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Main Hall to Main St.

Vol. 10, No. 2

Connecting Campus and Community

February 2004

MCT founders highlight fine arts benefit

Take your favorite show tunes, add two acclaimed guest artists surrounded by a constellation of talented alumni, faculty and students. Then prepare yourself for a rollicking evening of song and dance that will set your toes tapping.

The University of Montana's fourth annual Odyssey of the Stars — A Celebration of Artistic Journeys is set for 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 20, in the University Theatre. This year's show features two beloved Montana entertainers, Jim Caron and Don Collins, returning to the stage where their collaboration and friendship first began more than three decades ago. The pair, who starred together in the 1970 UM production of the musical "Man of La Mancha," founded the Missoula Children's Theatre the



Don Collins (left) and Jim Caron

same year. Three years later, Caron took over the reins of the organization and Collins moved to Seattle to begin a singing career.

Odyssey 2004 also will include participants from throughout the School of Fine Arts, spotlighting the music department. The event will feature more than 200 outstanding UM student performers. A benefit for the School of Fine Arts scholarship fund, the event features fine arts alumni who have gone on to stellar careers in the arts, in concert with current students who dream of such careers. Caron, Collins and other great Missoula voices will delight audiences with favorites tunes from a

(Continued back page)

Building named for 'Abraham Lincoln of Montana journalism'

It's official: The state Board of Regents last month unanimously approved naming UM's new School of Journalism building after Don Anderson, a major player in Montana newspaper history.

The decision paved the way for construction of a \$12 million facility to replace the building that has housed the growing journalism program since 1936. Groundbreaking ceremonies for Don Anderson Hall, which is being built with private funds, are scheduled for April 22.

Anderson, a Gallatin Valley native, was instrumental in Lee Enterprises's purchase of five Montana daily newspapers from the Anaconda Co. in 1959.

Journalism Dean Jerry Brown, who knows Anderson only from historical records and conversations with the man's friends and family, describes him as a consummate diplomat and a man of impeccable character with a "commitment to the principles of a free press in a democracy."

When Anderson died in 1978, his obituary called him the "Abraham

Lincoln of Montana journalism and described him as the liberator of the Montana news media from control of the Anaconda Co.

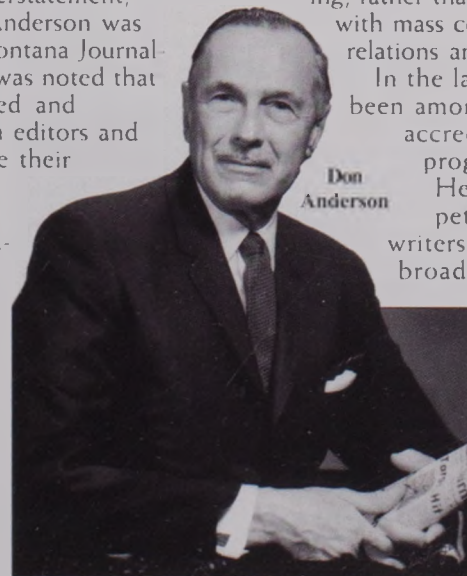
"That is not an overstatement," Brown said. When Anderson was inducted into the Montana Journalism Hall of Fame, it was noted that Anderson "encouraged and inspired his Montana editors and publishers to exercise their new freedom with complete and fair news coverage, hard-hitting editorial positions on issues and reader access to newspaper columns with letters to the editor."

Brown said Anderson's values as a newspaperman mirror those of the UM journalism school. His spirit,

Brown said, is closely aligned with UM's mission to be a "closely defined professional school" that stresses the fundamentals of accurate, clear and ethical reporting, rather than diluting its curriculum with mass communications, public relations and advertising.

In the last five years, UM has been among the top 10 of 109 accredited journalism programs, according to the Hearst Journalism Competition for student writers, photographers and broadcasters.

Among chief contributors to the building project are Anderson's daughter and son-in-law, Sue and John Talbot of Missoula, and Lloyd Schermer, retired Lee Enterprises president, and his wife, Betty, of Aspen, Colo.



Don Anderson

Military science chair breaks new ground at UM

Lt. Col. Heather Ierardi's current assignment with the U.S. Army isn't in a foreign country. But it is in foreign territory.

