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# Main Hall to Main St.

Vol. 10, No. 12

Connecting Campus and Community

December 2004

## Noted state historian named Montana Professor of the Year

Harry Fritz, who has taught history at The University of Montana for nearly four decades, has been named the 2004 Montana Professor of the Year by two national organizations that promote teaching excellence.

Fritz is among 50 of the nation's top professors who were honored at events in Washington, D.C., last month as guests of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

This marks the fifth consecutive year that a UM faculty member has won the award, which recognizes one professor from each state for outstanding teaching at the undergraduate level.

"That record speaks volumes about the quality of teaching at The University of Montana," said UM President George Dennison, who nominated Fritz for the 2004 award. Letters of support also came from Fritz's current and former students and campus colleagues.

"Professor Harry Fritz has a deserved reputation on campus for superb teaching," Dennison said. "In a real sense, he lives what he teaches, and students recognize the difference."

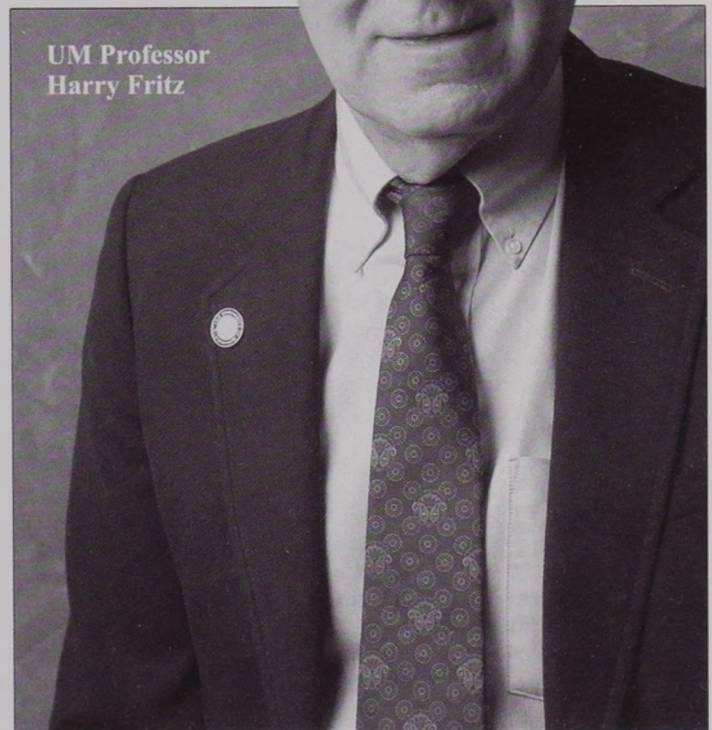
A history department faculty member since 1967, Fritz consistently has been one of the University's most popular profes-

sors, filling the minds of thousands of UM students with lessons of the past. His courses on American and Montana history remain as popular today as when he began his tenure. He has won every UM teaching excellence award given by the administration and students — some twice.

An internationally recognized expert on Lewis and Clark, Fritz has appeared in documentaries on and written extensively about the Corps of Discovery. His new book, "The Lewis and Clark Expedition," was published earlier this year by Greenwood Press.

Fritz is known for literally bringing history to life with his annual impression of Abraham Lincoln. Tall, lean and unusually Lincoln-esque in appearance,

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UM Professor  
Harry Fritz

## UM student aids homeless man in friend's memory

On a blistering June day, rumbles of hunger in Zach Betz's stomach urged him to pull off Interstate 90 into the town of Sturgis, S.D.

Betz, a 19-year-old from DeWitt, Iowa, was on his way to attend freshman orientation at UM. When Betz pulled off the road, he noticed a homeless man holding a sign reading "Will work for food and God bless," so he decided to take the man out to lunch with him at a nearby Dairy Queen.

It was an act of charity by Betz that was inspired by former classmate Cory Selby, who died of a heart ailment the summer

before his sophomore year. His parents, Mike and Jill Selby, decided to give each graduate of the 2004 class \$10 to spend on others. They urged the graduates to donate the money to a charity of choice or use it to help another.

"Cory's parents came and talked to us at graduation and they said, 'do something you wouldn't usually do,'" Betz said.

In a small town like DeWitt everybody knew everybody, including Selby, Betz said. He remembers Selby as a good person with a spirit for helping others — someone who would mow people's lawns

as an act of kindness. "Cory was a real nice kid, and he always helped everybody out," Betz said.

