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# Main Hall <sup>to</sup> Main St.

Connecting Campus and Community

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May 2003

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## University to present four honorary doctorates

Four Montanans will receive honorary doctorate degrees from The University of Montana on May 17 during the school's 106th commencement ceremonies.

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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. [Holly Fox](#), [Rita Munzenrider](#) and [Patia Stephens](#) are contributing editors and writers. Web design is by [Patia Stephens](#) and [Cary Shimek](#).



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May 2003

## University to present four honorary doctorates

Four Montanans will receive honorary doctorate degrees from The University of Montana on May 17 during the school's 106th commencement ceremonies.



**Ian and Nancy Davidson**

Raymon F. Thompson of Kalispell and Ian Davidson of Great Falls will receive honorary doctorate degrees in business administration. Nancy Preston Davidson of Great Falls will be presented with an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Humane Letters from the Davidson Honors College. And Margie M. Thompson of Butte will be bestowed an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Education.

Raymon Thompson grew up in Kalispell and is the founder and chairman of the board of Semitool Inc. -- a leading semiconductor equipment designer and manufacturer. The company's headquarters and manufacturing facilities are based in Kalispell, where it is one of the biggest employers in the Flathead Valley with a staff of about 1,100.



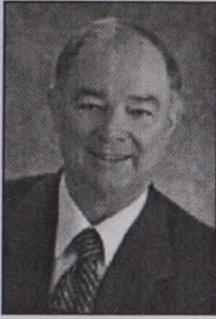
**Margie  
Thompson**

Thompson earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from West Coast University in Orange, Calif. He worked in the engineering field in California for 16 years before relocating Semitool to Kalispell in 1979.

Thompson was named Small Businessman of the Year in 1983 by the Montana State Chamber of Commerce and Montana Entrepreneur of the Year in 1992. He was the Small Business Administration's Entrepreneurial Success Award winner for Montana in 1998.

Ian Davidson is the president and chief executive officer of D.A. Davidson Co., one of Montana's leading investment firms.

A Great Falls native, Davidson earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from UM and a master's degree in business administration from the University of California, Berkeley.



**Raymon  
Thompson**

Davidson and his wife, Nancy, have been longtime supporters and benefactors of UM. The Davidsons' contributions to UM include a donation of more than \$1 million to build the Davidson Honors College, which bears their name.

Davidson received a UM Distinguished Alumni Award in 1980 and was the recipient of the Neil S. Bucklew Presidential Service Award in 1988. He has served on a number of civic, educational and philanthropic boards and organizations in Montana.

Nancy Preston Davidson earned a bachelor of arts degree in biological sciences from UM. She worked for a time as a teacher and researcher specializing in medical studies. She currently serves as chair of the board of the McLaughlin Research Institute in Great Falls.

Nancy Davidson has served on a number of UM advisory boards and committees. She served as co-chair of the successful Montana University System 1988 Mill Levy Campaign, chaired the UM Foundation Board and was an influential member of the Davidson Honors College Advisory Council.

She also has been an active civic leader in Montana, working with a number of education-oriented organizations. Her service included stints as chair of the Great Falls School Board and chair of the Great Falls Education Foundation. Nancy Davidson also is a past recipient, along with her husband Ian, of UM's Community Service Award.

Margie Thompson is a successful Butte businesswoman who recently completed a seven-year term on the state Board of Regents. She served as chair of the board for the final three years of her term.

Margie Thompson is the vice president of Thompson Distributing -- a Butte-based beverage distribution company. She attended the College of Great Falls, studying psychology, and Billings Business College, studying business.

Margie Thompson has been a member of a number of civic boards in Butte and the state of Montana. Her community service contributions have been recognized by organizations such as the Butte-Silver Bow Chamber of Commerce, the YMCA and Montana Tech of UM.



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## Curry center gets clean bill of health

UM's Curry Health Center has passed muster with a national health service accreditation agency.

The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care Inc., which accredits more than 1,300 health care organizations across the country, recently reaccredited the Curry Health Center for another three-year period.

