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Main Hall to Main Street

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
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OCT 18 2006

'Silver Cloud' train tour steams across state

With the gleaming silver train for a backdrop, University of Montana administrators, professors and recruiters welcomed prospective students to train depots in three cities on the Silver Cloud Whistle-Stop Tour.

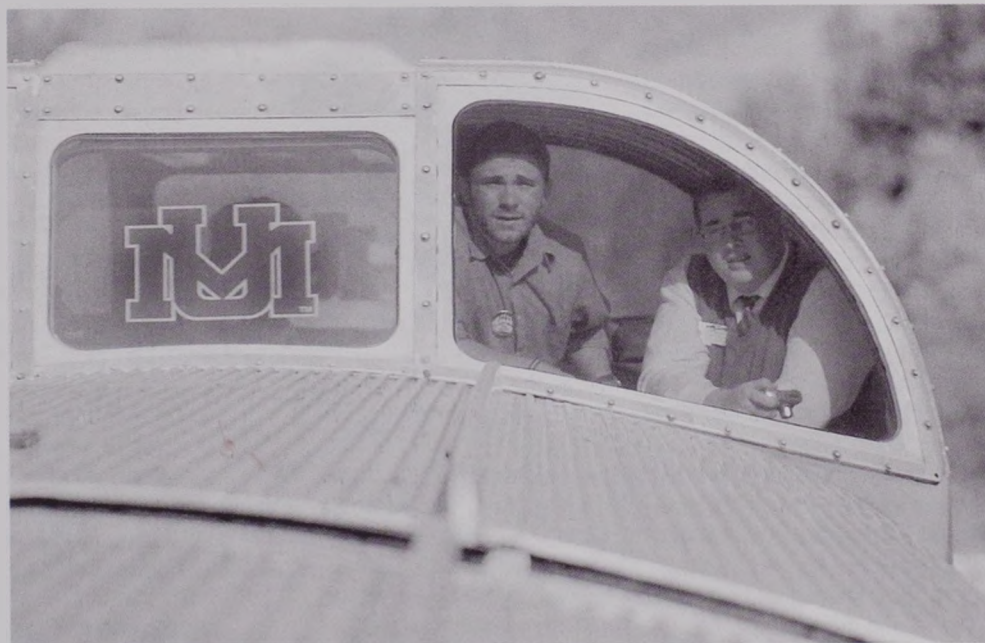
The tour, which began Sept. 12, brought a taste of UM to Helena, Livingston and Billings to recruit local high school students and publicize the new MPACT (Montana Partnering for Affordable College Tuition) program.

"I think it was a neat thing to do," said UM Executive Vice President Jim Foley. "It got the focus on UM in a city-to-city campaign that was different."

By day, UM professors and administrators went to seven local high schools to teach classes and talk with teachers over lunch. And in the evening a reception was held at the train station, where prospective students could meet and chat face to face with everyone from UM President George Dennison to chemistry Professor Garon Smith, better known as "G-Wiz."

Dennison and other administrators spoke to groups of high school students and their parents about the world-class faculty at UM as well as the constant upgrading of facilities.

"We try to make sure at least one quarter of campus is torn up all the time," Dennison quipped.



ASUM Vice President Cedric Jacobson (right) and Horatio Alger scholar Dan Boyce sit in the viewing platform on UM's recent "Silver Cloud" recruiting trip.

"A unique part of the outreach we do is that the president goes with us and the deans go with us," Foley said. "So if you're interested in the Honors College or the business school, you and your parents can have a conversation with the dean."

Foley attributed the impressive showing of UM deans and administrators to the unusually large amount of space afforded by the "Silver Cloud," a

luxurious, renovated train owned by Montana Rail Link.

On hand to represent the more than 13,000 students that attend UM were Associated Students of UM president and vice president Andrea Helling and Cedric Jacobson.

"We've had a tremendous time," Helling said along the way.

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Griz for Kids once again looks to community for toys

Even though it comes long before Thanksgiving, the Nov. 4 Grizzly football game against Cal Poly isn't too soon to get in the holiday spirit.

