana. Dean Peggy Kuhr hopes that the meeting room will provide a welcoming and respectful atmosphere.

"I think it's important for us, in the West, to understand the origin of the land and the people," Kuhr said.

The Native American meeting room is used for the J-School's Native News Honors class, other classes and meetings, and *reznet*, a Web site created by Denny McAuliffe, who came to the school in 1999 from *The Washington Post*.

"Until today this has been a Native American center in name only," McAuliffe said. "But now this is a true Native American center because it's been blessed."

—Lina Miller

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## Wired

from page 1

remarkable what it does for discussion, for lectures and for critique. The technology is terrific."

Major technological strides were made in the school's R-TV Department. The biggest changes are that R-TV has its own control room and own studios, said Department Chair Ray Ekness. "In the past we shared them with KUFM." With it comes a changeover from an analog system to a digital system.

"We have a building with projectors, and computers that can be on the projectors, and document cameras, and audio and video — we have never had that," Ekness said.

For a professor, the new technology is invaluable, he said. "I can actually

show students how to edit on a screen without having to be behind them telling them where to click," he said. "And I can quickly move things around to show them how a story can be told a little differently with the same footage."

Students also got high-definition cameras to take into the field to gather and shoot news.

The money came from private donors, the University and a \$450,000 allocation from the Board of Regents and Commissioner of Higher Education, said Dean Peggy Kuhr.

"I think you are going to see broadcast students doing internships at newspapers, and newspaper print kids taking broadcast internships, or photo kids doing news photography at TV stations. Or they'll all be working for Web sites," Ekness said. "The world is waiting for us."

—Karen Plant



## Dear Friends,

This has been a year of wonderful firsts for the J-School:

Our first year in the new building, Don Anderson Hall.

The first time all our photojournalism students used digital cameras instead of film.

The first time our broadcast students had all-digital equipment and didn't have to run from one building to another to produce their TV packages.

The first time we trained all our faculty, many of our graduate students and print seniors in how to shoot video, capture audio, and edit a story to post on a web site.

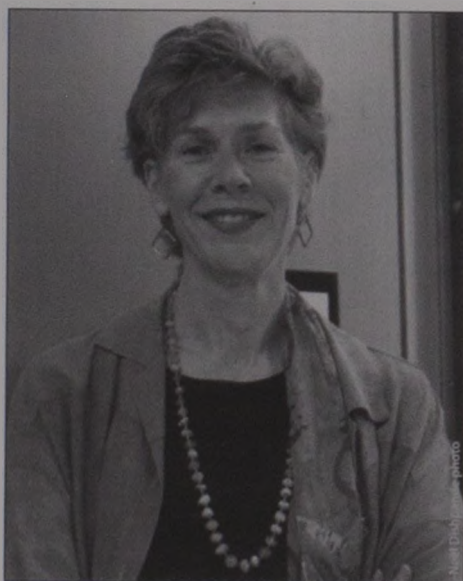
The first time our faculty – and our students – were all under one roof.

And the first year for a new dean and two new faculty members, Nadia White and Ray Fanning.

It was a year when patience was more than a virtue, it was a necessity. Students didn't have 24-hour access to computer labs until we figured out what kind of security systems we needed. The broadcast students and faculty had to wait until spring break before their production and newsroom equipment finally was all installed and working – just in time for year-end projects.

It was a year to pay tribute to former Dean Jerry Brown, the Schermer family, the Talbot family, the Pollner family, the Howard family, the Tse family, Lee Enterprises Foundation, the state of Montana and so many of you who helped make this building and its technology a reality.

Our building and the circular Native American Journalism Room on the 3rd floor received a Native American blessing in October when Scott Russell, secretary of the Crow Tribe, came and led the ceremonies. Don Anderson Hall is a stunner. The building won first prize in last year's Craftsmanship Awards, given by the Montana Contractors' Association. And the beloved horseshoe table is with us. It now resides on the 4th floor, about 5 feet shorter, polished up a bit, and pieced back together after being cut apart so workers could remove it from its previous home.



Dean Peggy Kuhr

Amid all the splendor of a new building and new digital technology, the faculty, students and staff are as hard-working as ever. Here's just the most recent evidence: On Thursday, May 15, sometime after 5 p.m., I happened upon a prospective student, his friends and his father who were taking a look around the school. Now this was the week after graduation – when the school year is over, grades have been posted, and summer semester hasn't yet begun. As I showed our visitors around, I realized the building was far from empty. There were students in a photojournalism lab, working on multimedia stories. A broadcast student was in the documentary editing room, polishing his resume tape. Another group of students was coming up the stairs to work on a story.

"Wow," one of our young visitors remarked, "students love journalism so much they're around even when classes are over!"

I couldn't have said it better. Students and faculty are here because they have a passion for journalism. In our remarkable year of "firsts," here are just a few about our students:

In the Society of Professional Journalists Regional Awards, our RTV students took first place in every category they entered – all 10 categories, that is.

Last year's student documentary, "Beyond the Myths: Growing up in Montana," won first place nationally from

the Broadcast Education Association. The documentary also won first place in the national Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Awards.

In the Hearst print journalism awards, we were in first place nationally for the first three competitions of the year. We ended the year in 7th place. That's out of 108 accredited undergraduate journalism schools.

A UM print student is the winner of one of eight scholarships awarded by the NCAA and the Freedom Forum for sports writers – a first for a UM student.

And, one of our photojournalism students came back with the top honors in last fall's prestigious Eddie Adams Workshop.

For me, coming back to my alma mater as dean has been a special privilege. What brought me back – and what brings faculty, students and staff here – is the fact we're a relatively small program with a big mission and proven excellence in every specialized area that we offer. The tradition of excellence and service to the public – and the bonds that students and faculty create here – are powerful and long-lasting.

Our "year of firsts" means we've also been through a year of significant change – which is so appropriate in this era of changing technology and changing news media. What I'm more certain of than ever is that this is the most exciting time to be a journalist. Why? Because the future is so open to interpretation, entrepreneurship, new ideas and leadership, and because the need for news – and the interest in news – is greater than ever.

So, we're embracing the digital present and future; we're honoring the First Amendment, which is posted at the entrance to Don Anderson Hall; we're educating bright, energetic students on the fundamentals of journalism, and giving them the tools and support to invent the journalism of the future.

This pioneering Journalism School, started back in 1914, has entered its next era and we're ready for the ride. Do keep in touch with us!

Peggy Kuhr

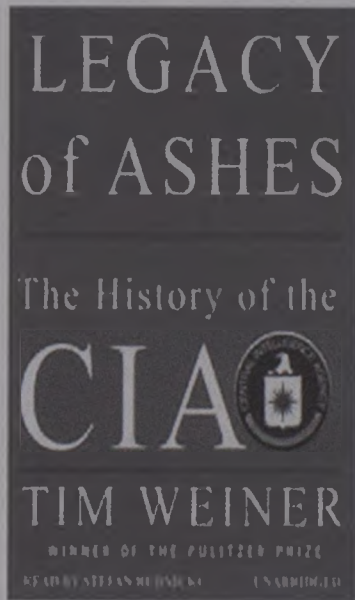
**Dean Stone lecture**

**NY Times Pulitzer Prize winner tracks CIA's controversial record**

Tim Weiner, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter for *The New York Times*, delivered this year's Dean Stone Lecture, titled "Can the CIA Get it Right?"

For the past 20 years, Weiner covered the CIA and traveled to 18 nations, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sudan, Liberia, Cuba, Haiti and the Philippines, in order to report firsthand on covert operations.

Dean Peggy Kuhr said Weiner was picked to speak not only because he is a top reporter with a great reputation, but because he released a book, titled *Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA*, last year and the topic was likely to spark a lot of interest.



The bestselling book, which has won several major awards, including the 2007 National Book Award for Nonfiction, covers the history of the CIA from its creation after World War II, through its battles in the Cold War and the war on terror, to its controversial near-collapse during the aftermath of 9/11.

Weiner spoke to a large crowd April 10 in Urey Lecture Hall. The UM Bookstore also sold close to 100 copies of his book in the weeks surrounding the event.

Weiner's lecture was followed the next evening by the annual Dean Stone banquet, at which the school gave out more than \$100,000 in awards and scholarships.

*Taking it to the streets*

**Prof's, students work on 'innocence' cases**

Professors Clem Work and Dennis Swibold are founding board members of the Montana Innocence Project. It will be directed by J-School graduate and former *Missoula Independent* reporter Jessie Childress McQuillan.

The aim of the project is to examine claims of innocence made by convicted felons and provide legal support when warranted.

Similar to projects in other states, journalism and law students will research and write up cases, providing the foundation for lawyers to argue prisoners' cases.

Journalism students will tackle innocence cases through either an existing class framework, such as Swibold's Investigations class, or through independent study.

State Sen. Dan Weinberg, who is ending his term in the legislature, has agreed to serve as the project's president. Other board members include former U.S. Magistrate Bart Erickson, and attorneys Parker Kelly and Frank Sweeney.

**UM graduate makes a home of former R-TV house**

The house at 730 Eddy, former home of the Radio-Television Department, was jacked up and moved to a new location last fall.

Where scores of students edited video stood a pile of rubble.

The Eddy Avenue house was sold at auction last fall and moved to the Blue Mountain area for a residence.

Mary Morrison and her husband, Nick Baker, a UM grad in photo-journalism, purchased the house for \$2,000 during the second round of bidding. Morrison works with the Rural Institute at UM; Baker works for UM's disability services.

Morrison said she and her husband wanted a larger house and liked the idea of saving one of the university's historic buildings.

"We really like the house," Morrison said. "And we like the idea of recycling and reusing the property."

That sentiment is shared by faculty who occupied the building before the university decided to to sell it.



Once one of the busiest little houses in Missoula, the former R-TV production headquarters at 730 Eddy Ave. was sold at auction and will return to its former role as a family home.

"I was happy that they weren't going to tear it down," said Ray Ekness, chair of the R-TV Department. "Students have great memories of their times there."

To make way for the new Law School expansion, the old R-TV building was sold on the condition that the new owners would pay to move the house to a new area.

Ekness said he will always have fond memories of the building's leaky ceilings, ant infestations, and students working through the night in the basement.

"It was a great time, a great location, a great symbol," Ekness said. "We became a family at 730 Eddy."

—Lina Miller



# Artwork graces walls and halls of new building

Gaze at the art piece in the lobby of Don Anderson Hall long enough, and you will see a paper boy shouting “Extra!”, a picture of the UM clock tower and a ship emblazoned with “Opportunity”—all in the array of obsolete letterpress materials that make up “A Journalist’s Puzzle.”

The collage was created by Lloyd G. Schermer, a former *Missoulian* publisher and Lee Enterprises executive, and a major donor to Anderson Hall. The 5-by-10-foot piece was formed by arranging hundreds of pieces of antique wood and metal type along with other castings from the “hot-type” era. Schermer’s work is only one of many art pieces in the new journalism building.

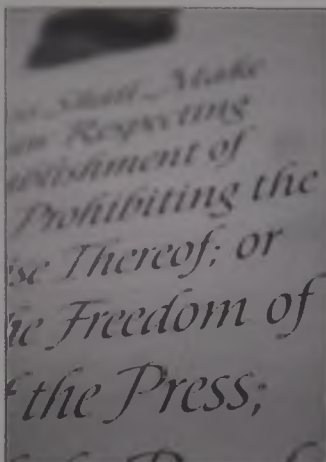
In the entryway, next to the photograph of the building’s namesake, Donald W. Anderson, is a calligraphy print of the First Amendment by local artist Deb Parsons Menke. The print brings with it a sense of nostalgia, since it was moved from the former journalism building to Anderson Hall.

In 2000, Professor Keith Graham asked Menke to make the piece to dress up the old building.

The large letters—as tall as an inch and a half—were not easy to write, Menke said. “At a scale like that, it is a little more difficult,” she said.

Old and new pieces alike can be found on the first floor.

New to the J-School are three 4-foot



1st Amendment poster with calligraphy by Deb Parsons Menke



Pick your favorites from hundreds of antique typefaces in Lloyd Schermer’s classic work.

ceramic steel sculptures by Tim Strom. The sculptures, lining the first floor hallway in the John and Susan Talbot Gallery, are entitled “Line of Sight,” “Line of Duty” and “Line of Fire” and were created by shooting large-caliber, high-powered bullets through clay disks.

Yet the building’s artwork is not confined to the first floor.

Sally Hickman’s “Journey Remembered” acrylic painting, on loan from the Montana Museum of Art & Culture, graces an alcove in the second floor lobby. The J-School art siting committee chose Hickman’s piece with the help of the museum’s curator, Manuela Well-Off-Man. Pieces from the museum’s collection dress up the interior of the building until permanent artwork is installed.

“They knew it would take some time to get the new art work here so they wanted a temporary solution and approached our museum and asked if they could have some artwork on loan from our collection,” Well-Off-Man said.

Well-Off-Man is helping the J-School choose and buy permanent art work.

“Every time there is a new building here on campus or a major renovation, up to one percent of the entire budget will be set aside for purchasing art work,” she said.

But not all of the art is on loan. Some of the pieces are permanent.

Case in point: a 1920s neon-pink News sign hangs outside the Montana Kaimin office on the second floor. The sign, from the *Fairview News* in Montana, which closed in 1984, was donated by Kevin Boehler in memory of his father Virgil, publisher of *The Sidney Herald* and the *Butte Weekly*.

Along the second floor hallway hang several *Montana Kaimin* front pages, one from each decade starting with the 1900s.

Inside the J-School’s second-floor main office hang two Monte Dolack prints in recognition of Dorothy M. Johnson (1905-1984), an author and former member of the J-School faculty. The Montana Press Association and Bert Smith, former editor of the *Whitefish Pilot*, donated the prints to the J-School.

