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Main Hall to Main St.

Vol. 8, No. 8

Connecting Campus and Community

August 2002

First UM diploma returning to campus

The first diploma ever issued by The University of Montana returns to campus this fall when the graduate's descendants donate the historical document to the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library.

The diploma, one of two issued during UM's first Commencement on June 8, 1898, is a bachelor of arts awarded to Ella Robb Glenny, who went on to a career as an Iowa schoolteacher.

"We had the diploma for so long, and we thought The University of Montana might want to have it," said Dr. William Robb Glenny Jr., the first graduate's grandson and a retired Minnesota pathologist. "We felt it would have much more significance to UM than to our descendants. We would like to get a copy, however."

The doctor and his wife, Gretchen, intend to present the diploma to UM in person sometime in October or November during a planned trip to visit their son in Seattle.

UM already possesses the other diploma from its first graduating class — a bachelor of philosophy presented to Eloise Knowles. A Deer Lodge native, Knowles was a fine arts faculty member at UM from 1898 until her death in 1916. She founded Penetralia, which later became the Mortar Board student honor society, as well as Theta Phi, which became the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. UM's Knowles residence hall is named for her.

Glenny said his grandmother was an Iowa native who came to Missoula with her

husband, William Mount Glenny, a traveling railroad storekeeper. Ella Robb Glenny used her time in western Montana to earn a degree in education.

UM's first Commencement ceremony

Glenny said his grandmother gave birth to his father, William Robb Glenny Sr., while living in Missoula. Then UM's first graduate returned to Iowa and became a small-town schoolteacher after her husband's death in the 1920s. She died on Sept. 2, 1951.

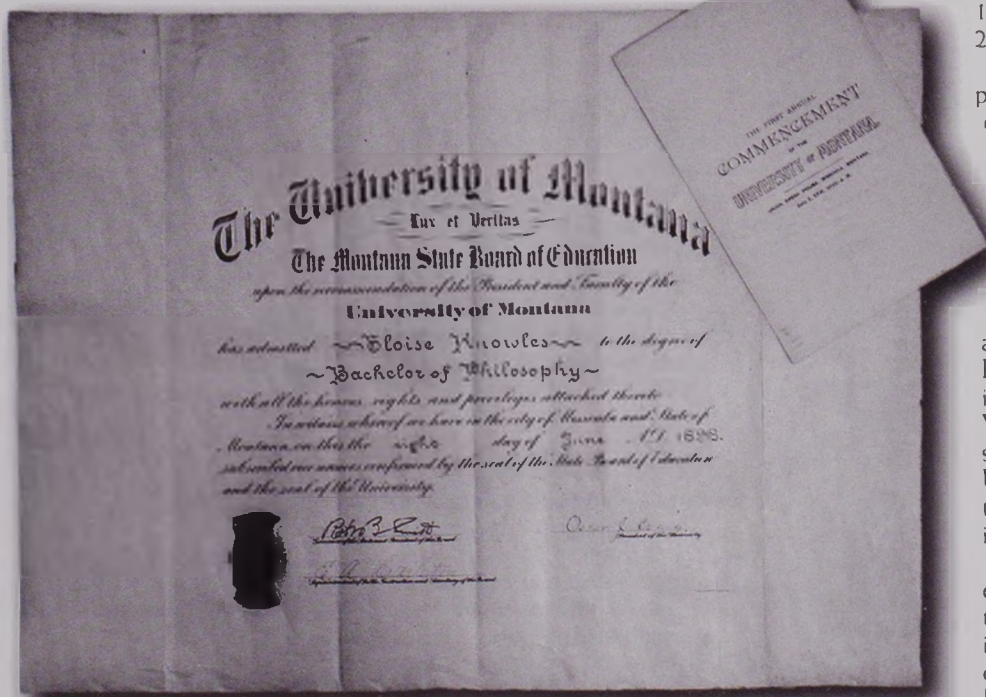
The Glenny family has produced several doctors over the years. Glenny, 76, said his great-grandfather was a physician in the Union army during the Civil War. He went into medicine himself, working at United Hospital in St. Paul, Minn., until retiring in 1971. His son, Robb William Glenny, is a research physician at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle.

The family got the idea of returning the diploma to UM after Robb William Glenny did a search of his name and was surprised by references to his great-grandmother popping up on UM Web sites. Then William Robb

Glenny Jr., while traveling to visit his son in Seattle, decided to pull off the road and stop at the UM campus. He asked some random passersby whom he should talk to about donating the diploma, and he wound up speaking with business school Dean Larry Gianchetta, who then directed him to Frank D'Andraia, dean of library services.

"It seemed like the right thing to do," Glenny said. "We just had it sitting in a closet."

D'Andraia was surprised and delighted by the offer to bring UM's first diploma home. "The library is always seeking unique things relating to the University and its graduates for current and future generations," he said.



This diploma, issued to Eloise Knowles in 1898, is the twin of the Ella Robb Glenny diploma, which returns to campus this fall. Also pictured is the program from UM's first Commencement.

was held at the Union Theater, which was located near where Union Hall now stands on the north side of Missoula's East Main Street. The major speeches were given by the graduating class: Glenny's topic was "Tendencies in Education"; Knowles spoke on "Expression of Thought." The audience reportedly was moved to tears. The diplomas were presented by UM's first president, Oscar J. Craig.

After the graduation ceremony, UM's first alumnae attended a ceremony where the 7-ton cornerstone for University Hall (known informally these days as Main Hall) was laid. The stone was inscribed with "1897," the year construction began.

UM Calendar

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks—Aug. 26, "Henry IV, Part One," 6 p.m., UM's Oval (University Theatre if inclement weather). Also Aug. 27, "Comedy of Errors," 6 p.m., Oval. Free.