The second annual Griz for Kids toy drive will be in full swing, with boxes placed at each entrance to Washington-Grizzly Stadium for fans to drop off a new, unwrapped toy for an area youth in need.

The Montana Grizzlies and UM, Max Media and Missoula Federal Credit Union, in conjunction with the 102.5 Mountain FM's Mountain of Giving Toy Drive, are collecting toys that will be distributed

to Missoula children in need during the holiday season.

"We wanted to keep it going (a second year) as a football team and as a whole athletic department," said organizer and Grizzly football player Ryan Wells. "It's a great way for us to give back to the community, and we have a venue in Washington-Grizzly Stadium that attracts 23,000 people."

For people who are feeling generous but aren't football fans, toys can be dropped off at any Missoula Federal Credit Union location.

For those at the Nov. 4 game, signs and people in "Griz for Kids" T-shirts will point the way to drop boxes before kickoff.

Last year, big-hearted Griz fans donated thousands of toys, and this year Wells wants the program to collect even more.

Donations go to help Mountain Home Montana, Head Start, Early Head Start, Missoula Indian Center, Youth Homes Inc., Watson Children's Shelter, A.W.A.R.E. Inc., YWCA and WORD.

For more information visit <http://www.moclub.com/grizforkids>.

Stones give plenty of satisfaction

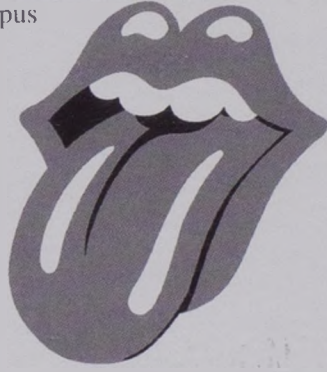
The Rolling Stones worked their mojo on a sellout crowd at Washington-Grizzly Stadium at a mid-week concert in early October that at times seemed more like an invasion than a rock concert. The physical requirements of the show, as well as the draw of the legendary band, challenged UM's event planners, security team, and faculty, staff and students alike.

The stage for the Stones' A Bigger Bang tour took four days to assemble, and the tour's 70 semi-trailers required 12 percent of campus parking for the better part of a week. The campus buzzed with the construction and preconcert anticipation. Mass-transit options were upped early in the week and put into overdrive for the Oct. 4 concert. Security was at an all-time high.

But UM planning proved more than adequate, with the night coming off with nary a hitch. Montana weather even cooperated — it was balmy and clear as the swarms filed in; the light rain predicted for the evening began only as the crowd snaked out of the stadium.

A San Francisco band, the Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, opened for the aging rockers while a near-full moon rose over Mount Sentinel. About a half hour after their set, the 21,000 revelers, satisfied with the time given for socializing and consuming snacks and beverages, began a wave that coursed through the arena several times. Outside thousands opted for free-of-charge proximity to the happenings by climbing Mount Sentinel or Mount Jumbo or simply placing lawn chairs on the campus grass.

When the Stones appeared with a stunning fireworks display to open with "Jumpin' Jack Flash" a roar arose and people were on their feet, some not sitting for the next two hours. A massive sound system allowed people in downtown Missoula and



— Continued back page

UM to put on 'Day of Dialogue'

Diversity and tolerance aren't the kinds of things that can be achieved in a day, but a day dedicated to conversation and education on those topics is a good place to start.

UM will host its first "Day of Dialogue" Wednesday, Oct. 18, with speakers, educational workshops and exhibits to get students and faculty talking about diversity.

"Sometimes we get stuck bringing diversity down to just race," said organizer Emily Yaksitch. "Race is important, but diversity is a lot of things."

The day's events will be held symposium-style, with educational sessions at 9 and 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and exhibits set up all day.

These sessions will include lectures, films, panel discussions and round-table discussions led by faculty, staff and students from varied campus departments.

The keynote speaker for the event is Manning Marable of Columbia University. Marable founded the Institute for African American Studies at Columbia, and his speech at 2 p.m. in the University Theatre highlights the daylong event.

"Allowing for a day is by no means conclusive," Yaksitch said. "But the intent is to facilitate dialogue."

Yaksitch said she sees UM as a progressive and open-minded campus, but also one suffering from a limited amount of diversity.