On the third floor, a long line of photographs showcase Halls of Fame for both the Montana Broadcasters Association and the Montana Newspaper Association.

The fourth floor hosts a collection of current senior and graduate students’ photography work. More “on-loan art” brightens the basement hallways.

An art siting committee—professors Keith Graham, Denise Dowling and Carol Van Valkenburg and Dean Peggy Kuhr—helped select permanent artwork. The commissioned pieces should be installed later this year.

—Karen Plant



## Czech-American project discovers Common Ground

Imagine guinea pigs parachuting into the Czech Republic and you may be close to knowing how five J-School students felt last summer as they traveled overseas to compare public perceptions and news coverage about minorities in other countries.

The UM students were hand-picked to team up with five Czech students and cover the Czech Roma and American Indian minorities in their respective countries, former UM J-School Dean Charles Hood said.

"Not a lot of schools have tried anything as bold as this," Hood said. The students didn't know a lot about the cultures beforehand. "It really changed the way they looked at things."

In May 2007, UM students Mary Rizos, Israel Tockman, Sean Breslin, Zach Franz and Ashley McKee traveled to Prague. There, they joined Charles University students Ales Kosina, Marie Novakova, Alice Tejkalova, Vendula Krizova and Martin Brodsky to visit Roma communities and interview experts on minority issues. After three weeks, the project moved to Missoula, where the Czechs and Americans visited Indian reservations and the Montana State Prison and interviewed state officials in Helena.

"Because the project was the first of its kind at the University of Montana, most of us knew we were going to be the guinea pigs for this type of exchange," said McKee, a photo student who graduated last spring. "It stills blows



Ashley and Sean enjoy the sights in Prague.

### Common Ground team meets the news media in Browning



**Back** – Sean Breslin, Zach Franz, Ales Kosina, Alice Tejkalova, Czech Prof. Jan Krecek, Martin Bronsky, Marlene Augare of the *Glacier Reporter*, Prof. Charles Hood. **Front** – Vendula Krizova, Mary Rizos, Ashley McKee, Israel Tockman, Marie Novakova, John McGill of the *Reporter*.

me away I was given such an amazing opportunity as a young journalist," she said. "Because of Prague, I hope to one day go back to Europe and live there for a little while as a journalist."

Co-directors Hood and professor Jan Krecek of Charles University in Prague planned the project, developed the curriculum and accompanied the students. The students had to "parachute into a place they didn't know," learning from each other and on their own. Hood said.

The exchange was Breslin's first trip overseas. "I didn't know what to expect," he said. Breslin found himself resorting to what he called a "crude form of sign language" to communicate in the city of Prague, population 1.2 million. After Breslin wrote a story on Romas in the Czech school system, the director of the school expected to read the entire story before it was published. Breslin said he was able to negotiate with the director and allow him to preview certain facts and figures of the story. Yet the experience left Breslin with an even greater appreciation of Americans' First Amendment rights.

Czech student Vendula Krizova was able to dispel some of her own stereotypes that the "Roma people are stupid and lazy" and that Native Americans live in tepees with fences around reservations, she said by e-mail. Most importantly, Krizova said, "I talked to Roma people about their life experience, which I never did before."

The students' interviews, commentaries, photographs, multimedia items and blogs are posted on their online publication, *Common Ground*. The project can be seen at [www.umjschool.typepad.com/prague07](http://www.umjschool.typepad.com/prague07).

Funding for the Prague trip came from the UM President's Office, the UM Research Office and the J-School. Future exchanges will need off-campus funding from foundations interested in international relations, Hood said.

"This is one area that journalism educators all over the world should be doing more of—to work together and try to understand each other's cultures better," Hood said.

"You can do some pretty good journalism if you approach things with an open mind."



**REZNET**  
REPORTING FROM NATIVE AMERICA

## : more mainstream Native journalists

Last year, out of 57,000 full-time journalists in newsrooms across the country, only 332 were Native American, according to the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

That number doesn't sit well with Denny McAuliffe, so for the last nine years he's been doing something about it. His mission: To attract more Native American journalists to mainstream daily newspapers.

"A newsroom should reflect its community and that isn't the case in Montana," McAuliffe said. "Six percent of its population is Native American."

McAuliffe started Reznet, an online publication for Native Americans by Native Americans, in 2002. In 1999, with the help of *Big Horn County News* on the Crow Reservation, Native students began writing articles for the paper. Eventually McAuliffe got the idea to produce an online publication dedicated to Native Americans across the country.

"I was editing all of the Native student stories and sending them to the paper," McAuliffe said. "I figured, Why don't we use these instead of sending them to another publication."

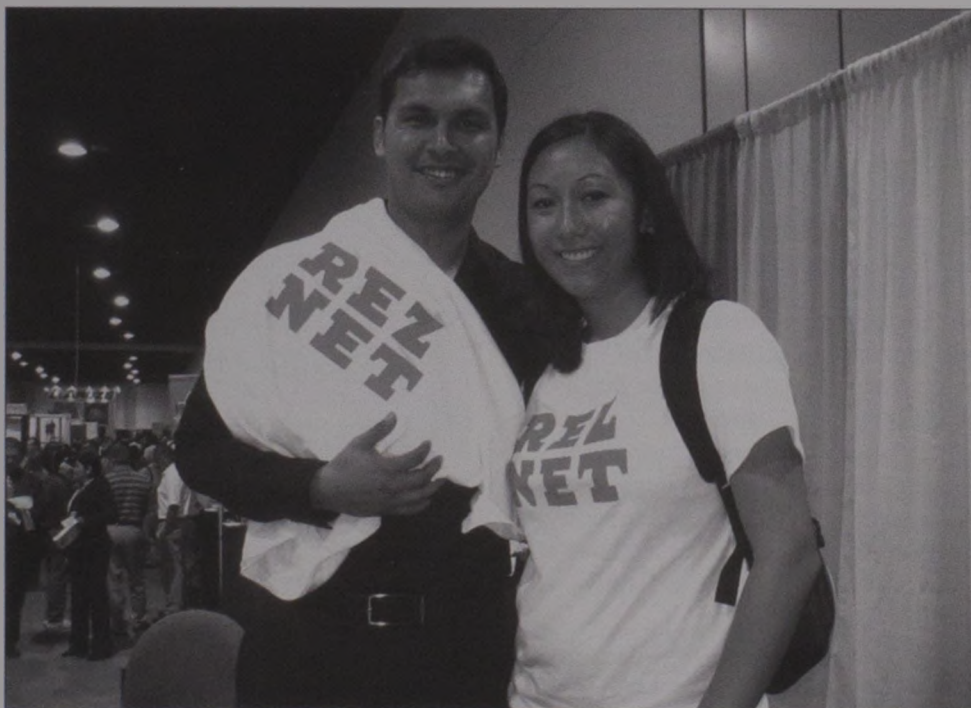
Reznet's staffers are located all over the country. About 27 contributors, belonging to 19 tribes, live in 15 states and attend 16 colleges in 11 states.

McAuliffe, a former *Washington Post* editor, is Reznet's project director. Bill Elsen is career development director and chief copy editor. Steve Chin serves as managing editor out of San Francisco. Three assignment editors are based in Nebraska, Oklahoma and Maryland.

McAuliffe is the only staffer currently working from Missoula, and despite the distance, he insists Reznet is fully capable of running smoothly.

"We use a lot of telephone and e-mail," McAuliffe said. "We have a pretty effective virtual newsroom."

According to McAuliffe, two former Reznetters received internships at *The New York Times* last summer, while one interned at *The Washington Post* and one at *Sports Illustrated*.



Actor Adam Beach shows off his new Reznet T-shirt, presented to him by Tetona Dunlap, right, at the National Indian Gaming Association trade show in San Diego. Dunlap, an Eastern Shoshone, was covering the trade show for Reznet. —Jordan Dresser photo

This summer Reznet journalism students will intern in Denver, Chicago and Boston. In the past, participants have landed training stints in Detroit, Minneapolis, Salt Lake and Arizona, McAuliffe said. "There's been some success."

Reznet was honored at the Society of Professional Journalists' 2005 Mark of Excellence awards as one of the Best All-Around Independent Online Student Publications. In 2003 Reznet won the Native American Journalists Association's Native Media Award for Best Internet News Site.

That success has inspired generous support from prominent sources. Helping fund Reznet are: The Knight Foundation, Gannett Foundation, McCormick Foundation, Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation, the Freedom Forum and the University of Montana.

A Knight Foundation spokesman noted that, "Reznet offers a promising digital media model to reach students at colleges where journalism programs are weak . . . this project is part of our comprehensive funding strategy to

increase journalism training and newsroom diversity, encouraging newsrooms to be more hospitable to new ideas."

"When I started I offered \$50 per story, now it's up \$125 per story and I still have trouble finding people to write for me," McAuliffe said with a laugh.

Finding readers has been much easier. McAuliffe said Reznet is averaging 40,000 page views per month. "Those readers are important," he said. "If not for them, Reznet wouldn't matter."

But Reznet does matter, especially for young Native journalists who use it as a springboard to a career in journalism.

Mary Hudetz, a graduate student at the University of Montana who is finishing her graduate work on the Crow Reservation, said that Reznet and its experienced staff made her a stronger writer.

"Our editors were great," Hudetz said. "Every time I turned in a story I learned something new. My writing got better and better because of the Reznet staff."

—Joe Slemberger

[www.reznetnews.org](http://www.reznetnews.org)



# Historic horseshoe table comes home to Anderson Hall

by Nadia White

Like an elephant, wood never forgets. It may be bent and braced into the functional embrace of a barrel or the level plane of a table, but deep inside, year after year wood remembers it was once a tree.

So it was that when University of Montana carpenters disassembled the legendary rim table at the start of this winter, they unleashed a fir tree that had been pent up for 72 years.

"It started to warp and twist until it decided it had moved far enough, and it stopped," said Art Gayvert, carpentry foreman for the university. "And that's when moving an old table got really, really tough."

The rim table was no ordinary classroom workhorse. A beast of a bench, its 36 feet of straight fir stood on 22 solid oak legs as it arched in a horseshoe shape around the room it was built in.

The table was built in place in Room 211 in 1936, the year the building now called Old Journalism was finished.

"It had to be," Gayvert said. "There was no way a table that was 11 foot by 23 foot would fit through any doorway."

For six score years it supported the educational efforts of collegiate reporters, editors and photographers who streamed through the University of Montana School of Journalism.

Then, in the fall of 2007, the school moved to Anderson Hall and the table's fate was in question.

Former Dean Jerry Brown and the faculty insisted the table had to move with the school.

"It ties the past to the present and to the future and it remains a symbol to many alums of their halcyon student days," Brown said later. But for a semester, the table stayed behind.

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*"I spent a lot of hours  
scratching my head,  
trying to figure out what  
we were going to do."*

**-Art Gayvert  
UM carpentry foreman**

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By December, Old Journalism's new occupants wanted the relic gone, but it involved more than calling the movers.

"Just thinking about how we were going to take it apart so we could put it back together was quite a project in itself," Gayvert said. "I spent a lot of hours scratching my head, trying to figure out what we were going to do."

With a rudimentary plan in mind, carpenters cut the table into eight 6-foot sections and stored it on campus over break. That's when the table's inner tree remembered its roots.

"Wood is a dynamic material," Gayvert said. "It stays the way it is because it's all held by the other forces in it. Once you cut it and release those forces, then it starts to move until it reaches an equilibrium again."

The schedule cleared and the university's top cabinetmaker had the table hauled over to his workshop.

"We brought it out and all of a sudden it wouldn't go back together the way we had planned," Gayvert said. The level top had twisted and bucked, throwing off years of domestication.

"You can see what you're going to do" Gayvert said. "But you can't foresee all the problems that are going to arise."

Ed Tomicek is a man who sees the world as a series of solutions, and sees speaking as an opportunity for understatement.

When bids for a fancy table for the round Native American room in the new journalism building came in too high, Tomicek built it "in house." He worked in a previous life on the restoration of Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Gayvert asked him to make the rim table whole again.

"It was really no big deal for me," Tomicek said. He had years of practice as a cabinetmaker, extensive experience with architectural millwork. "What I had to do was put a bunch of bracing underneath so it could be bolted back together."

And that was that. In mid-January, laborers moved the table, part by part, into Don Anderson Hall.

Tomicek used metal dowels to align the tops, hidden metal joints in the cross beams for easy installation.

It took all of a 10-hour day, but the table went together. Tomicek schooled an uppity joint with a rubber mallet off and on for an hour or so, then packed his tools.

"I did the best with what I had," he said, admitting he was a perfectionist at heart. "I'm satisfied, but it could always be better."



Like a timber pie, the old horseshoe table was trimmed and sliced into six pieces. Ed Tomicek adjusts the new fittings before hauling it over to Anderson Hall for reassembly.

## Up in the morning and off to school



On a brisk winter morning, new Dean Peggy Kuhr heads for her office in Don Anderson Hall for another day's work at fine-tuning a new building and guiding the school into an uncharted era of journalism education for the hi-tech multimedia 21st century.

Journalism Dean Peggy Kuhr started her job Aug. 1 as the first dean in the new Don Anderson Hall, poised to move the J-School further into the world of multimedia.

"Journalism is at a very exciting crossroads," said Kuhr, the eighth dean in the history of the 93-year-old School of Journalism. "That means that journalism education is at a very exciting crossroads."

Kuhr came to UM after five years at the University of Kansas, where she was the Knight Chair on the Press, Leadership and Community at the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications. Before going to KU, Kuhr was managing editor at *The Spokesman-Review* in Spokane, Wash., and had previously worked at the *Hartford Courant* and *Great Falls Tribune*.