Welcomefest '02—Aug. 27 and Aug. 31, campus faculty, staff and administrators help students move into dorm rooms, noon-8 p.m., also on Friday, Aug. 31. Call 243-6266 for more information.

Fall Orientation—Aug. 28-30. For more information call (406) 243-6266 or visit www.umt.edu/nss/orientation.

Holiday—Sept. 2, Labor Day. UM offices closed.

State of the University Address—Sept. 3, by President George Dennison, 3 p.m., Montana Theatre, Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

Fall classes begin—Sept. 3.

Moonlight Mix and Mingle—Sept. 3, "One Wild Night," 5-11 p.m., University Center. Events include mechanical bull ride, skydiving exhibition and more. Dinner prices: \$3.25/students with meal plan, \$5.95/general public and \$3.95/children under 10. Call (406) 243-4636 for information.

Faculty and Guest Artist Recital Series—Sept. 6, UM flutist Margaret Schuberg, 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall. \$6/general, \$4/students and seniors. Call (406) 243-6880 for more information.

Football—Sept. 7, Grizzlies vs. Albany, N.Y., 1:05 p.m., Washington-Grizzly Stadium, (KECI-TV).

Judge William B. Jones and Judge Edward A. Tamm Judicial Lecture Series—Sept. 11, "The Work of the Supreme Court," by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen G. Breyer, 3 p.m., University Theatre. Free and open to the public.

Football—Sept. 14, Grizzlies vs. Northern Colorado, 1:05 p.m., Washington-Grizzly Stadium, (KECI-TV).

Montana Repertory Theatre benefit—Sept. 17-22, "My Way," 7:30 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees Sept. 21-22, Montana Theatre, Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. Call (406) 243-6809 for tickets.

(A complete listing of UM events is online at www.umt.edu/urelations/calendar.)



Bear Briefs

Traveling Man—UM student Aaron Sosebee took the scenic route home for the summer after spring-semester classes ended. He biked 2,473 miles in 32 days back to Huntsville, Ala. During his epic trek he pedaled through a Montana cattle drive, fought endless Kansas winds, fixed three flat tires, shed 20 pounds and for company talked to his bike, which he nicknamed Huckleberry. On the final day of his trip he logged nearly 140 miles. Sosebee is a linguistics major, and a 1,000-page Chinese novel accompanied him on the journey. After graduation he wants to complete a two-year stint in the Peace Corps in China and then teach English in Japan.

HeartWalkers Needed—Everyone knows someone who has died of heart disease or stroke. Now you can do something to help fight these diseases. Pull your co-workers together and form a team for this year's annual Missoula HeartWalk, which will be held on the UM campus beginning at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 14. For more information, call KMSO Radio at (406) 542-1025 or pick up registration forms at local Subway stores.

Gigantic Garage Sale—Turn your unwanted items into cash by joining community vendors at UM's "World's Largest Garage Sale" on Saturday, Aug. 31. The event will be held — rain or shine — in both levels of the University's covered parking garage from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Setup for vendors begins at 7:30 a.m. The sale offers an opportunity to recycle furniture, housewares, clothes — anything that might have value to community residents or to students who are setting up new apartments or dorm rooms. For \$15 vendors get two parking spaces, each 9 feet by 18 feet. Additional spaces are available for \$10 each. The biannual garage sale is a fund-raiser for UM Advocates, a campus service organization. Previous sales have attracted almost 100 sellers and thousands of shoppers. Registration forms are available at the University Center Information Desk. For more information, call (406) 243-4636.

Student Programming—Juniors in UM's Department of Radio-Television produced two half-hour programs last semester that showcased businesses unique to the Treasure State. "Business: Made in Montana" aired in August on Montana PBS television stations. Viewers visited businesses such as Montana Bowworks in Hamilton, which provides handmade longbows to archers around the globe and Paw Design in Bozeman, the country's largest manufacturer of cat and dog toys. Six businesses were showcased during each program. Students did all the research, videotaping, interviewing, writing and editing for the programs. UM journalism students have produced these programs for the past nine years, profiling more than 70 Montana businesses.

Join the Parade—Applications for UM-Missoula's Homecoming Parade on Saturday, Sept. 21, now are available. The theme of this year's parade is "Call of the Wild." The entry fee is \$15. Application deadline is 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20. For more information or to apply, call the Alumni Association at (406) 243-5211.

Governor's Award—Business school Dean Larry Gianchetta was presented the Montana Export Advocate Award during the Governor's Excellence in Exporting Awards ceremony June 14 in Helena. Gianchetta received the honor for creating the Montana World Trade Center in Missoula. MWTC helps Montana businesses establish or strengthen their international trade capabilities.

Warhol at UM—Readers wanted to know more about an Andy Warhol print that appeared recently in a UM art show. The print, from Warhol's famous "Cow Wallpaper" series, was autographed by the artist and dedicated to UM President George Dennison. The legendary pop artist signed the print "To George Dennison, Andy." Warhol actually gave two identical prints to Dennison, who hung one in his home and donated the other to UM in 1991, when he became the University's leader. Dennison received the prints in the late 1970s at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, where he was an associate dean and Warhol was a visiting lecturer. Warhol presented several cow prints as gifts to people who helped organize his visit to CSU. The Warhol print, along with other gems, was displayed at UM's Montana Museum of Art and Culture in an exhibition titled "Contemporary Prints from the Permanent Collection: The 1970s." 🐾



The University of
Montana

Main Hall to Main Street is published by University Relations at The University of Montana. Send questions, comments or suggestions to Cary Shimek, editor, 330 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT, 59812, or call (406) 243-5914. Photos are by Todd Goodrich, Brenda Day, Rita Munzenrider and Patia Stephens are contributing editors and writers. The newsletter is online at www.umt.edu/urelations/mainhall.