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October 2002

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University enrollment surpasses 13,000

The number of students attending The University of Montana this fall has climbed above 13,000, marking the highest enrollment ever on the 109-year-old Missoula campus.

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Main Hall to Main Street is published by [University Relations](#) at The University of Montana-Missoula. Send questions, comments or suggestions to [Cary Shimek](#), editor, 330 Brantly Hall, Missoula, 59812, or call 243-5914. Photos are by [Todd Goodrich](#), unless otherwise stated. [Brenda Day](#), [Rita Munzenrider](#) and [Patia Stephens](#) are contributing editors and writers. Web design is by [Patia Stephens](#).



Main Hall

to

Main St.



The huddled student masses do "the wave" at Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

October 2002

University enrollment surpasses 13,000

The number of students attending The University of Montana this fall has climbed above 13,000, marking the highest enrollment ever on the 109-year-old Missoula campus.

A record 13,058 students are registered for classes this fall -- an increase of 390 or 3.1 percent over last fall's 12,668 enrollment.

This goes down in the books as the largest increase in head count for fall semester that UM has experienced in at least a decade. Enrollment traditionally has grown by between 100 and 200 students each fall since 1990.

Full-time equivalents (FTEs) also rose from 11,191 during fall 2001 to 11,388 this fall for an overall increase of 1.8 percent. An FTE represents 15 undergraduate or 12 graduate semester credits.

UM President George Dennison attributes the increase to University employees working harder to recruit and to maintain academic quality during financially tough times.

"It's very gratifying that the students continue to come the University," Dennison said. "Apparently they find an appropriate exchange between what they pay for and what they get. I think the enrollment increase is a tribute to our faculty and staff. It shows that we do deliver on our promise."

Dennison was particularly pleased with the record enrollment of 455 American Indian students. Recruiting more minority students, especially Indians, has been an emphasis for the president since he arrived at UM in 1990. That year's Indian enrollment was 239. It has steadily climbed, especially in the last two years when 376 Indian students were enrolled during fall 2000 and 415 during fall 2001.

"We made rapid progress on a goal we set several years ago," said Ray Carlisle, director of UM's Educational Opportunity Program. "President Dennison is determined to increase diversity across the board, including student enrollment."

With more transfer and graduate students and undergraduate Montana residents this year, the overall enrollment increase is consistent across most levels, said UM Registrar Phil Bain. The University's seven professional schools and the College of Technology all experienced a boost in enrollment. The COT posted the single largest increase -- 10 percent with 933 students this semester. Enrollment of nonresident students declined slightly from 3,089 last fall to 3,051 this semester.

Enrollment of UM students with disabilities also jumped significantly during the past year, from 514 to 642. This was an increase of 128 students -- a 24.9 percent increase.

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"Cloud Nine" is a thought-provoking, humorous work that raises significant questions about societal and personal issues.

October 2002

Bear Briefs

Student Winners-Two 2002 graduates of UM's School of Journalism took top honors in the Mark of Excellence Awards presented by the Society of Professional Journalists at the organization's national convention in Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 14. Danielle Dellerson of Big Fork and Natalya McLees of Kalispell won first place in the television spot news category. In addition, UM senior Johanna Feaster of Brookings, S.D., was one of three finalists in the radio feature category. SPJ has presented the Mark of Excellence Awards since 1972.

Lewis and Clark Learning-Nearly 200 years ago the fledgling United States launched its first official expedition west into the area that would become Montana. With the state now primed to commemorate the 2003-06 bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition, one of the best places to learn more about the historic travelers is the "Discovering Lewis and Clark" Web site, located online at www.lewis-clark.org. Designers periodically add interpretive episodes to the site that delve into some aspect of the expedition. They recently have done editorial cleanup to some of the older episodes, and they invite Web surfers to click on "New in September 2002" and visit the updated pages on "The American Bison" and "Nathaniel Pryor's Mission." Joe Mussulman, a former UM professor, leads a team that designs "Discovering Lewis and Clark," which now includes more than 1,200 pages and gets 27,000 hits a day. Mussulman said the site has been described by historians as the best source of Lewis and Clark information on the Internet.

On 'Cloud Nine'-UM's Department of Drama/Dance is opening its 2002-03 season with Caryl Churchill's play "Cloud Nine." Upcoming performances will be held nightly at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 15-19 in the Masquer Theatre of UM's Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. Tickets cost \$11 for the general public and \$10 for students and senior citizens. They are available at box offices in the PAR/TV lobby and the University Center. "Cloud Nine" audiences are transported across time, two continents

and a range of human relationships in this gender-bending comedy. The first act tackles colonial and sexual repression in Victorian Africa. The second act is set in London in 1979, the year Churchill wrote the play. "Cloud Nine" is a thought-provoking, humorous work that raises significant questions about societal and personal issues. The New York Times described the play as "succinctly sassy, elegantly insulting, written with a quill pen that seems to have been deftly dipped in ice water." For reservations and additional information, call (406) 243-4581, Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Educational Opportunity-UM's Experiential College offers a variety of classes you won't find anywhere else this fall. Examples are black-and-white photography, writing children's books or beginning guitar. The short, inexpensive evening classes are offered through University Center Programming and run at various times between now and mid-December. The classes are open to all. To register, visit or call the University Center Box Office at 243-4636. For more information, call 243-6187 or visit the Web site at www.umt.edu/uc/college.

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