Ierardi, 43, is the first woman to chair UM's Department of Military Science and serve as commander of its Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

"I didn't realize how few women had served in these types of positions," Ierardi said. "Out of 270 military science department chairs across the country, less than a dozen are women. I shouldn't be surprised by that but I am."

UM's mission during Ierardi's first year was to commission 15 lieutenants out of its program into active duty in the Army. UM commissioned 21 new officers with the class of 2003.

While pleased with meeting her goal so quickly, Ierardi is not satisfied.

"The history of The University of Montana program is that there are some very strong years and then other years where we don't meet our mission," she said. "There's a lot peaks and valleys. My No. 1 objective is to be consistent in high performance."

When Ierardi arrived on the Missoula campus less than two years ago, she inherited a program ranked 145th among the 271 ROTC programs in the nation — the school's lowest ranking in 10 years.

"My goal was to get in the top 20 to 30 programs in the nation and stay there," Ierardi said.

It didn't take Ierardi long to meet the first part of her goal.

In 2003, UM rated ninth among ROTC programs in the nation. The rankings are made by a board of officers at the Army's Higher Headquarters Cadet Command and are based on how well each school meets its mission.



Lt. Col. Heather Ierardi

Ierardi credits UM's high ranking to the quality of students in the program.

"We have some very high quality students," she said. "And our students are just like other students. They work jobs and have families to support as well as go to school. We have a very diverse body of students in this program."

Nevertheless, Ierardi, a 21-year U.S. Army veteran, said she feels right at home heading up UM's 75-member Grizzly Battalion.

"I haven't noticed any obstacles, but then I'm not looking for them," she said. "This campus has a reputation for being exceptionally liberal. I feel very accepted."

The military has been a way of life for Ierardi since she was a child. Her father is a retired Army colonel.

During her 21 years of active duty, Ierardi has served in the Middle East during the Gulf War and in Kosovo as

part of UN peacekeeping forces. Ierardi comes to UM from an assignment in Germany with the 1st Armor Division.

She holds numerous awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star Medal, and a Meritorious Service Medal and an Army Commendation Medal, both with three oak leaf clusters.

Ierardi believes her broad military background will prove beneficial at UM.

"I think my own experiences can only help when it comes to teaching," Ierardi said. "And it's a good chance for me to develop new skills by working in a completely different environment."

A Nebraska native, Ierardi holds a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental health from Rutgers State University and a master's degree in education from the University of Virginia.

Since entering the Army as a second lieutenant in 1982, Ierardi also has completed a variety of Army training programs.

In her second year at UM, Ierardi said she thoroughly enjoys both her teaching experience and living in Montana.

"I probably would never have lived here if it weren't for this assignment," she said. "But this is a great place to live. And this is the type of university I would like my children to attend."

But in order to continue her military career, Ierardi will be forced to leave when her three-year assignment expires in 2005. She already has been accepted into the prestigious Army War College in Washington, D.C., where she will receive advanced training.

Until then, however, Ierardi said she will continue to relish the UM experience and strive to keep her department in the top echelon of ROTC programs in the nation. 🍷

UM marketers named 'Rising Stars' by regional college peers

Two UM employees have been singled out by their regional peers as rising stars in their professions.

Patia Stephens, University Web content manager and editor in University Relations, and Julie Schwartz, associate director of the UM Alumni Association, will be recognized for their accomplishments during the Council for Advancement and Support of Education's District VIII Conference in Portland, Ore., March 1.

Each year CASE honors three professionals — one each from the fields of alumni relations, communications and philanthropy — with Rising Star Awards. This marks the first year that one institution has had two winners.

Stephens is the Rising Star in Communications, while Schwartz is the Rising



Schwartz

Star in Alumni Relations.

The awards recognize advancement professionals with three to five years experience who demonstrate innovation, professionalism and strong leadership qualities.

Both Schwartz and Stephens serve

as acting directors of their departments in their directors' absence.

Stephens took on the role of Web content manager in July 2002 in addition to her full-time duties as a reporter, writer and copy editor in University Relations. As part of a small team of



Stephens

internal designers and advisers, Stephens helped completely revamp the University's Web site over a six-month period last year.