"Essentially this is like getting the Good Housekeeping seal of approval," said Dr. Dave Bell, Curry Health Center director. "This says that someone from the outside says we are living up to their standards."

A two-member team from the AAAHC visited UM in February -- spending two days reviewing how the Curry Health Center runs. Before the visit center officials submitted an array of materials detailing health care procedures at UM.

The University received the news in March that it would be reaccredited for three years - the longest accreditation period granted by the AAAHC.

Bell said this is the second time UM has requested the AAAHC review its services. The first time also resulted in a three-year accreditation.

"By us requesting the accreditation, it demonstrates our commitment to providing the highest level of care to our students," Bell said. "And the fact we are accredited for three years indicates the agency believes we do in fact provide the top level of health care."

"The students of The University of Montana can really be proud of the health center they have."

Curry Health Center provides services for the approximately 13,000 students attending UM. Those services include dental care, counseling and psychological care, health enhancement, drug and alcohol programs, and student assault recovery and violence prevention programs.

A recent Wall Street Journal article listed accreditation by the AAAHC as a benchmark by which quality of care at student health services across the nation can be judged.

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May 2003

## University chefs earn cooking accolades

There are many reasons the food at UM tastes so good. Sandi Robinson and Tom Siegel are two of them, and they were recently recognized for their culinary talent and expertise.



**UM chefs Sandi Robinson and Tom Siegel.**

Robinson is the most recent University Dining Services employee to receive certification by the American Culinary Federation, and is now a certified sous chef. A UDS employee since 1981, Robinson currently is the sous chef in the University Center cash operations kitchen.

She already is well-known on campus for her self-branded "Sandi's Soups" line, available at the UC Food Court. The soups are the result of her extensive knowledge and professional work experience.

Siegel, UDS executive chef, was awarded a bronze medal at the 2003 National Association of College and University Food Services Region VIII Culinary Challenge.

For the competition, which is sanctioned by ACF, Siegel and the other contestants each were given 60 minutes to produce four portions of a creative beef tenderloin entree with as many as two side dishes. The finished product was judged by three certified executive chefs based on taste, the chef's demonstrated cooking skills, knife-handling, culinary techniques, organization and sanitation principles.

In preparation for the competition, Siegel created an original entree, repeatedly tested the dish and made modifications. He fully prepared the dish more than 10 times, simulating the competition conditions as closely as possible. Four of the practice sessions were performed at UM in front of a live audience and mock judges.

"In practice I had developed some techniques to stay within the one-hour time limit," said Siegel, "But in the heat of the competition, I ran over by 30 seconds. You practice and practice and practice, but you can never

really simulate the conditions of a real competition. Everything moves a little faster."

The extra 30 seconds cost Siegel 1.5 points and the silver medal. But he said he's not disappointed with the bronze.

"All the activities you do to prepare for an event -- the flavor profiles, history, testing, timed trials -- they all help to make me a better competitor and a better chef. That is the real goal."

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May 2003

## NCAA scrutinizes UM athletics

"At stake is whether the University retains its NCAA Division I certification."--UM President George Dennison

A peer review team from the National Collegiate Athletic Association was at the UM-Missoula campus April 27-30 to evaluate the Grizzly Athletics program.

The visit followed up the University's self-study of Grizzly Athletics regarding rules compliance, academics, fiscal integrity, equity, student welfare and sportsmanship.

Evaluation team members were Richard Judd, president of Central Connecticut State University; Andrea Myers, athletics director at Indiana State University; Roachel Leney, athletics director at Appalachian State University; Casey Carter, assistant athletics director at James Madison University; Darryl Pope, compliance coordinator at California State University, Northridge; and Bo Kerin and Paul Parker, NCAA staff members.

"At stake is whether the University retains its NCAA Division I certification," UM President George Dennison said of the team's visit.

Professor Jim Lopach, UM's faculty athletics representative and chair of the self-study effort, said, "The campus has done its work and we are hopeful about the outcome."

The final decision rests with the NCAA Committee on Athletics Certification.

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