"When you have a diverse campus the rewards are immeasurable," she said. "Diversity challenges your belief systems and broadens your interactions."

The various seminar sessions have a variety of interesting titles such as "How Poverty Divides Us," "Sexism and the Search for Female Viagra" and "Fasting Ramadan and Hiking the M."

Yaksitch said she hopes the event will become an annual one at UM and at the very least make people stop and think and maybe have a conversation about diversity.

"Discussions about diversity are not easy," she said. "Exploring and active listening is what counts."

For more information on the Day of Dialogue visit <http://www.umt.edu/dayofdialogue>. ☛

UM hits all-time enrollment record at 13,961

UM set another enrollment record with a total of 13,961 students on campus for fall semester 2006, an increase of 359 over last year's headcount of 13,602.

In addition, full-time equivalents (FTE) increased slightly for a total of 11,716 this fall, compared to last fall's 11,695. An FTE represents 15 undergraduate or 12 graduate semester credits.

Resident FTE increased from 8,606 a year ago to 8,644 this fall, while nonresident FTE were down slightly at the upper-division level because of smaller freshman classes the last two years. Graduate student enrollment was up slightly as well.

Undergraduates are carrying slightly lower credits loads, but they still remain

above the 12-credit threshold for financial-aid eligibility.

UM President George Dennison said the numbers indicate that efforts over the last two years to stabilize and increase enrollments have had a positive effect.

"The slight but predictable decline among nonresident upper-division students reflects the smaller entering freshman classes during the last two years," Dennison said. "Over the next few years, we will see that rise again because of the increase in the entering class."

Dennison also noted that the credit loads of students appear to remain relatively low in part because of how the University handles online course registrations. Currently credits from those courses have never been counted toward FTEs.

Including those credits would constitute an additional 274 FTE. Dennison plans to present a conceptual plan to the state Board of Regents this week to resolve that problem.

"Students are carrying heavier loads, with an increasing number of credits taken online," Dennison said.

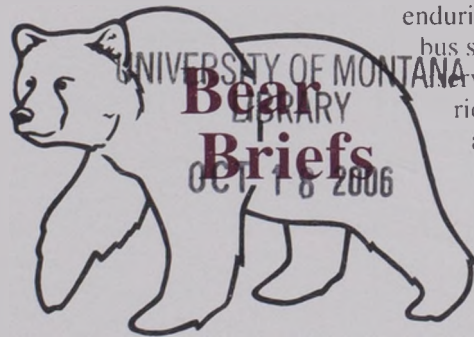
"In addition, we can take pride in the increased diversity of the entering freshman class of more Native American, black, Hispanic and Asian-American students with an academic profile somewhat better than the class of 2005 — an average high school GPA of 3.3 and ACT score of 23," Dennison said. "Included within the class are 10 National Merit Finalists, 32 Presidential Scholars and 123 valedictorians." ☛

It's All Relative—Parents, siblings and grandparents of UM students will invade campus and the Garden City Oct. 27-29 for annual Family Weekend festivities. This year's jam-packed schedule of activities begins at 8 a.m. Friday and continues until noon Sunday with events that include a city tour with Mayor John Engen and an American Indian sunrise ceremony on Mount Sentinel to honor families. Hundreds of family members from coast to coast and many states in between will trek to Missoula to check in on students, take them shopping for mid-term supplies and enjoy the many offerings of campus and community in late October. To see a complete Family Weekend schedule, visit <http://www.umt.edu/urelations/family.htm>.

Radio Show Wins—The Montana Broadcasters Association named an experimental radio program at UM the "Outstanding Non-Commercial Radio Program of 2005." The Footbridge Forum brings students and citizens together to discuss issues ranging from the development of south campus to American Indians and higher education. Students produce, promote and host the show, which airs on KBGA College Radio monthly. Senior Heather Hintze of Whitelish attended the MBA awards ceremony in August to accept the award on behalf of her fellow students. The honor comes with a plaque and \$500. The program was developed by R-TV Assistant Professor Denise Dowling and has won numerous awards since its inception in 2003.