Schwartz has helped move the Alumni Association forward, making it possible for her

director, Bill Johnston, to perform his legislative lobbyist duties. She manages the office while he is at the Legislature.

In addition, Schwartz redesigned publications and marketing pieces, including the Alumni Membership Calendar. 🍷

Making the Grade—UM-Missoula student-athletes excelled in academic achievement as well as sports during fall semester 2003. The student-athlete cumulative grade-point average was 2.92, and almost half of the students received a 3.0 GPA or higher. Thirty-nine of UM's 325 student-athletes made the Dean's List, which requires at least a 3.5 GPA, and 23 earned a perfect 4.0. The women's cross country/track team received the highest GPA with an average of 3.51. UM women's basketball, golf, track, and men's and women's tennis teams earned GPAs of 3.0 or higher. The men's basketball team earned an average GPA of 2.57, and nearly half of UM's Grizzly football team earned GPAs of 3.0 or higher.



Bear Briefs

Caring Calendars—For only \$20 you can help a child in western Montana sharpen their speech, language and literacy skills. The Western Montana RiteCare Language and Literacy Clinic at UM is selling 2004 cash and coupon calendars to offset costs of providing the critical services to children in western Montana. By purchasing a calendar, you will be eligible for holiday drawings of up to \$500, a special Valentine's Day ring and a \$4,000 grand-prize Christmas drawing. The calendar also comes with more than 70 two-for-one dinner coupons at Missoula restaurants. All proceeds from calendar sales will go toward helping area children improve their communication skills. The Western Montana RiteCare Language and Literacy Clinic is supported through fund-raising efforts by the Western Montana Scottish Rite Foundation and donations. The clinic, which opened on the UM campus in 1998, has provided services to more than 250 western Montana children. To purchase a calendar, contact the RiteCare Calendar Marketing Division at (406) 243-5261.

Everyday Ethics—The Practical Ethics Center is hosting another "PEC Presents" lecture series this semester at UM. All seminars are free and open to the public, and are held from 12:10 to 1 p.m. in Gallagher Business Building Room L14. Scheduled seminars are:

- **March 1** — "Being a Zealous Advocate and Still Doing Justice."
- **March 15** — "Selfish or Selfless? Physicians Confront Epidemics."
- **April 5** — "Gender and Ethics in Native American Studies."
- **April 19** — "Ethics of Large Carnivore Conservation."
- **May 3** — "Moral Vegetarianism: What's Love Got to Do With It?"

"PEC Presents" brings professionals and students from the campus and community together to identify and discuss ethics as an integral part of their everyday lives. For more information call 243-6605 or e-mail huntercs@mso.umt.edu.

Kennedy's Crusaders—The Peace Corps has released its 2004 list of "Top Producing Colleges and Universities," and UM-Missoula once again made the top 10 in the category for medium-sized institutions. With 35 alumni volunteers in the Peace Corps, UM ranked 10th nationally among colleges with undergraduate enrollments between 5,001 and 15,000. Last year UM tied for 10th with Stanford University, with 32 alumni in the corps. This year's ranking puts UM ahead of institutions such as Notre Dame, Yale and Harvard. Montana State University-Bozeman finished in 23rd place with 25 alumni in the program. The Peace Corps was founded in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy. Since then more than 170,000 Americans have served in 137 countries. At the present time, the Peace Corps has 7,533 volunteers and trainees in 137 countries worldwide.

European Enlightenment—Sign up now for this year's Community Lecture Series sponsored by the UM Alumni Association. The six-lecture series will examine "The New Europe," and will feature lectures on the European Union, trade

policy and more. Lectures will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday evenings Feb. 17-March 23 in the UC Theater. The cost is \$15 for UMAA members, and \$20 for nonmembers. To register or receive more information, call Ken Thompson at 243-6439.

Library Savings—UM's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library has made a complete transition to electronic correspondence this semester in an effort to cut costs and improve customer service. On Jan. 26 library patrons received e-mails notifying them of overdue or lost materials, as well as library fines. "We started this project after realizing how much money and time were spent on sending paper notices," said Patricia Collins, circulation and interlibrary loan manager. "It was really a matter of cost and time efficiency. In the past the Mansfield Library sent out an average of 2,000 paper overdue notices each month. By using an e-mail notification system, the library can save more than \$8,000 each year on postage alone."