The Royal typewriter Kuhr used when she graduated from the University of Montana J-School in 1973 is a far cry from the brand new iMac computer that sat unopened on the floor of her new office last summer.

Along with burgeoning technology, Kuhr has watched the world of journalism grow into a fast-paced profession full of promise for future generations.

In the brand-new, technology-packed Anderson Hall, Kuhr sees the journalism program taking progressive steps to ensure that students are highly skilled in the new era of multimedia journalism.

"As we think of educating journalism students and becoming journalists, we need to realize that people don't just get information in one form," she said. "We need to deliver it in multimedia forms [and] we need to be where the audience already is."

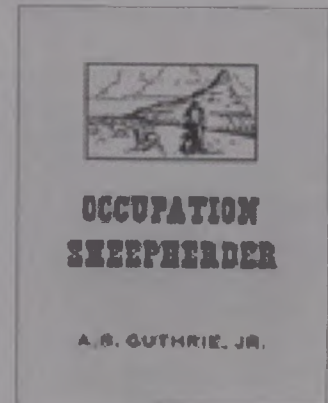
Pumping out well-trained journalists is something the program does well because all J-School faculty members have worked professionally for at least 10 years. "The faculty here brings great depth of experience to the school," Kuhr said.

Kuhr hopes to encourage collaboration between the journalism school and other departments on the UM campus, as well as other campuses across the country and the world. Networking for more new resources, she said, will increase the journalism program's value to students.

"We're in a part of the country known for pioneers," she said. "I think we can be a pioneer in the new directions of journalism."

—Lina Miller

### A.B. Guthrie essay



LIMITED EDITION

Sales will help fund journalism scholarships

*Occupation Sheepherder* is a newly discovered work by one of Montana's great writers, A.B. "Bud" Guthrie, Jr. After it was discovered, Guthrie's daughter decided to give the J-School the rights to publish the essay and to use the proceeds for scholarships.

The essay—a meditation about devotion and the sheepherder's life—was probably written in the 1940s or 1950s, his daughter, Helen Guthrie Miller, says. Now, 17 years after his death, you can read new prose by the beloved Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Big Sky* and *The Way West*.

The book was designed and printed by Peter Rutledge Koch, who began his career in Missoula; 250 copies were hand-bound into wrappers, numbered and signed.

The edition includes introductions by Miller and by former Journalism Dean Charles Hood.

The UM Bookstore in the University Center is handling sales for the school. Each limited edition copy sells for \$100.

Contact the Journalism School (243.4001) or the Bookstore ([www.umtbookstore.com](http://www.umtbookstore.com)) for ordering information.



## New Pollner professor selected to give J-students 'the business'

A business journalist with deep experience in both the news and business sides of print media has been selected as the eighth T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professor at the University of Montana School of Journalism.

Maryanne McNellis was vice president and editorial director of *The Financial Post* in Toronto before taking charge of all business operations of the *LA Times*' national edition in 1999. She retired from that post around 2001.

Earlier in her career, McNellis was founding editor of *Investor's Business Daily* and editor of *Adweek Magazine*. Before those stints, she was a correspondent for *Business Week* magazine, covering for the magazine, at various times, Asia, Canada, New York and California. She also worked as a police reporter for the *New York Daily News*.

Carol Van Valkenburg, chair of the print journalism department at UM and member of the Pollner selection committee, said McNellis was chosen from a rich pool of applicants.

"Maryanne stood out because of her excellent background in financial journalism," Van Valkenburg said. "The



New Pollner Professor Maryanne McNellis will teach reporting students basics of the business world and how to write about it.

their choosing. It honors the memory Anthony Pollner, a 1999 graduate of the UM School of Journalism who died in an accident in May 2001.

McNellis, who taught journalism at Thompson Rivers University in British Columbia for a time, said she looks forward to riding out the highs and lows of daily journalism with the *Kaimin* staff. She will also teach a weekly seminar entitled *Follow the Money: Financial Journalism*.

To make that topic less daunting to students, McNellis said she would take a very real world approach to teaching business reporting.

"Financial writing is a lot like sports writing. You need to know the lingo a bit, and you can be adrift if you don't," she said. But once students learn the language of the beat, McNellis said the time is ripe to focus on business reporting.

"The economy is something right now everyone is concerned about so I think it will be particularly useful and of interest for students to understand better what's going on," she said.

McNellis is excited about exploring the Big Sky state. A fan of cowboy poetry who once served on the board of the British Columbia Cowboy Heritage Society, McNellis said she is looking forward to her Pollner semester.

"I've never been to Montana," she said. "I view it as a grand adventure."

## J-Advisory Council adds new members

Fourteen people have been named to the Journalism Advisory Council. They will meet each fall and spring to help Dean Peggy Kuhr develop fundraising strategies, expand the network of potential supporters, and advise the school on its education mission.

Several members are from the previous council. "I wanted to keep the tradition and experience from the previous group, which was so successful in getting the new building project funded and completed," Kuhr said. "I also wanted to bring in new voices as we move from focusing on a new building to growing the programs we offer students."

Penny Peabody '61 succeeds Don Oliver '58 as chair of the council.

"The JAC was very helpful in fundraising for the new building and winning legislative support to maintain this wonderful new facility," Peabody said.

JAC members are:

- **Jill Black '80**, former newspaper writer and editor, Kalispell
- **Janice P. Brown '81**, founder of Brown Law Group, San Diego, Calif.
- **Jennifer Perez Cole '01**, Indian Affairs coordinator, State of Montana, Helena
- **Larry Elkin '78**, president, Palisades Hudson Financial Group, Scarsdale, N.Y.
- **Don Kinney '64**, Emmy-Award winner and a Distinguished Alumni
- **Rob McDonald**, Communications Director, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
- **Don Oliver '58**, former NBC correspondent, adjunct faculty, and Distinguished Alumni
- **Penny Peabody '61** (MA '67), former chair UM Foundation Board of Trustees, reporter and Distinguished Alumni
- **Steve Prosinski**, editor, Billings Gazette
- **Jeremy Sauter**, senior VP at Paramount Pictures, Hollywood, Calif.
- **Greg Schermer**, VP, Lee Enterprises Inc., Davenport, Iowa
- **Julie Sullivan '87**, Pulitzer winner (*The Oregonian*) and Distinguished Alumni
- **John Talbot**, retired publisher Lee Enterprises, former J-School adjunct professor
- **Jonathan Weber**, founder/CEO of New West, Missoula, first Pollner Professor

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*"I've never been to Montana. I view it as a grand adventure."*

**-Maryanne McNellis**  
**2008 Pollner Professor**

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committee thought it was a particularly appropriate time to have someone who could teach the students about the intricacies of the business world."

The semester-long appointment brings distinguished journalists to UM to work closely with the students on the *Montana Kaimin*, UM's daily newspaper, and to conduct a seminar on a topic of



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*Follow the best job offer*

## Note on a napkin at Missoula Club leads to multiple Emmys for Bishop

In 1989, Shane Bishop sat in the Missoula Club with his wife Erika writing a pact on a paper napkin, sharing beers and burgers as they discussed the future. The couple, both recent Radio-TV grads from the University of Montana, made this agreement: Whichever one of them got the better job, the other would follow.

Erika followed her husband to a series of jobs, and then, four years later, the couple moved to New York when he landed a job with "Dateline NBC."

Today Bishop, a 1986 J-School grad, is a multiple-Emmy award-winning producer for NBC. He has produced stories on the Columbine school shootings, the Oklahoma City bombings, Hurricane Katrina, and the Sept. 11 tragedies. In light of his career achievements, Bishop was named one of four 2007 Distinguished Alumni by the UM Alumni Association.

As part of the homecoming 2007 celebration, Bishop was invited back to speak at the newly opened journalism building, Don Anderson Hall. Of the schools that make up UM, the School of Journalism has had the highest percentage of graduates receive the Distinguished Alumni Awards since its founding in 1914. The J-School ranks third overall for the number of awards received.

"I pinch myself," Bishop said to a mixed audience of professors and students in Don Anderson Hall on Sept. 28. "I'm from Conrad [Montana]."

Bishop began his career as a reporter KPAX-TV in Missoula. From there he transferred to a station in Harrisburg, Pa., where a story on the archbishop of Harrisburg won him his first Emmy. Shortly thereafter, Bishop was in Philadelphia on the fast track to New York. Erika has produced for CBS This Morning, The Joan Rivers Show, The Sally Jessy Raphael Show and The Maury Povich Show.

Sept. 11, 2001, would change the scope of Bishop's career with NBC.



Shane Bishop went from J-School to Big Apple to home office in Oregon where he produces news stories for NBC. Erika Colness Bishop runs a production company in Medford.

On Sept. 5, six days before 9/11, Bishop approached his boss at NBC to ask about the possibility of working from another state. With his boss's tentative approval, Bishop's wife purchased a plane ticket on the ill-fated Flight 93 to San Francisco to start searching for their new home.

On Sept. 10, Erika rescheduled her flight. The next day Flight 93 crashed in the Pennsylvania countryside, and Bishop was covering the 9/11 attacks from the NBC newsroom. When the anthrax scare began, Bishop and his wife made a final decision to leave.

"Anthrax hit NBC. That was one floor below me within a month and we were like, 'All right, we're so out of here.'"

Bishop now works from his home in Oregon, producing six to eight stories a year for NBC. Erika, with whom he has three children, runs a HD production company in their hometown of Medford, Ore. Bishop acknowledges his wife as crucial to his success, and sometimes thinks about the pact they made at the Missoula Club years ago.

They still have the napkin.

—Laura Barnes



## Profs take full advantage of blogs as communication tool for classes

Professor- and student-created blogs in the J-School host a semester of class work, a string of conversations on the state of the media and ethics, and links to news and grammar sites.

Professor Clem Work has used blogs in several capacities in and out of the classroom. Work maintained a blog for the "preparing for internship" class, along with Assistant Professor Nadia White. For the internship class, students must create a personal blog where they can post resumes and other materials.

"The main purpose is to get them used to using a Web site and get their information up on the Web for prospective employers to look at," Work said.

White uses a blog for Current Events and Public Affairs Reporting classes. The

primary benefit is accessibility, White said. "Students can access information from the syllabus to readings, to changes in the schedule from any place that has Internet access."

Work sees blogs in the future serving as rallying points. "I think right now, blogs are at their finest when they are used to mobilize action rather than journalism," Work said.

Despite their versatility, Work doesn't believe that blogging poses a threat to journalism. "I don't think it has an advantage over newspapers or news sites or legacy media," Work said.

White said the internship blog was particularly active. "It's really been a collaboration between the professors and the students," she said. "[There is] information on more than 100 internships

— what they are, how to apply."

Print journalism Professor Dennis Swibold has created multiple blogs for classes and each one is unique. Some sites have featured information about class or links to useful Web sites, others are used for conversations. Fall semester, Swibold's most active blog was the Missoula's Choice 2007 site he maintained with White for their Public Affairs classes to cover the city elections. The blog included student-written candidate

and ballot issue profiles, election night stories, and post-election stories.

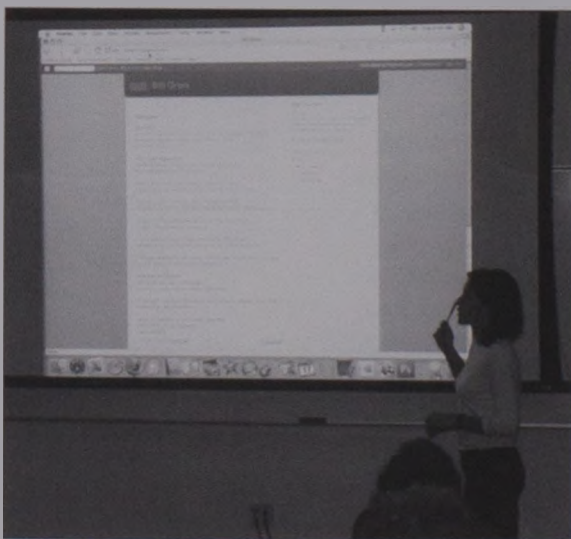
"It was live [election night]," Swibold said. "Nadia and I sat in here, and when people sent their stories in we edited them and posted them."

Student participation is key to a blog's success,

Swibold said. "If you really want to get students interested, you have to get them interested in what they contribute," he said.

R-TV Professor Denise Dowling also uses a blog for her senior seminar class. Dowling views the blog as a supplement to class; she posts links, videos and bios about future guests, and uses the blog to stimulate conversation among students. "I especially target ethical issues and current trends in the media," Dowling said.

To sample professors' blogs, go to:  
<http://missoulaschoice2007.blogspot.com/>  
<http://www.grizbeat.blogspot.com/>  
<http://umihop.blogspot.com/>  
<http://www.newzhound.blogspot.com/>  
<http://umrtv.blogspot.com/>



Nadia White uses the school's new automated projector as she talks blogs in her reporting class.

## Anderson Hall celebrates first graduates

Missing teeth and super powers were among the memories shared Saturday, May 10, by University of Montana School of Journalism graduates of the Class of 2008.

About 60 graduates crossed the stage set up beneath the towering maple trees between Jeannette Rankin and Don Anderson Halls.