Betz decided to use his \$10 to feed lunch to the homeless man in Sturgis.

"It was a really, really hot day. The least I could do is get him some water and something to eat," Betz said. "He seemed like a nice guy."

In the half hour the two were at Dairy Queen, Betz found out much about the man he had picked up. In his early-to-mid

(Continued back page)

# Students tackle issues with unique radio program

**M**ention fake IDs, dorm room drinking and a minor in possession and what do you get?

The answer can be found in the student-led Footbridge Forum, a discussion held one hour each month on University radio station 89.9 KBCA. The program, which uses the theme "Cocktail Culture" this semester, encourages student and community voices to be heard on a topic that has affected everyone's life in some way — alcohol.

For some University students, going out to bars is their way to have a good time. But wait, aren't most UM students underage? That doesn't seem to be a problem anymore because of two words — fake ID.

"It's a game students learn to play. It's too easy," said Ashley Sparano, a Footbridge Forum panel member and UM junior in communication studies and business administration.

A system that's become easy to figure out has become a problem in the Missoula community, which is why the Forum made it the topic this semester.

Bringing people together to solve local problems is the purpose of the Forum, said Denise Dowling, assistant professor in the Department of Radio/Television and Footbridge Forum adviser. "This semester we are focusing on three areas: problems alcohol causes, what's the root and what do we do?" Dowling said.

The formula of combining student and



Lively discussion: UM students examine America's drinking culture during a recent Footbridge Forum.

community member ideas to nix the alcohol problem is just what the Forum did. After the last broadcast on Monday, Nov. 22, the students leading the Forum came away with a long list of ideas to locally quell the problem of alcohol abuse and underage drinking.

The Forum consisted of six members dedicated to sharing their opinions through the radio show. Three UM students — Sparano; Oliver Nordlund, a senior in history; and Andrew Levin, a senior in communication studies — are representatives on the panel. One Big Sky High School student, Chelsea Rayfield, was brought on to view the teenage perspective. Two community members, Cheryl Minnick, a career counselor at UM and mother of two teen girls, and Matt Anderson, a bartender at Finn and Porter, were the town's voices front and center on the radio show. Listeners could hear them talk about everything from their own experiences with alcohol to their thoughts

on why it's such a big problem.

The program is led by Angela Marshall, a senior in broadcast journalism, and Beth Saboe, a senior in broadcast journalism and political science.

Both Marshall and Saboe are producers of the Forum. Marshall also serves as the show's moderator. Each student believes the Forum is a strong place for student involvement.

"Everyone has an opinion on everything," Saboe said. "so I like having the idea of a venue where everyone can contribute."

Students are involved in every aspect of the show, from photojournalism senior Dan Menlove creating the flashy advertisements to business sophomore Chris Abbott and senior in radio/television Dustin Blanchet running the mechanics of the show.

The show has been student-run since

*(Continued back page)*

# Law students top moot court meet

**F**or an unprecedented seventh year in a row, UM law students have won the right to compete at the National Moot Court Finals in New York City.

A UM team placed first in the Northwest Regional Moot Court competition at the University of Washington in Seattle Nov. 4-6. The team members are Jeff Roth from Missoula, Matt Thuesen from Billings and Whitney Welsh from Whitefish. All UM competitors are third-year law students.

"They did a remarkable job," said UM law Professor Larry Howell. "I think this shows the strong writing and skills program we have here at the law school because no other law school in the nation has made it to finals the last seven years."

Before the regional competition, students prepared a brief to the U.S. Supreme Court that accounted for 40 percent of their score in each argument, with oral arguments accounting for the rest. The UM team's brief placed first, helping the team win all seven of its arguments. In addition, Welsh was named among the top five oralists in the competition.

A second UM team made up of Ryan Heuwinkel from Council Bluffs, Iowa; Megan Morris from Butte; and Jenifer Reece from Durango, Colo., stayed in the competition until the quarter-finals. Their brief placed second.

Howell said moot court competitors usually are presented with a problem pending before the U.S. Supreme Court. Their issue at regionals was whether a corrupt union official violated federal mail fraud statutes even when there was no economic injury to the victims. A second issue regarded a due process challenge to the procedures of the U.S. tax court.