Art Exhibits—Unique paper kimonos and a collection of fine art prints will be displayed at UM Jan. 30-Feb. 20 as part of a new exhibit on printing. The two exhibits, "MATRIX Press: Selections from the UM Department of Art Print Collection" and "Vickie Meguire: Essence of Pattern," will be in UM's Gallery of Visual Arts on the first floor of the Social Science Building. The exhibits are free and open to the public. The Gallery of Visual Arts is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information call Cathryn Mallory at 243-2813.

Student Winner—UM senior Jessie Childress recently won fourth place in the national Hearst Journalism Awards contest for opinion writing. Childress won for a column she wrote last winter about the Montana Legislature attempting to divert funding from UM's Environmental Studies Program. She will receive a \$750 scholarship. Childress, who is from Missoula, was editor of UM's Kaimin student newspaper for the 2002-03 academic year. More than 100 accredited journalism programs nationwide are eligible to nominate student work for the Hearst awards.

Natural Writing—The UM Environmental Studies Program is hosting "Wild Mercy," a community reading series of nature and environmental writing from visiting writers in residence, graduate writing students and alumni. All readings are scheduled from 8 to 9:30 p.m. at Liquid Planet, 223 N. Higgins in Missoula, and are free and open to the public. Upcoming readings throughout the semester will be March 4, March 25 and May 6. For more information call Phil Condon at 243-2904 or e-mail phil.condon@mso.umt.edu.

Exploring Conservation—The 25th annual Wilderness Issues Lecture Series, sponsored by the College of Forestry and Conservation's Wilderness Institute at UM-Missoula, brings together scientists, landowners, environmentalists, conservation agency staff and an art historian to examine the implications of landscape-scale conservation. Lectures are scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesdays through April 20 in Gallagher Business Building Room 122. All lectures are free and open to the public. Details and a complete schedule are online at <http://www.forestry.umt.edu/research/MFCES/programs/wi/lectureseries.htm>.

Knowledge of Asia—Learn about Malaysia and Far East business at UM's Asia Lunch Series. Scheduled lectures run from noon to 1 p.m. Feb. 13 and 23 in the Mansfield Center conference room, located on the fourth floor of the Mansfield Library. Participants can bring a lunch to the lectures and beverages will be provided. Call the Mansfield Center at (406) 243-2988 or e-mail mansctr@selway.umt.edu for more information. 🍴

Scholarship association plans artistic fund-raiser

The UM Grizzly Scholarship Association has launched the Grizzly Prowl, an effort that uses art to raise money for student-athletes.

The Grizzly Prowl is similar to other fund-raisers/art exhibits that have been started around the country. Chicago used cows in its exhibit, Seattle had pigs and Billings had horses. Missoula, of course, will use grizzlies.

Forty life-size, Fiberglas grizzly bear sculptures will arrive in Missoula by June to be decorated by regional artists. Each "naked" bear will be 6 feet long, 3 feet high and 20 inches wide.

Once the bears are given the artistic touch, they will find their homes in area businesses that have sponsored them. Then by early fall, people will be able to take the "Grizzly Prowl" and view the bears at the various sponsor locations. In 2005 the bears will be available for purchase during a live, silent, Internet auction.

For more information visit <http://grizzlyprowl.com> or call C.J. Peterson at (406) 531-9444. 🐻

Odyssey — continued

host of musicals, from "Fiddler on the Roof" to "Carousel."

A \$100 sponsorship helps underwrite the cost of the Odyssey production and includes two premium reserved tickets. Half of the sponsorship is tax deductible. Individual tickets are available for \$25. To sponsor Odyssey of the Stars or purchase tickets, call (406) 243-4970.

Jim Caron

When Chicago transplant Jim Caron arrived in Missoula in 1970, no one, let alone Caron, could have imagined the impact he would have on the local community and the performing arts.

An actor with a dynamic presence and a broken VW bus, Caron found himself in the summer of 1970 with time on his hands while he waited in Missoula for repairs. A poster announcing auditions for the UM Summer Theatre production of "Man of La Mancha" caught his eye and the rest, as they say, is history.