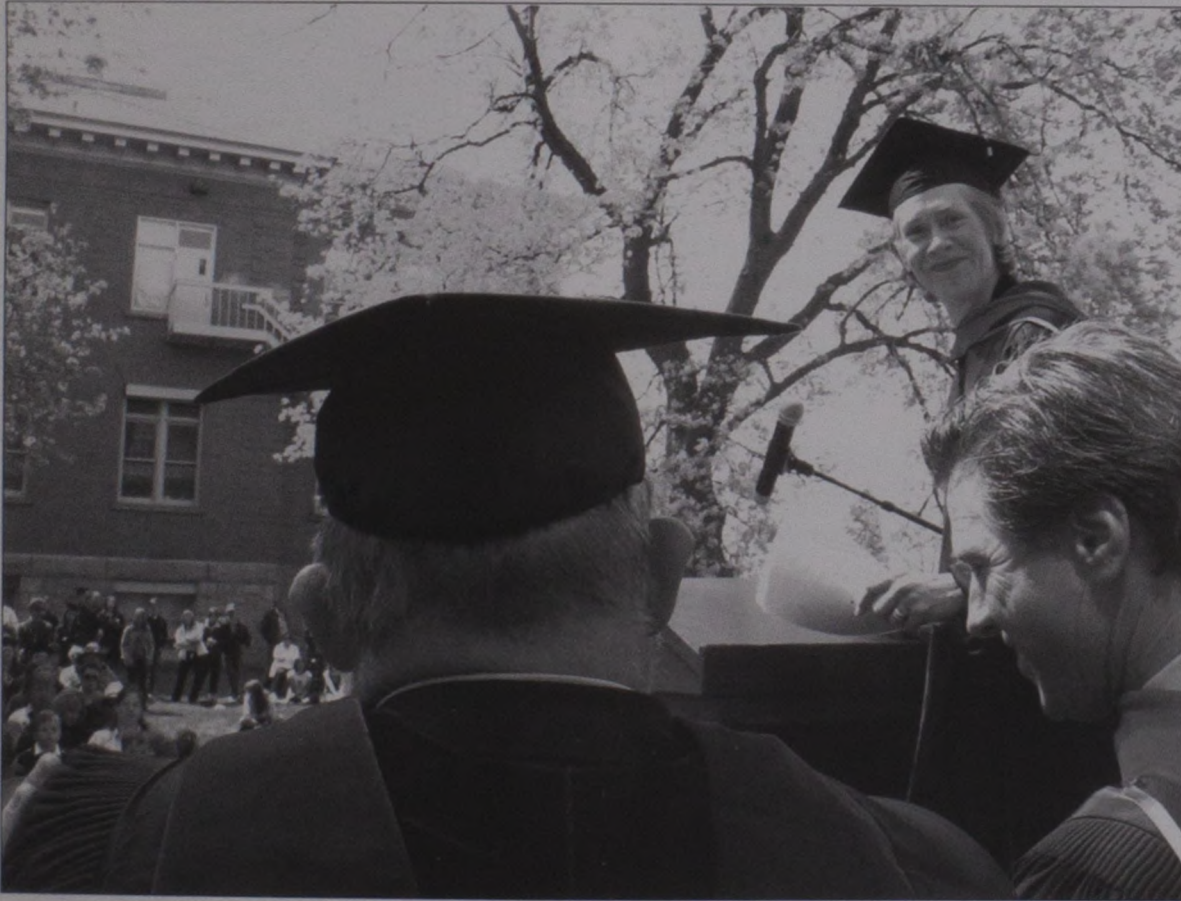
Jessica Mayrer, a print journalism graduate, shared the "super powers" she gained at the school as her career goals shifted, from those of a service industry specialist waiting tables to those of a committed journalist.

Kerry McKay, a broadcast journalism graduate, recalled the spring day in 2007 when her classmate Eli Hermann sacrificed his two front teeth to the filming of a promotion for their advanced reporting and producing class. Hermann knocked his teeth out diving into the Clark Fork River for the shot and gained a gap-toothed look that defined his look until replacements were installed a year later.

This was the second year the ceremony was held outside Don Anderson Hall, but the first to include students whose classes were held in the building.

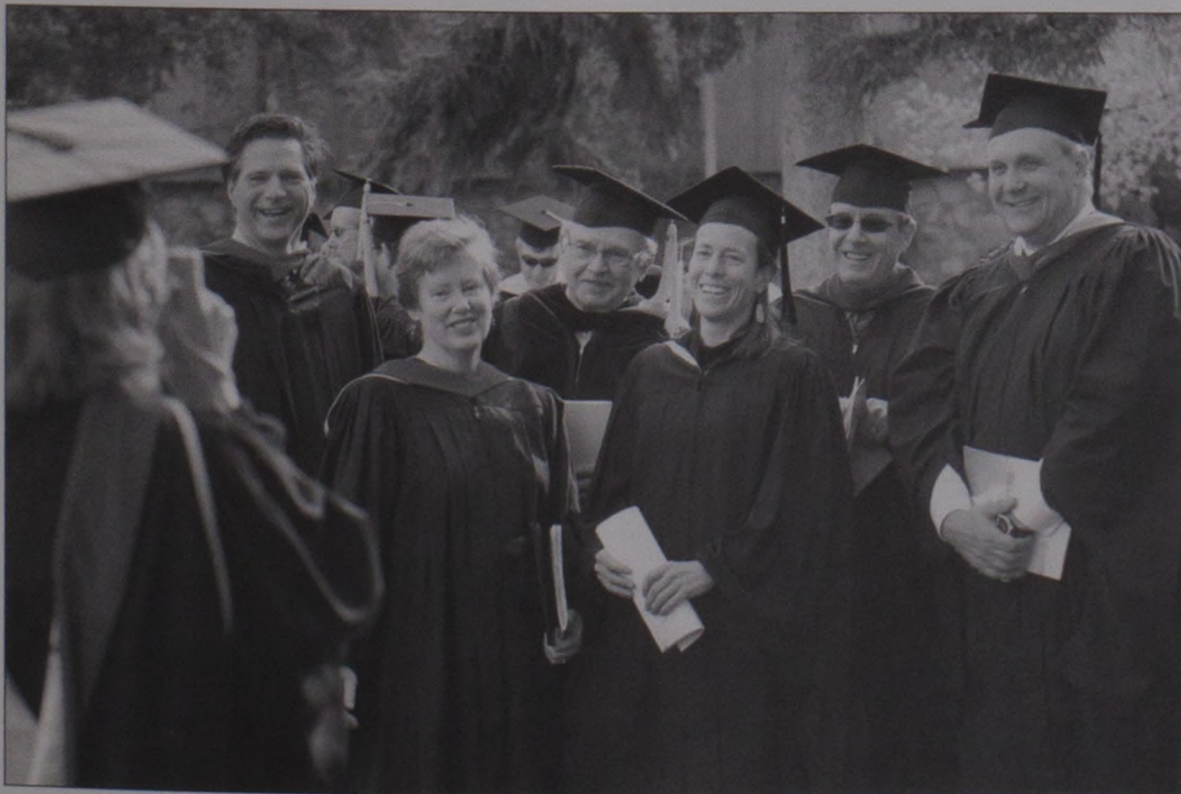


## Faculty also happy to survive first-year final exams



New Dean Peggy Kuhr smiles on former Dean Jerry Brown with a look that seems to say, "We made it! Thanks for all you did to help pave our way into Anderson Hall." Professor Keith Graham adds a knowing nod after a grueling year of working out hundreds of logistical and technological challenges required to complete the school's transition into a new building—not to mention the usual full teaching/advisory/special projects load for the entire faculty.

*Photos by Michael Gallacher*



OK, everybody, it's all over now and time to say, "Yay!" Enjoying post-graduation happy hour are, from left: professors Keith Graham, Carol Van Valkenburg, Clem Work, Nadia White, Denny McAuliffe, and Ray Ekness.





## Eight J-students make Hearst's Top 20

The UM School of Journalism made another phenomenal showing in the prestigious Hearst Journalism Awards this year when eight students made it into the Top 20 awards in the print, broadcast and photojournalism competitions. Hundreds of students from all over the country entered the competition.

**Jacob Baynham**, who graduated in May 2007, won fourth place for his feature story, "The Devil's Dandruff," about methamphetamine use on the Crow Reservation and the manpower



Globetrotting reporter Jacob Baynham

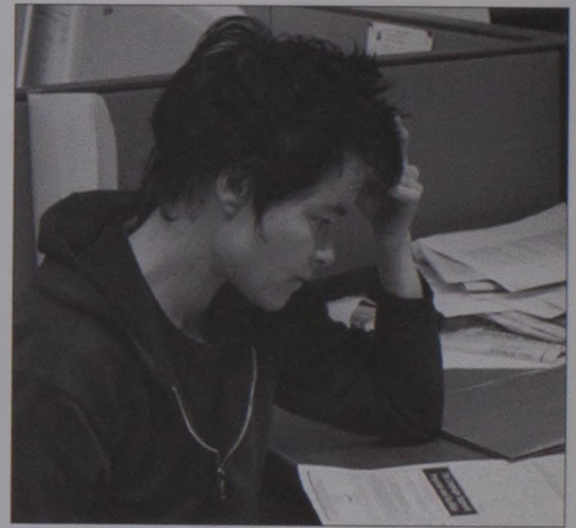
shortage that hampers the Bureau of Indian Affairs' efforts to curb it.

Baynham, who spent the last year reporting from Thailand, Myanmar and India, won \$750 for his story.

**Emma Schmutz**, who graduated last month, won fifth place and \$500 for her editorial in the *Montana Kaimin* about students who flout copyright laws and illegally download music.



Editorial winner Emma Schmutz



Jessica Mayrer

**Danny Davis**, a 2007 graduate who works at the *Austin-American Statesman*, won ninth place for an editorial about people who use the word "nigger." He wrote it for the *Kaimin* just after comedian Michael Richards used the word in his act.

The other winner in the print journalism competition was **Jessica Mayrer**, who won fifteenth place in in-depth reporting for her story about the crumbling BIA irrigation system on the Fort Peck Reservation.

Both Baynham and Mayrer wrote their stories for the Native News Honors Project, "The Burdens of Indians' Affairs." The project is online on the J-School web site under Student Work. Mayrer took a job in June with the *Bozeman Chronicle*.

Sophomore **Roman Stubbs** won seventeenth place in personality profile writing for a story in Game Day *Kaimin* about Grizzly football players Loren and Brandon Utterback called "Blue-collar Boys." Stubbs is interning this summer at the *Great Falls Tribune*.

In the broadcast competition, **Natalie Neumann** won eighth place and \$500 for three stories she submitted in the radio features competition. Her stories were about a graffiti artist, a cartographer whose work was impacted by climate change, and Run for Respect, which was part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

She interns for KUFM's Montana Evening Edition.



**Dan Boyce** earned a fourteenth place award in radio features for his stories about a homeless man, the Foresters Ball, and the new Native American Studies building. Boyce is interning this summer for Loopline Films in Dublin, Ireland.

In the photojournalism category, December graduate **Tim Kupsick** won thirteenth place in sports and news photography for photographs of a house fire, a military funeral and two sports photos. He was a semi-finalist last year in the Hearst photojournalism competition.

Kupsick, who worked for the *Kaimin* for three and a half years and had a semester-long internship at the



Tim Kupsick

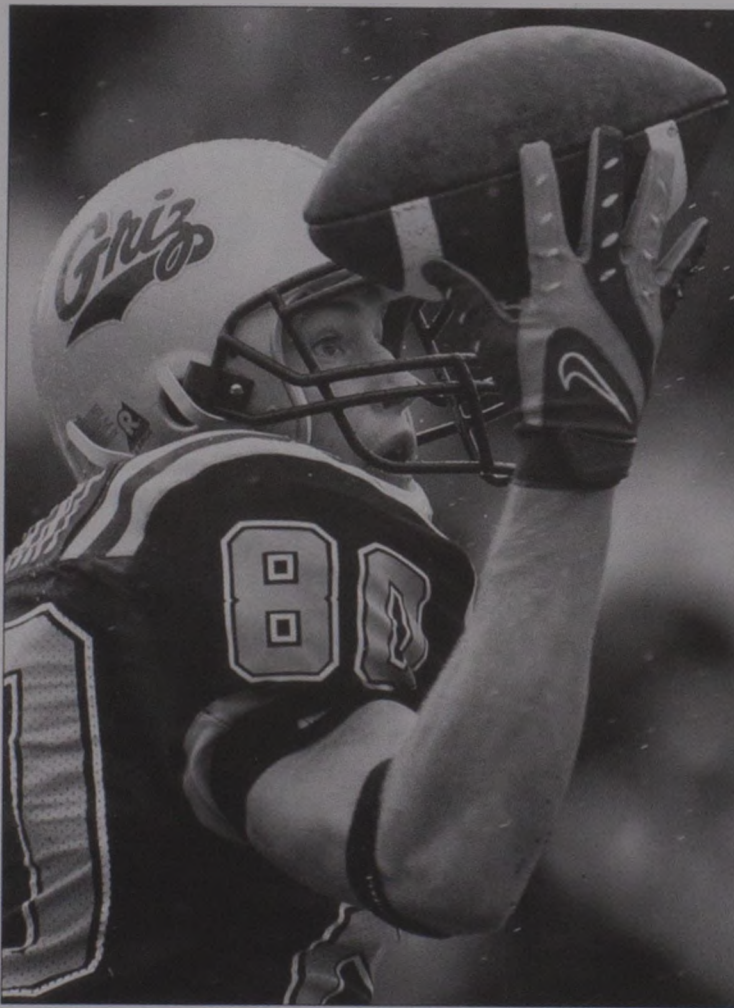
*Chattanooga Times Free Press*, now works for the *Casper Star-Tribune* in Wyoming.

Schools receive points for students who place in the competition and school ranks are based on accumulated points.