Blogging Begins—Ten UM students are writing about their lives and their college experiences in online journals on the UM home page. "Voices" went live last month, replacing the Faces feature. The new blogs are intended to give prospective students an idea of what life at UM is like, as well as to foster a sense of community among UM students, employees and alumni. Online student journals reflect the increasing popularity of blogs and social networking sites like MySpace and Facebook. UM's student bloggers were chosen to reflect a broad cross-section of majors, class levels, hometowns and interests. They were selected by a committee of representatives from University Relations, Enrollment and New Student Services, Information Technology and the UM Web Development Committee.

Mascot History—UM has a long tradition of school spirit, and one important symbol of that spirit over the years has been the UM mascot — always a bear, but not always the fur-costumed ball of energy we know today as Monte. An exhibit tracing the evolution of UM's mascot is on display in the lobby of the University's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library through October. The timeline of the display of mascot memorabilia, created by Teresa Hamann of the library's K. Ross Toole Archives, begins in 1897, when a live bear cub traveled with UM's football team, then simply known as the "bears." UM's football team was renamed the Grizzlies in 1923. The exhibit moves through the numerous live bear cubs who served as University mascots, first named Teddy, then Fessy and finally, in the 1960s, Cocoa. UM's costumed mascot during the 1980s, dubbed Otto, donned a variety of fun-loving outfits to entertain crowds at Grizzly football games. Hamann said, "It wasn't until 1991 that UM's mascot became known as Monte, short for Montana." During Homecoming in October, UM alums will have an opportunity to take a stroll down memory lane through the



exhibit," said Donna McCrea, head of archives at the library. But even with information from the archives, University Relations and the Adams Center Hall of Champions, McCrea said the library doesn't have a complete history of UM's mascot. She is asking University alumni, staff, faculty members and others to search their scrapbooks and UM treasure troves to help build the library's collection of photographs, newspaper clippings and other items that document mascot history. To donate items or photographs, call McCrea at 406-243-4403 or e-mail donna.mccrea@umontana.edu.

Better Bus—The Missoula Urban Transportation District, which oversees the city bus service Mountain Line, has recently donated a 35-foot bus to UM. Nancy Wilson, director of the ASUM Office of Transportation, said the donation of the 35-foot Gillig Transportation bus is a first. Wilson said Mountain Line just received five new buses and was going to have a surplus, so ASUM requested that they donate one of the vehicles to UM.

Wilson said she hopes that extra size will help alleviate an enduring problem for Park-N-Ride and U-DASH bus services: having to leave people behind. The services combine to give approximately 1,800 rides each day, and during peak times students are sometimes left to wait for the next circuit before they can hitch a ride. The bus, while not brand new, will still be the newest vehicle in the fleet, which should mean added reliability and longevity. The donated bus is a 1996 model compared to the two buses in use now, which were built in 1988 and 1989.

Adult Courses—UM's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute has received a \$300,000 grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation to fund courses for older adults in the greater Missoula area. The first installment of the grant arrived just in time for the fall term and an open house. The open house will introduce the Montana Osher Lifelong Learning Institute to prospective and returning MOLLI members and give them a chance to meet instructors and the volunteer council members who guide the institute. Classes are interactive sessions with no projects or examinations that meet on six consecutive Fridays. There are three six-week terms offered each year. In addition to a \$25 annual membership, MOLLI members pay a \$50 fee per course with discounts for couples enrolled in the same class. For more information, call Continuing Education at 406-243-2905 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/ce/plus55>.

Pakistan Exchange—UM took another step to promote research and study opportunities among nations this month when UM President George Dennison signed an agreement with the University of Peshawar, Pakistan. The agreement makes possible faculty and student exchanges between the two universities. The first exchange prompted by the agreement was a visit to UM by Asif Khan, director of the University of Peshawar's National Centre of Excellence in Geology. While in Missoula, Khan gave presentations on the 2005 Kashmir earthquake, the focus of his current research.

Tax Institute—If the intricacies of the U.S. tax code get you excited, it's time to attend UM's 54th Annual Tax Institute. Offered by the UM School of Law, the institute will be held Friday and Saturday, Oct. 27-28, at Missoula's Doubletree Hotel. Eleven

— Continued back page

"We didn't really know what to expect," she said. "But it's been fun to interact with faculty and high school students."