Howell said there are about 180 accredited law schools in the United States. Of those, about 145 participate in the National Moot Court Competition in a given year. The country is divided into 14 regions, and the first- and second-place teams from each region move on to the



Arguers extraordinaire: (Left to right) Matt Thuesen, Whitney Welsh and Jeff Roth.

National Moot Court Finals each January.

UM has placed first or second in the Northwest region seven years in a row and won the national championship in 2000. The team is coached by Howell and Visiting Professor Andrew King-Ries.

The national competition is sponsored by the New York City Bar Association and the American College of Trial Lawyers.

**Graduating Athletes**—Student-athletes attending UM are interested in more than sports. In fact, recent NCAA figures show UM leads its Big Sky Conference rivals and the national average in student-athlete graduation rates. According to the 2004 NCAA Division I Graduation-Rates Report, UM graduates 70 percent of its student-athletes. The average student-athlete graduate rate for all Division I schools is 62 percent. Other Big Sky Conference Schools don't fare as well. Montana State University-Bozeman graduates 52 percent of its student-athletes, Northern Arizona 55 percent, Weber State 53 percent, Eastern Washington 43 percent, Sacramento State 41 percent and Portland State 36 percent. The 2004 report examines student-athletes who received athletics aid from their university for any period of time during their entering year. The report is based on student-athletes who entered their institutions in the 1997 academic year. Full report information is online at [http://www.ncaa.org/grad\\_rates/2004/d1/](http://www.ncaa.org/grad_rates/2004/d1/).

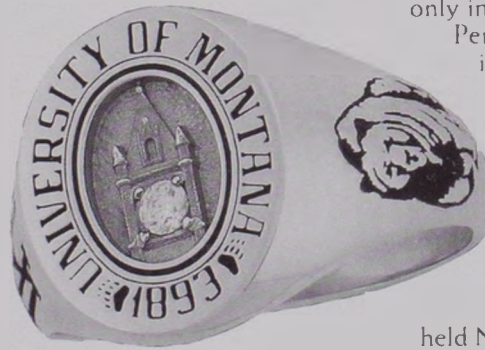


## Bear Briefs

incidental audience members — primarily American Indians — attended the event. The award is MCH's fourth Schwartz Prize. In the history of the Schwartz Prize, only one other state humanities council has received the honor four times.

**Rewarding Research**—Sue Griffin, a UM forestry and conservation doctoral student, was awarded a Canon National Park Science Scholars Program Scholarship for her marmot research in Olympic National Park, Wash. The scholarship, which is awarded on a competitive basis, grants selected Ph.D. students \$78,000 in scholarship funds to conduct research essential to the conservation of national parks. The scholarship program is a collaboration among Canon U.S.A. Inc., the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the U.S. National Park Service. Griffin is one of eight students across the United States to win the award. Her proposed research project focuses on the Olympic marmot, a possibly declining species found only in the high-elevation meadows of the Olympic Peninsula on the Washington coast. Griffin also is a 2004 recipient of the \$10,000 Budweiser Conservation Scholarship, a National Science Foundation fellowship, an Environmental Protection Agency fellowship and an NSF grant.

**One Ring to Rule Them All**—The Alumni Association has announced that UM now offers official rings for its alumni and enrolled students who have completed at least 60 credit hours. The new ring designs were unveiled Nov. 16 in the University Center atrium. A committee of students, alumni and staff designed the official UM ring. Featuring Main Hall, the ring displays University icons and symbols. Johnston said a ring presentation ceremony will take place before next spring's Commencement ceremonies. All ring recipients and their parents will be invited to take part in this new UM tradition. For more information, visit <http://www.balfourcollege.com> or call (866) 225-3687.



**UM Law Team Fares Well**—The UM law school's American Bar Association negotiation competition team advanced to the final round of the Region 10 competition held Nov. 13 in Vancouver, British Columbia. The UM team of Katie Olson and Doug Schultz, both second-year students, competed against others from 20 law schools throughout the Northwest and Canada. Although they did not win first place, Olson and Schultz were still awarded the opportunity to compete in the national finals.