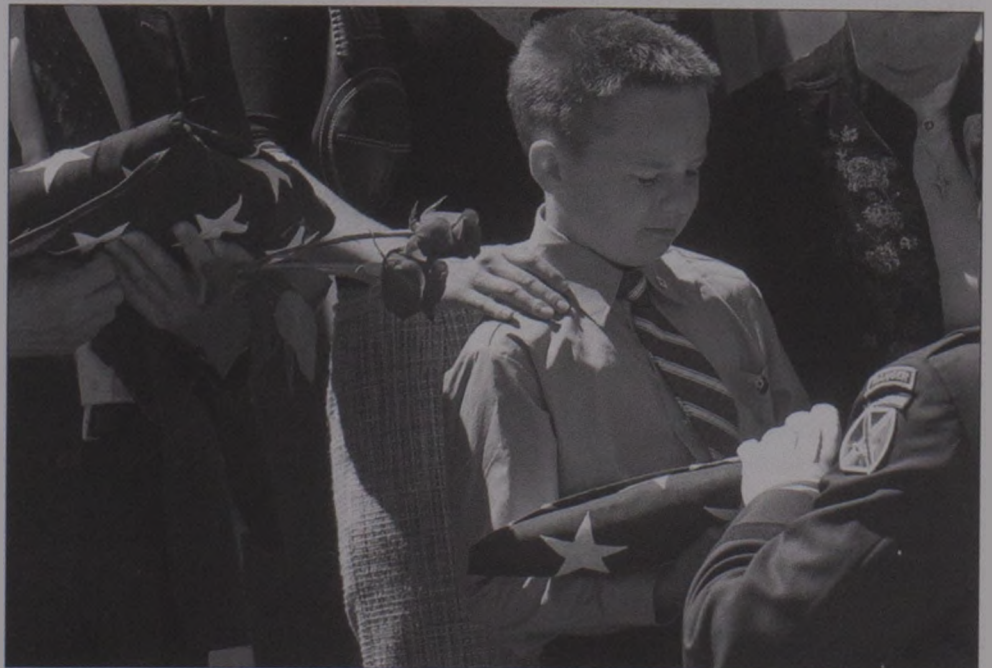
The Hearst Foundation distributes more than \$500,000 in awards each year to under-graduate journalism majors across the country. More than 100 accredited journalism programs compete in the annual event.

Overall, print students finished seventh in the nation. The UM Journalism School received a medallion, on display in the hallway to the Dean's office with the dozens of other awards students have won over the years.

## Kupsick's Hearst photo award winners



Marc Mariani, a Havre, Mont., native, makes his first touchdown catch as a Montana Grizzly against Northern Colorado.



Trevor Oliver holds a flag presented to him at his father's funeral in Bozeman, Mont. Staff Sgt. Travis Atkins was killed by a suicide bomber in Iraq.



## R-TV rakes in 2007-08 Emmys

Students of the School of Journalism made a clean sweep in the newly extended northwest college Emmy awards this summer.

A student-produced television program on alternative fuels won a northwest student Emmy award in a ceremony held in Seattle on June 7. "Montana Journal: Where are the Alternative Fuels?" won the Emmy in the news long-form category.

Judges called the Alternative Fuels program an important topic told from multiple perspectives. They cited excellent photojournalism and storytelling in the half hour program that educated viewers on biodiesel and the challenges accompanying it. The program aired on Montana PBS in November of 2007.

Four other Radio-Television projects were nominated for student Emmy awards. The 2007 student documentary "Beyond the Myths: Growing up in Montana" was nominated in the news long-form category. Two episodes of *Business: Made in Montana* received nominations in the entertainment category.

*Made in Montana* is produced each year by juniors in the Radio-Television sequence. The series received wide acclaim in Montana by covering more than 140 businesses in the 15 years it has been produced.

A piece titled "Bees and Terrorism" was nominated in the news short-form category. The story was produced by **Kim Cosgrove** and **Jason Hendrickson** as part of *UM News*, a weekly news program created by RTV seniors and grad students.

The Emmy competition, overseen by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Northwest Chapter, is open to students in Alaska, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

The winning projects were developed by the R-TV Department and submitted as has been the tradition for the past 18 years, said Ray Ekness, R-TV department chair.



Last year UM students also won several Emmys:

The first award, for news long form, went to **Gabe Ferguson**, who earned a master's degree in journalism in 2006, for his project "Butte Reborn: The Mining City in the 21st Century." The project served as his master's thesis.

"I never came across anything that dealt with what became of Butte after the demand for copper dropped," Ferguson said. "I found it was a long, slow downward spiral involving labor and environmental problems and dramatic changes to the city's landscape."

The project had a significant impact on him.

"I came into the project thinking I was dealing with a dying city, but left the project realizing there is hope for Butte," he said. "That made for a more dynamic story."

Ferguson currently works as a news photographer for KKTV in Colorado Springs, Colo.

**Amber Bushnell** and **Ryan Coleman** won for their short news form two-part series "Mold Investigation," which investigated a case of mold in the Lewis and Clark apartments, a student housing complex built three years ago by the University.

"I thought, visually, how can I make this interesting?" Bushnell said.

Bushnell's solution involved taking mold samples and recording a time lapse of the mold growth.

"It's a great, great opportunity for my resume, and just to see an impact beyond the classroom," she said.

Bushnell is now at work finishing her second degree, this one in Media Arts.



While interning at the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* last summer, grad student **Mary Hudetz** came face-to-face with the I-35W bridge collapse moments after it crumbled into the Mississippi River.

She was one of the first reporters to call in news of the collapse. She also contributed to the paper's coverage.

Hudetz's essay about the early coverage of the collapse earned her a 2007 Chips Achievement Prize. The prize, on behalf of the Chips Quinn Foundation, goes to scholars who have shown excellence in journalism and good reporting skills under pressure.



**Adam Sings in the Timber** (pictured above) and **Alli Kwezell** were invited to the 20th Annual Eddie Adams Barnstorm Workshop. Adam won top honors and a \$10,000 graduate scholarship from Nikon. Alli also received recognition. Only 15 of the 50 students there were given awards.

## Kaimin editor Oram wins NCAA sports writing scholarship

*Montana Kaimin* editor **Bill Oram** is the winner of one of eight \$3,000 sports writing scholarships from the Freedom Forum-NCAA Sports Journalism Scholarship Program.

A full-page ad announcing the eight scholarship winners ran in the official program of the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament.

Oram was a sports reporter at the *Montana Kaimin* before being named editor for the 2008-09 academic year. This summer he is writing and editing sports at the *Austin American-Statesman*.

## BEA awards Mallory R-TV scholarship

**Caitlin Mallory**, a junior in Radio-TV production, recently received a \$1,250 national scholarship from the Broadcast Education Association.

After graduating, Mallory plans to work in television production along the West Coast—in Eugene, Ore., or Vancouver, B.C.—where she anticipates much opportunity to use her skills.

The Harold E. Fellows scholarship is awarded to broadcasting students who demonstrate evidence of superior academic performance and potential to be an outstanding contributor to the field.



Caitlin Mallory

## Tops in national SPJ

A documentary by UM R-TV students at was named the best student-produced long-form program in the nation by the Society of Professional Journalists.

The students won the SPJ Mark of Excellence Award for "Beyond the Myths: Growing Up in Montana," a profile of six teenagers across the state battling issues such as racism, motherhood and mental health.

The hour-long program aired on Montana PBS last May and recently was on KPAX in Missoula. It was produced by 17 seniors in a class taught by Assistant Professor Denise Dowling and Adjunct Professor Gita Saedi Kiely. SPJ will honor the students at a September national convention in Atlanta.

**Brandon Gondeiro** of Great Falls and **Alex Kringsvold** of Alaska also won a first place award in television sports reporting for a story they did on ping pong at UM.

**Dan Boyce** of Lewistown was a finalist in radio sports for a story on the UM table tennis club. **Bill Oram** of Hebo, Ore., was a finalist in newspaper sports writing for his piece on UM coach Bobby Hauck titled "Bobby's World."

**Meghan Piercy** won first place for her magazine non-fiction article, "Manhunt for a Terrorist." Her story about the FBI's hunt for Ted Kaczynski was part of the school's 10-year retrospective on the arrest of the Unabomber.

The J-School also had national finalists in television in-depth Reporting (**Gabe Ferguson** for "Butte Reborn: The Mining City in the 21st Century"); television news photography (**Amber Bushnell** for "Wilderness and Civilization Program"); television feature photography (**Matt Sampson** for "Omelette Guy"); and best student magazine and online feature reporting, both for the Unabomber magazine.

The previous year the Native News Honors Project won first for best online in-depth reporting and Jason Cole won in television feature photography.



Laura Barnes

## Graduate student wins prestigious Alger scholarship

Graduate student **Laura Barnes** is the J-school's recipient of the Dennis R. Washington Horatio Alger Graduate Scholarship.

The Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation gave two UM students the scholarship, which included a one-time stipend of \$25,000, plus \$3,000 for meals and lodging, a teaching or research assistant position and a waiver of out-of-state tuition.

The scholarship program is aimed at helping students who have confronted and overcome adversity. Barnes' mother moved often, taking Barnes and her younger sister from state to state, trying to "start over" again and again.

"I was homeless a couple of times," Barnes said. "But I made a decision when I was very young that I wanted to earn a college degree."

Since 2004, the Washington Foundation has provided \$2 million in scholarships to help undergraduates through the Horatio Alger Montana Scholarship Program. This is the first year graduate students have benefited as well.



# FACULTY NOTES

**Carol Van Valkenburg**

was a member of the site visit team assessing the journalism department at San Francisco State University for the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications. This fall she'll be on a team evaluating the journalism program at the University of Connecticut.



She also spoke for the third year to Leadership Missoula about her research into the World War II alien detention camp at Fort Missoula. She's updating her book, *An Alien Place*, which will be republished by the Fort Missoula Historical Society.

**Clem Work** taught a six-week adult education course through UM's Montana Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

(MOLLI) on "Criticizing the Government," exploring shifting attitudes in the United States on freedom of speech. He also traveled the state to give talks about his book, *Darkest Before Dawn*, and the history of free speech in Montana.

Former New York Times reporter and columnist Anthony Lewis wrote extensively in his latest book, *Freedom for the Thought That We Hate*, about Clem's research and writing on the subject of Montana's sedition law and the victims ensnared in the WWI hysteria that led to the law's passage.

**Denise Dowling**

spent several days in Washington, D.C., in the fall meeting with the Radio and Television News Directors Association. Dowling has served as the AEJMC education liaison on the national board for the past two years. She also played a key role in planning RTNDA's annual convention in Las Vegas in April.



Denise also is the Montana representative to the National Academy of Televi-

sion Arts & Sciences Northwest Chapter Board of Governors and director of the Emmy on the Road program. This spring she was promoted to associate professor.

**Dennis Swibold** offers advice on the recruitment and nurturing of interns in the winter 2007 edition of *APME News*, the Associated Press Managing Editors' quarterly magazine.

Here's a link to the story: <http://www.apme.com/apmnews/2007/winter/122007swibold.shtml>



**Denny McAuliffe** taught at the Freedom Forum's American Indian Journalism Institute in



South Dakota for the eighth summer. AIJI offers Native American college students around the country three-week courses in either beginning or advanced reporting, copy editing or multimedia.

Denny stays busy working on new ways to expand on his award-winning *reznet*, a rapidly growing online Native American forum and news site, and a training ground for young journalists.

Adjunct professor **Gita Saedi Keily** was honored at the 20th annual YWCA Salute to Women dinner on May 15. The awards dinner honors women who embody the YWCA's mission to empower women and eliminate racism. Gita was chosen because her documentary films promote diversity and multicultural awareness.



One of her 2004 diversity series, "The New Americans," focuses on five immigrant families adjusting to life in the United States. She is also producing a documentary with Professor Clem Work about Clem's research into men and women in Montana who were jailed during World War I for criticizing the government.

**Keith Graham** was a judge for the Pictures of the Year International contest sponsored by the University of Missouri School of Journalism.

Keith was one of 11 judges for the prestigious competition and one of only two educators. The judging extended over three weeks as they reviewed thousands of photographs and multimedia projects in three divisions.



Keith also was a member of an ACEJMC accrediting team that visited Southern Illinois University, and he was a mentor at the Ninth Annual Native American Career Conference at Crazy Horse Memorial in Black Hills, S.D.

Retired R-TV Professor **Bill Knowles** spent the last academic year



on a Fulbright fellowship teaching in Jordan. He wrote at the beginning of his term: "I've been assigned to the University of Jordan where I'll be teaching one class in writing for journalism."

"What really excites me is a graduate seminar in race and ethnicity, which will allow me to trot out everything from Jackie Robinson to Louis Armstrong. Nothing ever changes in our biz, no matter where in the world you're teaching."

**Peggy Kuhr** attended a winter workshop in New Orleans for the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication (ASJMC). She also moderated a panel, "Scholastic Journalism and the Future of J/MC Programs." Peggy also was selected as a 2007-08 Fellow for the JMC Leadership Institute. A total of 14 deans and directors are participating in this year's Institute, funded by the Knight Foundation.



**Nadia White** was selected to participate in a Multimedia and Technology Training seminar at the Knight Digital Media Center at UC Berkeley. The action-packed week introduced 20 journalists from a range of markets and disciplines to multimedia tools and techniques.



Lively lectures each day explored the way various newsrooms are restructuring their methods to emphasize online reporting, and the social and economic forces that are driving the media to make such changes. Nadia will bring it all home to her reporting classes.

**Ray Ekness** contributed footage from his program "The Devil's Brigade: To Helena and Back" to the television program "Stories from the Northwest: World War II" that aired on KCTS-TV public television in Seattle.



**Ekness, Ray Fanning and Denise Dowling** of the R-TV Department, plus adjuncts **John Twiggs, Gus Chambers** and **Kagan Yochim** judged Emmy awards for the Boston television market. They considered entries in the live directing category.

Associate Professor **Sheri Venema** has accepted a teaching position at Anne Arundel Community College near Baltimore, starting in August 2008. She will teach introductory journalism classes and advise the student newspaper.