Caron, who earned a master of fine arts degree in drama from UM in 1976, has served as executive director of the Missoula Children's Theatre and MCT Community Theatre for the past 30 years. He has overseen its development into a worldwide arts/education service organization — the largest touring children's theater in the nation. MCT has traveled to as many as 30 countries in all and in 2004 will be in all 50 states. Almost 50,000 children will be involved with the theatre this year, a figure Caron

likes to compare to the population of Missoula or a full Yankee Stadium.

In addition to running MCT, Caron annually directs a number of MCT Community Theatre productions. He also is an affiliate faculty member in the School of Fine Arts.

Don Collins

One of the finest singers in UM's history of great vocalists, Don Collins has appeared on stages throughout the United States and Canada, performing leading roles in New York, Memphis, New Orleans, Portland and Vancouver, B.C. His rich baritone has resounded alongside some of the greatest names in theater and opera, including Richard Tucker, Sherrill Milnes, Giorgio Tozzi and Howard Keel. Collins has served as the Resident National Artist Baritone with the Seattle Opera and has been recognized for both his outstanding acting and singing abilities.

Collins' odyssey began as a UM music major and student of John Lester and Esther England. Then in that fateful 1970 UM summer production of "Man of La Mancha," he played the lead role of Don Quixote, which became his signature role among Missoula-area fans.

A member of the famed Jubileers as a UM student, Collins helped form a musical group known as the Big Sky Singers during his college days. Rob Quist, Gary Funk and Don MacDonald completed the popular group that played "Friday at Four" appearances on campus and weekend gigs at the Heidelberg. Stay tuned for a Big Sky Singers reunion during this year's Odyssey of the Stars. 🎤

UM Calendar

Play—Feb. 17-21. Montana Repertory Theatre: "Streetcar Named Desire," 7:30 p.m. (2 p.m. matinee Feb. 21), Montana Theatre, Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center, \$15/general, \$12/students and senior citizens, \$5 children 12 and under (406) 243-4581.

Charter Day events—Feb. 20. UM's birthday, call Ken Thompson at (406) 243-6439 for more information.

Benefit—Feb. 20. Dinner gala, Montana Repertory Theatre, "A Streetcar Named Desire," 6 p.m. Montana Theatre. Ticket information, (406) 243-4581.

Basketball—Feb. 20. Lady Griz vs. Montana State, 7:05 p.m., Adams Center.

TV show—Feb. 21. "Brain Busters," academic quiz bowl game show sponsored by UM. Montana high school students compete for scholarships, 5 p.m. each Saturday through May. NBC stations statewide.

Basketball—Feb. 21. Grizzlies vs. Montana State, 7:35 p.m., Adams Center.

Music festival—Feb. 23-24. UM Concert Band Festival, University Theatre, free, (406) 243-6880.

Lecture—Feb. 23. President's Lecture Series: "John F. Kennedy: The View 40 Years Later," Allen Matusow, Rice University Department of History, 8 p.m., Montana Theatre, free, (406) 243-4594.

Exhibit and reception—Feb. 27-March 8. 9th annual Juried Student Art Exhibition, Gallery of Visual Arts, Social Science Building first floor, free. Gallery hours 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Basketball—Feb. 28. Grizzlies vs. Northern Arizona, 2:05 p.m., Adams Center.

Concert—Feb. 29. "Leap Day Concert," David Hayes, bass, and Sarah

Poole, soprano, String Orchestra of the Rockies, 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall. Ticket information, (406) 728-8203.

Faculty recital—March 2, pianist Eric Hung, 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall. Tickets \$6/general, \$4/students and senior citizens. Call (406) 243-6880.

Basketball—March 4. Lady Griz vs. Eastern Washington, 7:35 p.m., Adams Center.

Concert—March 5. UM Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre. Tickets \$3/general, \$2/students and senior citizens. For more information call (406) 243-6880.

Montana Campus Compact's annual fund-raiser—March 6. "Icebreaker: A Celebration of Service." For more information call (406) 243-5177 ext. 3. Public welcome.

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



The University of
Montana

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