**Athletes Honored**—Two UM student athletes were recognized with the Montana Athletes in Service Award during the Grizzly/Bobcat football game Nov. 20 at Washington-Grizzly Stadium. The awards are given by Montana Campus Compact and recognize UM and Montana State University athletes for their dedication and time spent on civic engagement through community service. The two UM winners are Shane MacIntyre, a senior football player from Helena, and Vasi Jankovich, a junior in track from Mercer Island, Wash. MacIntyre is a biology major whose community service includes Missoula Youth Homes, Youth Griz for a Day and nonprofit fund raising. Jankovich, who majors in history, has donated her time to the Poverello Center, orthodox church and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Two student athletes from Montana State University received the award as well. This is the fourth year students were honored at the annual grudge match. The award presentation also commemorated the anniversary of the 2000 signing of the Presidents' Declaration on the Civic Responsibility of Higher Education.

**National Recognition for Humanities**—The UM-campus-based Montana Committee for the Humanities was honored with the Helen and Martin Schwartz Prize for Excellence in Public Programming. Presented by the Federation of State Humanities Councils, the award was given at a Nov. 13 luncheon ceremony in Washington, D.C. The Schwartz Prize honors the nation's best public humanities program. MCH won for "A Confluence of Cultures: Native Americans and the Expedition of Lewis and Clark," which the committee supported in 2003 with a \$10,500 grant. The "Confluence of Cultures" took place May 28-30, 2003, at UM-Missoula. It was the brainchild of two American Indians — UM law Professor Raymond Cross and Blackfeet cultural leader and educator Darrell Robes Kipp, a longtime MCH associate and grantee. More than 600 registered attendees and hundreds of

**Art Auction a Success**—More than \$70,000 of artwork was sold at the Best of the West Art Auction Saturday, Oct. 30, held by UM's Montana Museum of Art and Culture. The event, which took place in the University Center Ballroom at UM-Missoula, was attended by more than 140 guests. Twenty-three volunteers helped with the dinner and auction. Revenue raised from the event goes toward Art Matters, the museum's new educational outreach program; conservation and preservation efforts for works in the permanent collection; and new signs for the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. Nearly 70 percent of the artwork on display was sold.

**Campus Hosts Photography Exhibit**—A collection of photographs by late Montana artist Lee Nye are on display at UM's Montana Museum of Art and Culture. The exhibit will run in the Meloy and Paxson galleries until Jan. 31, 2005. The exhibit includes four of Nye's black-and-white photographic series: "The White Series," "The Black Series," "The Graphite Series" and "The Transpositionals." These series are representative of Nye's major work, although he was best known for his portraits of "regulars" at Eddie's Club. Nye was born in Hysham in 1926. He moved to California in 1950 and studied photography at the Brooks Institute in Santa Barbara. He later returned to Montana, earning a bachelor of fine arts degree from UM in 1976 and teaching photography at the University from 1969 to 1981.

**New Look Newsletter**—UM's Main Hall to Main St. newsletter has been around for 10 years. If you get this publication, you are likely a teacher, legislator, parent, reporter or prominent friend of the University. Well, after 10 years we've decided to give Main Hall to Main St. a face-lift, so get ready for a fresh look in the January 2005 issue as this newsletter enters its second decade. 🐻

## Passing It On — continued

30s and from Memphis, Tenn., the man had been wandering for 15 years since his discharge from the U.S. Army, Betz said. The man told Betz he would eventually find a job, but wanted to see the West first.

At the conclusion of the meal Betz asked the man if he wanted anything else, but the man said no. Betz said he is sure the man will pay the act forward and do something nice for someone else.

"I felt pretty good. At first I didn't even think of the money Cory's parents gave us, and afterward I thought that's a great way to use Cory's money," Betz said. And his story about paying Selby's memory forward was picked up by the Associated Press.

Betz said the project Selby's parents started has inspired him to do little things to help others out. When he was in Iowa he worked behind the scenes in the Mississippi River clean-up effort by driving collected garbage to the dump. He's looking for volunteer opportunities at UM.

Others have paid forward Selby's memory as well. One friend of Betz's spent two weeks fixing a farm for an elderly woman whose husband had passed away. Some bought flowers for people in the local nursing home, and others combined their money to plant a tree in Selby's name. Not everyone has such a warm heart, Betz said. He is frustrated by reports that some students took the money and immediately went to a fast-food restaurant. However, he wasn't discouraged because "some people wanted to make the money go farther" than just using it one time to help another, he said.

Betz is at UM on a track and cross-country scholarship. He said he plans to major in pharmacy and hopes Selby's story inspires others to do nice things for someone else. 🐾

—By *Brianne Burrowes*

## UM Calendar

**Lady Griz Holiday Classic—Dec. 28-29**, Dahlberg Arena, times to be announced. Information: <http://www.montanagrizzlies.com>.