Venema resigned her position at the J-School in February so she could be on the same side of the country as her husband, **Michael Downs**, longtime visiting assistant professor at the J-School, who began teaching creative writing at Towson University in Maryland last fall. He is the author of *House of Good Hope* which won the River Teeth Literary Nonfiction Prize.



## Vaya con Dios, Sharon

Faculty, friends and students celebrated with Prof. **Sharon Barrett** at her Dec. 7 retirement party, marking her 26 years at the J-School.

While taking a few moments to address those gathered in her honor, Barrett—bilingual in English and Spanish—



noted that the Spanish word for retirement is "jubilación." "I guess I am a bit jubilant about retiring," she said.

Barrett traveled to Costa Rica with her husband, Dick, in January, then spent more travel time in spring visiting her mother in Indiana and her daughter in Colorado.

Barrett will keep her office on the fourth floor so faculty will still enjoy seeing her, "but the students will miss her in the classroom" Dean Peggy Kuhr said.

Not only does Barrett hold prestigious awards and notable work experience, she is known as an adventurous spirit, great writer and great teacher—able to connect with students, Kuhr said.

In addition to teaching, Barrett has reported, edited and freelanced for newspapers around the country and in Mexico, including the *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Wall Street Journal*, *El Norte* and the *Missoulian*. Her work has been published in several journalism and consumer magazines. For the past 30 years, Barrett has been a book critic for the *Chicago Daily News* and *Chicago Sun-Times*. She has lectured and taught in Peru, Uruguay and Colombia. In 2002, she was awarded The University of Montana's Distinguished Teaching Award.

Professor Carol VanValkenburg reminisced about the many years she has enjoyed working with Barrett and watching their children grow up. Upon presenting Barrett with a UM poster signed by faculty with congratulations on her retirement, VanValkenburg said, "I'm not sure how you managed to pull this one off."

About her retirement, she quipped: "I'm retiring because I have one breast, one eye I can barely see out of, I can't hear and half the time I don't know where I'm going."

## R-TV news briefs

### Ekness class tapes Islam show

The R-TV Department hosted the taping of a community roundtable television program in April during the Central Asian Conference at UM. "Conflict and Coexistence: Community Roundtable on Islam and Extremism" brought together a small group of Montana citizens and visiting specialists to engage in reflective discussion about Islam.

The discussion was videotaped to create educational materials for Montana high schools and community groups interested in learning more about the Islamic tradition, extremism and the "war on terror." The two-hour-long taping was done in the Don Oliver television studios in Don Anderson Hall.

Professor Ray Ekness directed the taping along with help from members of his television production class.

### R-TV alums drop by for visit

David Sirak was back in July 2007 for his 20th HS reunion in Great Falls. David is the news operations director at WFTV in Orlando, FL.

After years in San Francisco, Amanda Watkins has returned home and now is a broadcasting instructor at Central Wyoming College in Riverton, WY.

Josh Sanz is the Asst. Chief Photographer at KOIN-TV in Portland, OR.

Matt Mosely, is a news photographer for the Japanese national television network, FUJI, working in their Washington DC office. He was back for a visit in Missoula in August 2007 and met with former classmate James Rafferty and retired professor Bill Knowles. He's been covering the presidential campaigns and is jotting down his thoughts in a blog at <http://voicetrak.blogspot.com>.

Jay Kohn is anchor and assistant ND at KTVQ-TV in Billings, MT. Jay was in town for the AP Broadcasters Association meetings that the R-TV department hosted in October 2007.

Joel Lundstad (1984) is the news director at KULR-TV in Billings.

UM R-TV alums David Pleasant and Jim Sanders work in the production department at KPAX-TV in Missoula.



# OBITS

**Gene Bottomly** '48 died Sept. 14 in Indio, Calif. He was 84.

He was born in Harlem, Mont., in 1922, the fifth of nine children. He graduated from Great Falls High School in 1940 and came to UM, earning a varsity letter in tennis and pledging Sigma Nu. He served in the Air Force, flying over 30 missions as a gunnery sergeant on B-29s in WWII, and earning several medals. Gene retired as a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserves. Following the war, he attended the Sorbonne in Paris.

Gene became an insurance broker and opened his own firm in Phoenix before moving it to the Bay Area in the late 1960s.

He is survived by his wife and four children.

**Bert Gaskill**, former editor of the *Montana Standard*, died May 27 in Butte.

He was born in Helena on Sept. 1, 1922, to a newspaper family. His father, Al, was a sports reporter at the *Helena Independent Record* and his grandfather was a printer. Bert graduated from high school in Dillon, then served as a radio operator in the Navy for six years. He attended J-school and worked summers as a copy boy, then reporter, at the *Standard*. Bert was a reporter and "desk man" before he became city editor, then in 1966 was named editor. He retired in 1985, having served the longest tenure of any *Standard* editor. As editor he was a strong supporter of the J-School, hiring interns every summer and paying them a salary, as well as a scholarship at the end of the summer.

He is survived by five children and eight grandchildren.

**Jane Leonard Farrington** '38 died Jan. 20 at the age of 93 after a brief illness. Jane was born Oct. 19, 1914, in Butte. While working at IBM, she met her future husband, Al. They were married 58 years. She also worked at Texaco, MPS Blue Shield and St. James Hospital, and was president of the Treasure State Mining Co.

Jane dedicated countless hours of volunteer service to patients at Montana State, Butte Community, Rochester Methodist, Fort Harrison and Fort Mackenzie hospitals. Survivors include two sons.

**Eddy McClure** '80, died May 8 in Helena of cancer. She was 58. She was born April 25, 1950, in Houston, Texas, and graduated from high school in Pasadena, Texas.

Eddy earned degrees in political science and physical education from Stephen F. Austin State University while playing basketball, softball and track. In 1973, she became the first women's basketball and volleyball coach at Creighton University in Omaha, Neb. From 1976 to 1978 she helped coach the Lady Griz before leaving to earn a master's degree in kinesiology from the University of Wisconsin.

In 1986 she received her J.D. from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Ore. Eddy became

a staff attorney for the Montana Legislative Services Division, where she remained until her death.

She is survived by a sister.

**Natalie Kay Phillips** '82 died Sept. 11, 2007, in Anchorage, of breast cancer. She was 50 years old.

She was born June 20, 1957, in Indiana. She came to Missoula at age 19 and earned a journalism degree. Natalie landed her first newspaper job in Vail, Colo., where she combined journalism and backcountry adventure.

In 1991, she joined the staff of the *Anchorage Daily News*, reporting on science and environmental issues, including the Exxon Valdez oil spill litigation. She also worked as a freelance stringer for *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *Time*. In 2002 she was awarded a Ted Scripps Fellowship in Environmental Journalism at the University of Colorado. As her cancer progressed, she helped produce the documentary "The Quiet War," which profiled women facing breast cancer.

Among survivors are her son, Dashiell Robertson Phillips, age 7 at the time of her death, her mother, two sisters and three brothers.

**Norman G. Warsinske** '49, a sculptor and interior designer in the Seattle area, died July 25 in Bellevue. He was 78.

After graduation he became associate editor of *Western Livestock Reporter* in Billings, then went to art school at the University of Washington, graduating in 1958. He owned Miller-Pollard, a contemporary interior design firm.

**J. J. Wuerthner** '49 died on March 4, at the age of 83, in Springfield, Va. He was born in Great Falls on Oct. 20, 1924, and graduated in 1942 from Great Falls High School. He attended UM for two quarters, then enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1943 and was assigned to the Signal Corps as a high speed radio operator. He returned to UM in 1946 and graduated in the spring of 1949.

J. J. received his master's degree from NYU and went to work for companies including Fram Filter Corporation, General Electric, the Republican National Committee, his own PR agency in New York City, Paperboard Packaging Council, the Glass Container Manufacturing Association and the U. S. Census Bureau in Washington, D. C. He was the author of *The Businessman's Guide to Practical Politics*.

He was predeceased by two brothers, both graduates of the University of Montana: John P. Wuerthner, law '47, and Ben J. Wuerthner '53.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Anne (Hanson) Wuerthner, also a UM graduate, and three children: John Carl, Mark and Sue, and his brother Keith, a 1956 J-School graduate.

He was to be buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

# CLASS NOTES

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## 1950s

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**Dorothy Rochon Powers '50** writes: "At 86 years of age, I'm answering endless questions about 'what happened where and why,' because I was there. Being old, I have discovered, makes one an authority on stuff that happened 'long ago.' When the phone rings, I know it is somebody wanting to know what happened before civilians occupied the Wild West. Being old ain't all bad."

Dorothy is retired from *The Spokesman Review* and still enjoys life in Spokane with husband Elwood. She also made possible the C.G. Rochon Room in Don Anderson Hall, named for her father, which is fully electronic and also allows teleconferencing. Dorothy and Elwood attended the dedication of the new journalism building in 2007.

**Patrick Graham '52** recently had published *Colville Collections No. 2: Military Fort Colville 1859-1882*, his second book about the history of the Colville, Wash., area. The publisher is Nostalgia Press in Spokane. His first book, *Colville Collections No. 1*, was published in 1989. His Fort Colville book examines the history of the fort and follows the careers of some of the officers connected to it in some way, including Civil War Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman. Patrick is a former publisher of the *Statesman-Review*, Colville's weekly newspaper.

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## 1960s

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**Susan Lintz Ives '63** has written a children's book, *Bob, the Tree Who Became a Star*. She wrote the 16-page rhyming book over six days and, after several edits

and finding an illustrator, teamed up with a bank to get it published. Book proceeds will support a Colorado initiative to improve safety and the academic environment in the state's schools. Sue's email is: writesue2@aol.com.

**Jerry Holloron '65**, took a buyout from *The Seattle Times* and left the paper in May. Jerry, who taught at the J-School from 1974 to 1991, had worked at the *Times* since 1999. He worked on the copy desk and was also assigned to edit the paper's investigative projects. Before joining the *Times* he worked at the *Tacoma News Tribune*. When he left the *Times* the staff published a spoof front page with the headline "Victory and Bitching: The disturbing story of the long, long, loooong career of grand old-school copy editor Jerry Holloron — and how his legacy will likely cast an ungodly shadow on *The Seattle Times*."

**Carl Gidlund '67** is retired from the Air Force and Forest Service. He writes features for the North Idaho edition of the *Spokesman Review*, volunteers for Hospice and skis and golfs as often as he can. He attended a gathering of Spokane-area alums in March. His email is: smokejumper@adelphia.net.

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## 1970s

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**Nedra Bayne '70** created country life radio programming that is on the air in Spokane and she's seeking regional and national affiliates. She attended a gathering of Spokane-area alums in March.

*Washington Post* political blogger Chris Cillizza named Lee State Bureau chief **Chuck Johnson '70** the state's best political reporter in Cillizza's blog, *The Fix*. Johnson also was named as one of the nation's 33 best.

**Marje Bennetts '73** has operated M Bennetts — A Public Relations Firm in Marina del Rey, Calif., since 1994 after working for hotel and sports organizations in California. Her agency has represented hotels, restaurants, lifestyle product companies, sports personalities and sports organizations. She has also been active in the PR community of greater Los Angeles for many years.

**Ronnene Anderson Pepler '73** continues to work part-time at the *Edmonton Journal*. She said owner CanWest recently offered staff buyouts, which makes it likely she'll be working more than ever. Ronnene and husband Mark are also finding time to enjoy new grandson, Kai Anders Pepler.

The *Utne Reader* nominated **Timothy Fay's Wapsipinicon Almanac** as one of eight nationwide finalists in its 2006 Independent Press Awards competition for the local/regional coverage category. Fay '75 has edited and printed his book, an annual collection of regional essays, fiction, and reviews, based in Anamosa, Iowa, since 1988.

**John Kafentzis '75** teaches journalism full time at Gonzaga University and works part time designing page one a couple of nights a week at *The Spokesman-Review*. Kafentzis completed his master's degree at Gonzaga in December. After 28 years at the S-R, he quit his job as design editor at the paper in 2004 to pursue a career in education. Away from work, Kafentzis and his wife, Teresa, ride their tandem bike about 1,000 miles a season.

**Rich Landers '75** has been outdoors editor of *The Spokesman-Review* for 31 years. He says he was guiding Sandra Day O'Connor on a fishing trip the day President Bush appointed John Roberts to the Supreme Court. He handed his cell phone to O'Connor to give her the news and says her reaction, which was reported



around the world the next day, was: "That's fantastic...he's perfect in every way, except he's not a woman."

**Jay Kohn '76** is anchor and assistant news director at KTVQ-TV in Billings. Jay was in Missoula for the AP Broadcasters Association meetings the R-TV department hosted in October 2007.

**Kevin Maki '78** works as the Bitterroot Valley reporter for KUFM Radio and has won a number of AP and MBA awards for his outstanding work.

**Jeff Smith '79** is a director/cinematographer and owns and operates a film production company on the East Coast. You can visit the company's web site at [oasisfilms.com](http://oasisfilms.com) and see Jeff's still photography site at [oasisphotography.com](http://oasisphotography.com).

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## 1980s

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**John Bulger '82** is a reporter for the *Idaho State Journal*. John practiced law in Missoula for many years but moved last fall to Pocatello to be with his fiancée and decided to try his hand at reporting. He and Tiffany Horsch were married in Pocatello on June 14.

**Gary Jahrig '85** is a writer for Coffey Communications. He is also the director of the Missoula Area Youth Hockey Association.

**Pam Newbern M.A. '85** was promoted to major in the U.S. Army and will be taking Army courses in Leavenworth, Kansas, for a year, then hopes to return to the Washington, D.C. area, her previous posting. Pam created a journalism scholarship this year in memory of former Dean Warren Brier.