Jacobson noted that UM has a 90 percent retention rate of students from Helena High School and that outreach programs where students can meet with University officials face to face are usually very successful.

Helena Capital High senior Kaila Matteson attended the reception after she received an invitation in the mail.

Matteson was already pretty committed to becoming a Grizzly, she said, but was even more confident in her decision to pursue marketing at UM after the tour stop.

"It was cool talking to people," she said. "I got an opportunity to meet the dean of the business school."

Diana Stonehouse, also a senior at



UM administrators chat with members of the local and national media aboard the Silver Cloud. Officials visited three cities in three days and met with more than 600 prospective students and parents.

Capital, said she had decided to come to UM before the reception but was impressed with the chance to mingle with so many higher-ups.

Foley said the group spoke with more than 600 students and parents over a three-day span.

"Our new TV spots and the train all happened at the same time," Foley said. "People, the governor, the Board of Regents, took notice of us being aggressive with outreach."

The tour received coverage in the New York Times. 🐾

Bear Briefs — continued

speakers will present topics such as "A Taxpayer's Principal Residence: Not Only a Castle But a Magnificent Tax Shelter." The event costs \$300 for registrations received by Oct. 20 and \$350 for those received thereafter. Continuing education credits are available. The Institute is intended for attorneys, accountants, trust officers, financial planners, development officers and insurance professionals. To register go online to http://www.umt.edu/LAW/alumni/Tax_Institute_2006.htm and mail the registration form to 2006 Tax Institute, School of Law, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812-6552. For more information, call the law school at 406-243-4311. 🐾

Rolling Stones — continued

the Rattlesnake area to hear many of the songs.

Set on a six-story backstage, the world-class spectacle included amazing lighting and a 40-foot video screen. Thirty-foot tongues of fire (something like the jet propulsion associated with rockets) shot from the top of the backstage that lit the arena as if daylight had arrived. A moving stage mounted on a catwalk brought the rockers the length of the stadium and put many of the audience within a few feet of the band. On the backstage, the band's signature lips and tongue protruded and pulsed in what appeared to be a nearly house-sized helium sculpture.

The musicians delivered an impressive performance, with Mick Jagger strutting

his stuff and Keith Richards charming the crowd by noting he found Montana, on his first trip here, to be "beautiful country." He added he was "thinking about moving in."

The rockers dispelled any suggestion that the band may be over the hill as they delivered more than two hours of hits such as "Let's Spend the Night Together" and "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction." Happily, the same couldn't be said for the three or four generations of Montanans who filed out of Washington-Grizzly Stadium that night. 🐾

— Joan Melcher

Editor's Note: UM obtained a market analysis of where the concert tickets were purchased. Here is a smattering of the results: Arizona, 194; Florida, 71; Texas, 223; and New Hampshire, 296.

Visiting artist lecture—Oct. 19.

Christopher Raushenberg discusses his "Rephotographing Atget" and comments on "Watershed Stories." 7 p.m., Meloy Gallery, Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center. Sponsored by the Montana Museum of Art and Culture.

Faculty recital—Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall, Faculty Chamber Recital. \$6 general; \$4 students/seniors.

Lecture—Oct. 26, 8 p.m., University

UM Events

Theater, President's Lecture Series presents: "Europe in the 21st Century: Too Big to Be Left Alone, Too Weak to Go It Alone." Josef Joffe, publisher-editor of *Die Zeit*, Germany. Free and open to the public.

Symphony—Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre, UM Symphony

Orchestra. \$5 general; \$3 students/seniors

Dance—Nov. 4, 7:30-11 p.m., University Center Ballroom, Town and Gown Community Dance, contra dancing, live music, no experience necessary, \$7 general; \$5 with Griz Card.

Conference—Nov. 9, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m., University Center Theater, Groundwater Policy Conference, discuss surface-groundwater connections in the Clark Fork River Basin. Open to the public, \$25.



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. Brenda Day, Rita Munzenrider, Patia Stephens and Alex Strickland are contributing editors and writers. Todd Goodrich is the primary photographer. The newsletter is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/urelations/mainhall>.