**Basketball—Dec. 30**, Grizzlies vs. Eastern Michigan, 7:30 p.m., Dahlberg Arena.

**Basketball—Jan. 2**, Grizzlies vs. Rocky Mountain College, Dahlberg Arena.

**Basketball—Jan. 8**, Lady Griz vs. Colorado State, 7:05 p.m., Dahlberg Arena.

**Basketball—Jan. 14**, Lady Griz vs. Montana State, 7:05 p.m., Dahlberg Arena. Information: <http://www.montanagrizzlies.com>.

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day—Jan. 19**, Holiday—UM offices closed.

**Spring semester officially begins—Jan. 20**.

**Orientation and registration—Jan. 20-21**

**String Orchestra of the Rockies—Jan. 22**, regional competition, Music Recital Hall, times to be announced.

**UM classes begin—Jan. 24**, spring semester.

**Basketball—Jan. 27**, Lady Griz vs. Portland State, 6:05 p.m., Dahlberg Arena.

**Lecture—Jan. 27** "Understanding Political Terror" by Mahmood Mamdani of Columbia University, President's Lecture Series, 8 p.m., University Theatre. Information: Richard Drake, (406) 243-2981, or Michelle Shaunnassy, (406) 243-2311

**Basketball—Jan. 29**, Lady Griz vs. Eastern Washington, 6:15 p.m., Dahlberg Arena.

## Radio forum — continued

it first took root in fall 2003. Former Associated Students of UM president and broadcast student Aaron Flint pitched a proposal to the Kettering Foundation based in Kettering, Ohio, for monetary aid to jump-start the program. The idea received a response from Kettering and help in the form of more than cash — workshops, held in Ohio, that helped the show reach the next level of organization and popularity among listeners. Both Marshall and Saboe traveled to Kettering with Dowling this past summer to seek ways to revise the show.

"It's really remarkable how the program has evolved and changed in a year," Dowling said.

One thing the radio program had going for it was interaction with the community. Live phone calls and e-mails read on air all promote the show as a forum for expression.

Those wishing to become involved with new seasons of the Forum can visit the KBCA Web site at <http://www.kbga.org> and click the Footbridge Forum link or e-mail [footbridgeforum@kbga.org](mailto:footbridgeforum@kbga.org). Applications for students and community members are taken every semester.

The new season of Footbridge Forum begins Monday, Feb. 28, 2005.

So what does it feel like to be at the conclusion of the show's semester-long run?

"For me, if I could put it into one moment," Marshall said, "it would be the official wrap-up at the end of the show when we feel like our opinions have been voiced." 🐾

—By *Brianne Burrowes*

## Harry Fritz — continued

Fritz takes his show on the road around President's Day each year, visiting schools, small-town libraries and historical societies across Montana. And every other year, Mr. Lincoln checks in at the Montana Legislature, as a dignitary from America's past.

Fritz served in the Montana House of Representatives during 1985-87 and the Montana Senate during 1991-93. He

uses his political experience to enrich the learning process for his students, Dennison said.

Fritz has compiled many of his lectures into one of the most popular books on Montana history, "Montana: Land of Contrast." In addition, he has co-edited several popular anthologies, including "The Montana Heritage: An Anthology of Historical Essays," "The Montana Legacy: An Anthology of Historical Essays" and "Montana and the West: Essays in Honor of K. Ross Toole."

Established in 1981, the U.S. Professors of the Year program is the only national initiative specifically designed to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring.

Previous Montana Professor of the Year Award winners from UM are Gerry Brenner, English, 2003; Esther England, music, 2002; John Photiades, economics, 2001; Mehrdad Kia, history, 2000; Annie Sondag, health and human performance, 1998; and Paul Lauren, history, 1991. 🐾



The University of  
**Montana**

Main Hall to Main Street is published by University Relations at The University of Montana. Send questions or suggestions to Cary Shimek, editor, Brantly Hall 330, Missoula, MT, 59812, or call (406) 243-5914. Photos are by Todd Goodrich, Brianne Burrowes, Colter Delin, Holly Fox, Rita Munzenrader and Patia Stephens are contributing editors and writers. The newsletter is online at [www.umt.edu/u:relations/mainhall](http://www.umt.edu/u:relations/mainhall).