**Lori Getter '87** is the crisis communications manager for Wisconsin Emergency Management. She joined WEM in October 1997. Lori is responsible for statewide public information and education for emergency management and

homeland security in Wisconsin. Lori has worked in 15 federal disaster declarations and numerous other emergencies including record flooding along the Mississippi River, major tornadoes, and Hurricane Katrina. Before joining WEM, she was a television news reporter/anchor at stations in South Dakota and Montana from 1986-1992.

**Kevin Twidwell '87** is a partner in the Missoula firm of Garlington, Lohn and Robinson. He and his wife, Tracey Baldwin, are parents of two daughters. Kevin continues to run ultra-marathons.

**Nick Ehli '89** became managing editor of the *Bozeman Chronicle* in January, replacing **Bob Gibson '75**. Formerly the publisher of weekly newspapers in Belgrade, Big Sky and West Yellowstone, Ehli remains editor-in-chief of *Montana Quarterly*, selected by the Western Publishers Association in 2006 as the best new magazine west of the Mississippi. He worked at the *Billings Gazette* from 1991 to 2000. He lives in Bozeman with his wife, Crystal, and their two children.

**Mike Kustudia** is the coordinator of the Clark Fork River Technical Assistance Committee. The committee works with the EPA to assist in the removal of the Milltown Dam and restore the Clark Fork and Blackfoot rivers.

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## 1990s

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**John MacDonald '90** has left the Associated Press, where he was news editor for Montana and Wyoming, to take a position with Gallatin Public Affairs as a media/communications consultant at the firm's Helena office.

**Meg Oliver '93** is anchor of CBS News Up to the Minute, which airs overnight. Meg and her husband welcomed their second child, Tommy, in May.

**Robert Berkman, M.A. '95** is a faculty member of the MA Media Studies

program for the New School in New York City, and teaches online.

Bob has written several books on the intersection of media, research, and Internet technology over the last few years, including *Digital Dilemmas: Ethical Issues for Online Media Professionals* (Blackwell, 2003). He is working on a book on the use of Weblogs in market research. Bob lives with his wife Mary Walsh in Rochester, N.Y., where they moved to from Cape Cod last year.

**Erika Harrison Eskew '95** has worked as an ad sales representative for the Contract Publishing Division of Community Newspapers, in Portland, Ore., for 5 years. Her duties include selling advertising for the *Jewish Review*, the only Jewish paper in Oregon, and for magazines published by the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Portland. She is married to Ethan Eskew and they are parents of Ander, born in October 2006.

**Matt Mosely '95** is a news photographer for the Japanese national television network, FUJI, working in their Washington D.C. office. He was back for a visit in Missoula in August 2007 and met with former classmate James Rafferty and retired professor Bill Knowles.

Matt's been covering the presidential campaigns and is jotting down his thoughts in a blog at <http://voicetrak.blogspot.com/>

After many years in San Francisco, **Amanda Watkins '95** returned home and is a broadcasting instructor at Central Wyoming College in Riverton, Wyo.

**Kyle Wood '96** continues to live in the Netherlands, working as an attorney for the United Nations. He reported this spring that his team was about to start the defense portion of the war crimes case they been working on since he arrived in 2005. He anticipates being in the Netherlands until late 2009, when it's anticipated the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia will shut down.

He and his wife Sheryl are parents of Dario, Sofia and Dominic.

**Andre Verloy '96** is working at the Norwegian Institute of Journalism as associate director, teaching online research skills and investigative techniques and methods. He writes: "Life over here is good although it was a huge culture shock coming back after 14 years in the States. It's nice to take a step back from the daily grind; and I am also working on a book on investigative techniques with a former colleague." Verloy left The Center for Public Integrity in Washington, D.C., in 2005 after working on investigative projects for five years. Projects that he worked on or co-managed received a Polk Award and awards from IRE and SPJ. After returning to Norway, Verloy worked for an investigative journalism foundation before he became a researcher for the documentary/investigative unit of NRK, the national public broadcaster.

**Cameron Lawrence '97** received a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics and is on the faculty at the UM Gallagher School of Business.

**Eve Whitaker '97** lives and works in Los Angeles as an associate producer for GSN LIVE for Sony Pictures Television. She says: "The show I am working on now is very much like news and I am constantly reminded how much I learned in the R-TV department." She said there's a large network of UM alums in LA who are always trying to help each other out. "We have a great reputation for being very honest, hard workers."

**Molly Wood '97** is executive editor of CNET.com, where she is host of the Buzz Report. Molly critiques technology in column, blog, podcast, and video formats. She is also co-host of Buzz Out Loud, CNET's "podcast of indeterminate length," according to the CNET Web site. Her other podcast, Gadgettes, is proof that girls can be geeks, the CNET site says. Before joining CNET in 2000, Molly was senior associate editor at *MacHome Journal*. After graduation she worked for the Associated Press. She is a frequent guest on CNBC's Power Lunch and On the Money and has appeared on several national media programs.

**Mark Peruzzi, M.A. '98**, has been editor-in-chief of *Skiing Magazine* in Boulder, Colo., for the past four years. *Skiing*, 400,000 circulation, won ASME nominations for general excellence, best cover, and a few Best American (Travel, Sports) inclusions and honorable mentions. Mark has also written for *Outside*, *Men's Journal*, *The Wasatch Journal*, *OnEarth*, and *5280*.

**Ann Williamson '98** is a photographer at the Topeka Capital-Journal, where she recently expanded her still photography skills to video posted online. Ann was in the Missoula area in October for the wedding of alumna **Erica Curliss '98**.

**Matt Winter '98** is working for NBC News in Chicago. He writes: "After working for NBC News, CNN and National Geographic for a few years in Washington D.C., I now live and work in Chicago editing and producing for Brian Williams and the Today Show. Owe it all to you guys!"

**David Bowles '99** is a senior director/producer for MTV Networks in New York, NY. He had been working on the program "My Super Sweet 16."

**Cari Cast '99** is the morning show line producer at KGMB-9, the CBS affiliate in Honolulu, Hawaii. She writes: "We launched the show on Sept. 17. So far, it's one of the best shows I've ever worked on, with an awesome cast and crew. Honolulu is pretty far away from family, but I must say, I will enjoy going to the beach on Christmas this year!"

**Kagan Yochim '99** is a producer/director and operations manager for ILF Media in Missoula. He is also teaching broadcast production classes as an adjunct in the R-TV department.

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## 2000s

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**Greg Bearce '00**, was married to Kasey Jo Hochmuht on Oct. 29, 2005, in

Ketchum, Idaho. Greg is a supervisor at Pete Lane Sports. They live in Hailey.

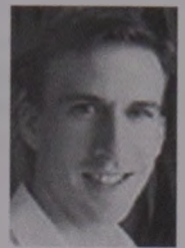
**Garrison Courtney '00** is the Chief of Public Affairs for the DEA.

**Chad Dundas '01** won third place for feature stories in the under-40,000 circulation division of the Associated Press Sports Editors best writing of 2007 contest. Chad works at the Missoulian. His story was about a Kalispell man's recovery after being hit by a car while he was training for Spokane's Bloomsday run.

**Amanda Halverson '00** is a first lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps and is now serving in Iraq.

**Casey Lang x-'00** is getting back to full strength and is back to work as a news photographer at WPEC News12 in West Palm Beach, Fla. In October 2007, Casey was hit by a car while on assignment and worked through months of recovery. He was released from the hospital in December before going back to work in February. You can read more about the accident and recovery at [www.caseylang.net](http://www.caseylang.net).

**Ben Shors '00** has accepted a position as a clinical assistant professor at Washington State University. He is also editorial adviser to student publications at the Murrow College of Journalism. Ben's month-long project on child welfare, done while he was a reporter at *The Spokesman Review*, received the 2008 Anna Quindlen Award.



With an M.F.A. in Creative Writing in hand, **Patia Stephens '00** has left her writing/editing job at University Relations to try and make it as a writer.

**Kevin Van Valkenburg's** serial "The Big Game" in the *Baltimore Sun* was chosen for inclusion in the Nieman Narrative Digest. Hosted by the Nieman Foundation for Journalism, the digest selects stories that are examples of excellent



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# 2000s

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narrative writing. The four-part series about an inner city football team was reported by Kevin and Lem Satterfield, and written by Kevin, a 2000 graduate. The project also won second place for project reporting for papers with a circulation of more than 250,000 in the 2007 Associated Press Sports Editors best writing contest.

**Sam DeWitt '01** is working for Associated Content at associatedcontent.com in Denver.

**Allison Marple '01** moved from Michigan to Portland this winter to take a producing job at KPTV, the Fox affiliate. She and her husband are excited to be living in the northwest and stopped by Don Anderson Hall on their way through town.

**Jason Mohr M.A. '01** is web editor at the *Duluth News-Tribune*. He and wife Becky are parents of a 1-year-old daughter, Solveig.

**Christine Schuldheisz Romero '01** is a public affairs specialist and videographer for the U.S. Forest Service in Missoula. She joined the Forest Service in 2004 after several years working for KPAX-TV as a reporter/weekend anchor. Christine and husband Dave live in Hamilton and expected their first child in February.

**Lisa (Zimmerman) Sullivan '01** and husband Ryan welcomed their newest little addition in April. Calen Patrick Sullivan arrived on April 27th weighing in at a healthy 8.6 pounds. Lisa and family live in Portland.

**Jennifer Perez Cole '01** was named in October as the governor's state coordinator of Indian affairs in Montana. Jennifer had been editor of *Fort Belknap News*, a tribally



operated newspaper of the Assiniboine & Gros Ventre tribes of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation. After graduation she was a reporter for two years for the *Great Falls Tribune*. Jennifer and her husband, Skip, have a 3-year-old daughter, Emma, and a son, Frank. Jennifer is an enrolled member of the Assiniboine Tribe at Fort Belknap and is a descendant of the Assiniboine Tribe at Fort Peck.

**Madie Beltran '02** writes for Fox News Chicago. After graduation she worked as a producer at Chicagoland Television News. She worked there for four years before landing the Fox job in downtown Chicago. Madie was married in May.

**Olivia Nisbet Bucks '02** and her husband, Nate, are parents of Elliot Kenneth Bucks, born Nov. 1 in Portland. Olivia continues to work as a photographer for *The Oregonian*.

**Stacy Byrne '02** is a features writer at the *Great Falls Tribune*.

**Josh Carstens '02** is the president of Dig-nity Pictures, a Chicago production company focusing on short, internet-based documentaries. He's worked on projects in Ecuador, Brazil, Croatia, the Dominican Republic and other places around the world. Working with the non-profit Geo-Heritage Group, their goal is to promote sustainable geotourism in developing areas to improve the local economy through positive local tourism practices. Their website is [www.geoheritagegroup.com](http://www.geoheritagegroup.com).

**Katrin Frye '02** has launched an independent writing and editing business in Big Fork called FryeScape. She continues to contribute to the Flathead Beacon and hosts Big Fork's online community page. She also contracts as a real estate and public relations copy-writer.

**Jasper Hiatt '02** is a junior creative director for the Mize Agency in Bakersfield, Calif.

In July, **Josh Jaeger '02** plans to launch a custom magazine division for Digital

Lizard. The first customized magazines will be created for the wine, chiropractic and natural food industries. Josh works for By Design Publishing in Coeur d'Alene. He and wife Carolyn will be welcoming their first child in June.

**Adrienne Mittelstaedt '02** will spend the summer in Heidelberg, Germany working for the Judge Advocate General Corp. This comes after her second year of law school in Minneapolis. Adrienne plans to visit Barcelona, Paris and Dublin during her overseas stay.

**Bill Owens '02** is still shooting and traveling the world for Barrett productions. He's working on a new series for the Travel Channel.

**Andrea Thomas '02** also works at KHQ where she is the executive producer. Andrea (who was known as Drew Barlow when she was in school) is married and has two kids who keep her very busy.

**Jordan Caskey '03** was a news photographer and then moved to promotions producer at KHQ-TV in Spokane, traveled to Alaska to cover the Iditarod sled dog race as an independent photographer. He received an Emmy nomination in April for a KHQ promotion he produced.

**Lindsey (Lear) Chapman '03** writes for an Internet research firm, FindingDulcinea.com in New York City. She covers the homes and families beat which is appropriate since she works out of her home with a mischief-loving toddler.

**Alissa Khara Herbaly Coons '03** started the MFA in creative nonfiction program at Seattle Pacific in March. She spent 10 days with fellow students in workshops with writers such as David James Duncan and Patricia Hampl.

**Brittany Hageman '03** is assistant editor of *Magic City Magazine*, a publication of the Billings Gazette.

**Jennifer Kuglin '03** has been named news director at KVAL-TV in Eugene, Ore. She had worked as an executive producer for Northwest Cable News in

Seattle and as news director at KECI-TV in Missoula.

**Nick Lockridge '03**, is in charge of prep sports coverage at the *Missoulian*. Lockridge and **Phil Buck '02** were guest speakers this winter in Professor Nadia White's Sports Reporting class. Buck is sports director for KPAX-TV in Missoula.

**Jessie McQuillan '03** is the new executive director of the Montana Innocence Project. (See story, p. 4.) As with similar projects in other states, the Project will use journalism and law students to conduct research and write up cases, providing the foundation for lawyers to argue prisoners' cases.

Everett Herald reporter **Yoshiaki Nohara M.A. '03**, won second place in the feature writing category in the 2007 Blethen Memorial Awards for "A Place of Happiness and Peace," a narrative about Mas Odoi and the largely forgotten history of Japanese immigrants who settled near Mukilteo in the early 20th century."

**John Stucke '03** has been at *The Spokesman Review* for eight years. He had covered business but recently switched beats to cover health care, even though he says he's "a 40-year-old guy who doesn't go to the doc." He and Lorie Hutson have two boys, 4 and 1. Lorie is the food editor of the *Spokesman*.

**Zeke Campfield '04** is a reporter at the *Lawton Constitution* in Lawton, Okla. "Newspapers are fun, and I'm enjoying getting paid to write on a daily basis," he wrote. His boss, managing editor David Hale, asked UM to send more grads his way. "I could sure use another like him," he said.

**Danielle Cross '04** just completed her second year of law school at Seattle University. She'll be clerking for Miller Nash in Seattle this summer and will edit SU's law review next academic year.

**Jonathan Eirkson '04** is a photojournalist at ABC-27 in Harrisburg, Penn., and is getting married in September.

**Aaron Flint '04** works as a reporter for KTVQ television in Billings. Aaron hopes to deploy to Afghanistan in the fall with the Army National guard as an embed with the Afghan National Army.

**Katherine Forest '04** and **Brandon Neill '03** tied the knot in Washington in the fall of 2007. The two became acquainted when professor Denise Dowling suggested Katherine interview Brandon for a story on student athletes.

**April Jensen '04** works as a research editor for *From House to Home* and *Wedding Vow*, both magazines in Fargo, N.D. After graduation she did a stint in Washington D.C., got her real estate license, and is now happy to be back working in journalism. April and her fiancé plan to tie the knot in September.

**Marci Krivonen '04** has taken a job as a news reporter for Aspen Public Radio in Aspen, Colo. Marci started at KPAX-TV and moved to a public radio news position in Wisconsin before making her way back to the mountains.

Newly married **Shirstie Schmidgall Sheets '04** is a news photographer at KUTV-TV in Salt Lake City.

**Michael Sternoff '04** is a photographer at NBC5 in Chicago and is teaching TV production classes part-time at Northwestern University.

**Natalie Storey '04** left her job at the *New Mexican* in Santa Fe in March to join the Peace Corps. She left in June for Jordan where she will spend two years teaching and encouraging young women's involvement in the community.

**Ali VanFossen '04** and **Matt Mandell '04** were married in 2007. Matt remembers his first day of the junior year when his teacher said, "Look around the room. The people here will be your friends for life." Little did he know he'd find his wife in that room as well.

**Dax VanFossen '04** is the news director at KOFI Radio in Kalispell. Dax says he loves getting out in the community to find

out what's really going on and bringing that information to his listeners.

**Dustin Blanchett '05** is a freelance video photographer working out of Arkansas. In September, Dustin was in Missoula for a wedding and a visit to the new journalism building.

**Paola Chertzad '05** rounds out Spokane's KHQ-TV family as a reporter and fill-in anchor.

**Gabe Ferguson MA '05** is a news photographer and editor at KHQ-TV in Spokane. Gabe worked in Colorado Springs after earning his masters degree but wanted to get back to the northwest.

**Monica Fouts '05** is working as a reporter/photographer for a community weekly in Dunedin, New Zealand.

**Patrick Galbraith '05** is studying for his Ph.D. at Sophia University in Tokyo. In his spare time, Patrick writes for a *Akibanana.com* about post-modern Japanese obsession (otaku) cultures. He also guides tourists around Tokyo's otaku epicenter, Akihabara. To see Patrick model some local dance steps, go to <http://www.akibanana.com/?q=node/217> and scroll down, way down.

**Gabe Moore '05** is the weekend producer for WAKA CBS 8 in Montgomery, Ala. He visited Missoula and UM in early spring to do a little skiing and to tour the new Don Anderson Hall.

**Beth Saboe '05** worked as a reporter at KTVM in Bozeman for 18 months before moving to the competition. She's now an anchor/reporter at KBZK. She'll be marrying Aaron Gorder on June 21st.

**Katherine Sather '05** is a web producer for KING5.com in Seattle. She and four others manage the station's deep online news site, producing multimedia stories and other online features. Kat worked as a copy editor for NWsource.com, a Web site operated by the *Seattle Times* before moving to KING 5. She has written about her present job in this year's *Montana Journalism Review*.



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# 2000s

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**Lee Squires '05** was working at a radio station in Dillon. Now he's working on the family farm near Fort Benton.

**Andra "Andy" Wisnu '05** writes from Indonesia, "I'm doing well and currently working... no, scratch that, slave-laboring at the *Jakarta Post*."

**Rajendra Acharya MA '06** writes: "Here in Nepal, I am working as a news director at Nepal Television, which is the only national public channel in the country. After coming to Nepal, when I began my job, the level of censorship was above 50 percent and public viewership was in critical state, even lower than 20 percent. Now it is improved. The viewership of prime news bulletins is up to 90 percent and the level of impartiality is up to 87 percent. I think, the UM has great contribution on this improvement through me, making me bold."

**Andy Atkins '06** left the overnight shift at WFTV in Orlando and is now a producer and multimedia project manager for Darden Restaurants (Olive Garden, Red Lobster, Bahama Breeze and others). He says, "I get to do a lot of the things I used to do in Missoula, especially for the student doc, like create graphics, web, podcasts, sat feeds, coordinate sat live shots for corporate events, training videos, travel docs on chefs going for training to Italy, France and such. I am really excited because it is more creative and I have more time to work on a project."

After stints in radio in Missoula and Spokane, **Tyler Claxton '06** is working as an advertising sales rep for the *Ravalli Republic* in his hometown of Hamilton.

**Kevin Farmer '06** is a news photographer at KOIN-TV in Portland, Ore.

**Gabriel Ferguson M.A. '06** enjoys living in Spokane and working as a

photojournalist for KHQ-TV. This spring he was gearing up for his June wedding in Montana.

**Kelly Haas '06** is the sales manager at the Holiday Inn Parkside in Missoula.

**Brian Haines '06** is in his fourth year working in the media relations department at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. Among highlights has been traveling with the Runnin' Rebels as they advanced to the Sweet 16 in 2007, he says. Brian married Tricia Haines in the summer of 2004.

Radio sales lured **Sarah Hubbard '06** to Durango, Colo. She's not only selling air time, she's helping produce radio shows that broadcast in both Durango and Farmington, N.M.

**Elyse Hughes '06** is a media library coordinator for the new Fox Business Channel. She says, "Every time I start a new job and have so much of the required knowledge already at my finger tips it's such a blessing and makes me feel I can compete at the network level."

**Britta Jones '06** works for a financial advisory firm called BlackRock in Seattle. Britta did some work in public relations, marketing and research before landing at BlackRock. Britta says, "The financial world has obviously been really crazy but it is nothing but excitement for me. I figured if I was going to spend this time of my life in the business world that I wanted to learn the stock and financial part more than anything."

**Kristin Knight '06** has been hired as executive editor of *Sea Kayaker* magazine in Seattle.

**Angela Monroe '06** is a reporter for KAJ television in Kalispell. In six months she's covered four homicides, a 31-hour standoff and a massive fuel spill. She says she loves being a "one-woman band" and appreciates the education that gave her the skills to succeed.

**Louis Montclair '06**, is a reporter at the *Fort Peck Journal* in Poplar, reporting

mainly on the Fort Peck Reservation. Louis conspired with other tribal members to bring his aunt, Bonnie Red Elk, to Missoula in April so she could be presented the 2008 Montana Free Press Award for her courageous work to ensure an independent voice for tribal members.

**Stan Pillman '06** is working in news at WBBM 780 in Chicago, coaching hockey and managing his own production company, Winded Films. He says he misses the 730 Eddy house.

**Devin Wagner '08** was hired as a photographer for the *Jackson Sun* in Jackson, Tenn.

**Kim Roscoe '06** is working for Campus Crusade on a project called the Jesus Film. She's currently in Namibia where she's filming and dubbing into the local dialect.

**Aaron Simtob '06** is freelancing in Seattle working with Fox Sports Northwest on Seattle Mariner games, Seattle Seahawk games and Seattle Super Sonic games. He also reports on many other events. He often works with two other UM grads **Marina Mackrow** and **Sarah Leno**.

**Andrew Weed '06** is a cameraman and editor for Visual Thinking, Inc. in Bend, Ore. He says, "I just wanted to say 'thank you' for all your help. I just finished my first day at the new job. It's so weird to think that I actually have an office."

**Jerry Wolf MA '06** has written a screenplay about Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, the young Irish-American organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World who came to Missoula in 1909 and touched off the Wobblies' first free speech fight. She is hoping to have her play performed next year, to observe the event's centennial.

**Eli Bierwag '07** and his wife, Melissa, welcomed their first child, Carley, in April. Eli works at Barrett Productions in Missoula and is a self-described "jack-of-all-trades minion" there.

**Alison Bryce** MA '07 says, "I'm still at NPR and I'm on the arts desk and loving it! Hope all is well in Missoula! (I miss it terribly.)" She works in Washington, D.C. **Kasey Byers** '07 is an online multimedia producer for the Denver Broncos of the NFL.

**Leanne Clark** '07 continues to work in London where she started as an intern at CNN International. She worked on freelance projects for CNN for a few months after completing her internship. She now works for NBC News on the news desk.

**Ryan Coleman** '07 is weekend weather and reporter for KPAX-TV and will attend law school at UM starting this fall.

**Cortney Fawthrop** '07 covers Great Falls as a reporter for KTVH in Helena.

**Heather Hintze** '07 is in Eugene, Ore., at KEZI-TV as a reporter. She says, "I can tell I'm the first UM grad to come through here in a while because they're very impressed with my writing skills, my story ideas, my knowledge of editing. I wanted to thank you for pushing us so hard, to make us capable producers and reporters, and even photographers. It was tough at the time but totally paid off in the end."

**Tim Kupsick**, '07 is a staff photographer for the *Casper Star-Tribune*.

**Dylan Laslovich** '07 has been admitted to the master's program in political science at UM and will start in the fall.

**Brenna Moore** '07 was hired as deputy editor of a weekly newspaper, *The New Mexico Free Press*, that started up in Santa Fe, N.M. this spring. In April

Brenna learned that she won one of five Fulbright grants to study in Germany and decided to leave the paper to accept the grant.

**Emilie Ritter** '07 moved back to Montana in May to take the capitol bureau chief job for *Montana Public Radio*. She was working as a television news reporter in Tri-Cities, Washington until she got the chance to "come home."

After interning at NFL Films and with the Jacksonville Jaguars, **Jeremy Pool** '07 has been hired full-time as an assistant video coordinator by the NFL team.

**Ethan Robinson** '07 is a copy editor at *The Washington Post*.

**Becca Sayre** '07 works for a Missoula web design/computer company, Univision (not the Spanish television network). She works on web sites as an online consultant for local and regional businesses.

**Matt Sampson** '07 is a news photographer at KKTV in Colorado Springs, Colo.

**Erica Rose Simpson** '07 wrote in February that she had "made it to Australia and live in a tiny beach town with lots of surfing hippies. I work in a tattoo shop now but I'd like to start writing again."

**K'Lynn Sloan** '07 landed a sweet gig with MTV where she's one of the 50 reporters on Street Team '08. K'Lynn covers young voters in Montana for MTV's web page. She reports, writes, shoots, edits and posts to the web all from the comfort of her Missoula home.

**Nicole Todd** MA '07 was a finalist for a Montana Broadcasters Association/Greater Montana Foundation E.B. Craney Award for non-commercial radio program of the year for her professional project, "The Race" featured the people behind some electric, hybrid and alternative fuel cars. The program aired last summer on KUFM radio.

**Jesse Zirwes** '07 traveled to Japan and

Hong Kong after graduation, then moved to New York City to work as an editorial assistant for Web MD. She also interns and freelances for Forbes.

**Erin Yost** '07 is a weather anchor at KTVH in Helena.

**Cristin Rennick** '08 finished her coursework in December and began a job in broadcast sales at KXLF-TV in Butte.

**Colin Anderson** moved to Spokane in March and is looking for work in radio or television or anything related to sports. He says he's also looking forward to a summer of fly fishing in North Idaho.

**Matt Baldwin** operates *Off the Grind*, a monthly tab published in Whitefish.

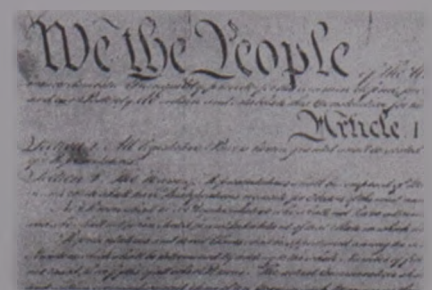
**Kathy (Weber) Bates** is the main anchor at KULR-TV in Billings, Montana. Kathy left Missoula in February to take the job. She's working for her former boss, UM grad **Joel Lundstad**

**Josie Hollenback** says she is still loving life in Spokane and working at KXCY. She's set a goal of breaking the one-hour mark in the Bloomsday run.

**Lisa Hornstein Kunkel** joined the *Independent Record* in Helena in June as a multimedia photojournalist.

**Alison Perkins** MA is a UM Ph.D. candidate, but still doing TV shows. She produced the 2008 Governor's Awards for the Arts that aired on Montana PBS. She's an associate producer on "Champions of the World," a documentary on the 1904 Fort Shaw girls basketball team.

**Josh Sanz** is the assistant chief photographer at KOIN-TV in Portland, Ore.



**To view other J-School publications online, go to:**

- **Native News Project**  
<http://nativenews.jour.umt.edu>
- **Montana Journalism Review**  
<http://www.umt.edu/journalism/mjr/mjr2008.htm>





Recently promoted J-grad **Captain Amanda Halverson '00** takes a moment to buddy up with two Iraqi kids at an unidentified checkpoint in Iraq. Amanda serves with a U.S. Marine Corps Command Operations Center based in Fallujah. As part of her duties she trains Iraqi women in weaponry and checkpoint monitoring. *-photo by unidentified fellow Marine*

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