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### Main Hall to Main Street, March 2007

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## UM adds Italian universities to exchange list

Students and faculty at The University of Montana looking to broaden their horizons with international travel just got two new opportunities at universities in Northern Italy.

UM has signed exchange agreements with the University of Brescia and the Catholic University of Northern Italy to promote student and faculty exchanges. Opportunities for work internships and research exchanges also will be available. The agreements, signed last month, were facilitated in part by the World Trade Centers at UM and the University of Brescia. "We did these agreements in two days, which is amazing," said UM Executive Vice President Jim Foley. "There were lots of people helping on both sides."



UM Executive Vice President Jim Foley (third from right) with leaders of the two Italian universities and others who assisted in crafting the agreements

Exchanges will begin after UM's International Committee has identified the best areas for partnership and UM President George

Dennison gives the okay, most likely sometime in the next year.

Director of the Office of International Programs Mehrdad Kia said that UM currently has 64 such agreements in place with schools around the world and that in the last four years the number in Europe has seen the sharpest spike.

"The Italian universities are very prestigious," he said,

noting that they are among the highest ranked in all of Italy in the sciences.

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## Theatre director named to national symposium

Tom Webster, director of UM's University Theatre, will be in elite company this April when he participates in a symposium in New York City organized by Duncan Webb, a national leader in theater management.

The event — "The Performing Arts Center of 2032" — will bring together between 30 and 50 experts in theater facilities and other theater experts from across the country for a two-day discussion about the future of performing arts centers. It is sponsored by Webb Management Services and Americans for the Arts.

Webb, who recently completed a feasibility study for a performing arts center in Missoula, is the author of "Running Theaters: Best Practices for Leaders and Managers."

His New York City-based consulting firm, Webb Management Services, assists decision-makers in creating and sustaining arts and entertainment ventures. Last summer the firm won a contract with Gehry Partners to map out structural foundations needed for theaters planned near the Freedom Tower at Ground Zero in Manhattan.

Symposium participants will discuss the wide range of issues associated with performing arts centers, including: where the money will come from to build and sustain them; if planned buildings are the right buildings for the future; how buildings can remain relevant in their communities; and what changes will be likely in audience attendance.

Webster looks forward to the discussion. He said technology also is a huge factor when planning for a performing arts center. Technology at future centers likely will be much different from today's venues, he said. For example, simultaneous digital feeds from a performing arts center could be streamed to cell phones, YouTube or directly to an audience member's home.

"This industry is so fluid," he said. "It's changing on a daily basis. For instance, you're going to be able to get tickets on your cell phone, go to the concert and the bar code will be read from your cell phone to get in. Then, at the end of the concert, you'll be called on your phone and asked if you

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Tom Webster



# 'Odyssey' — a celebration of grandes dames

Both are well-loved teachers and accomplished artists. Both are working on books as their careers wind down. And both will take the stage for the seventh annual "Odyssey of the Stars — A Celebration of Artistic Journeys."

Grandes dames Esther England and Margaret Johnson will be honored by former students and current UM students who will perform and celebrate their careers on the University Theatre stage Saturday, April 14. "Odyssey" is produced every year by the UM School of Fine Arts.

In 38 years of teaching voice and music at UM England has shaped the talents of more than 1,500 students, including world-class opera singers. A Fulbright Scholar, England also is a former associate dean of the School of Fine Arts and UM professor emerita of music. She studied opera in Germany and was a professional soloist with the Bavarian Radio Choir for three years before joining the music faculty in 1969.

England's former students shower her with superlatives — calling her "an angel," "a treasure" and "a major-league horn."

Johnson directed her first play more than 44 years ago, the same year she

Not a week goes by, Johnson says, that she doesn't run into a student she taught. That is not surprising, considering that from 1968 to 1978, because of how the curriculum was structured, Johnson taught every student at Sentinel.

She often took her students to New York City to see Broadway productions and in her spare time acted in plays at UM. She also served as the state director of the International Thespian Society from 1970 to 1993.

The theater at Sentinel where she staged many productions was named the Margaret Johnson Theater in 2001.

Johnson is working on a book inspired by her students about directing high school theater on a budget and with little experience.

England has two projects in the works — a memoir/how-to manual with the working title "Cheap Tricks for Young Voice Teachers" and a children's book about a "very fat, very hairy" cat tentatively titled "Greedy Guts and Muff." 🐾



**Margaret Johnson & Esther England**

began teaching English and drama at Sentinel High School. Since, she has directed more than 190 productions and has had a lifelong impact on students she sees regularly to this day.

## University television campaign wins 10 ADDYs

UM's "Griz Country" television commercial won Best of Show in electronic media at the 2006 Montana ADDY Awards Competition in Great Falls.

Chisel Industries, which worked with UM administrators, faculty and students to produce the ad and six other award-winning spots for the University, brought home 10 ADDYs for its UM television campaign.

Chisel won four Gold ADDYs: one for electronic media, one for the UM campaign and two for the "Griz Country" spot — one in the 60-second ad category and another in the regional/national single spot category.

Silver ADDYs went to the "Legacy" spot in the 60-second ad and regional/national single spot categories and for elements of advertising/music only used in the UM academic campaign.

Bronze ADDYs went to spots focusing on UM's chemistry program in the 60-second ad category and its business management program in the regional/national single spot category. A third bronze was awarded for elements of advertising/music only for the tunnel run music in the "Griz Country" spot.

Chisel Industries is a Montana-based marketing and production company with Hollywood experience. Chisel uses 35-millimeter cameras, lighting equipment, camera cranes and other specialized equipment to give its work a polished look.

The ads produced in UM's academic campaign featured faculty members teaching in fine arts, chemistry, biology, pharmacy and business. All of the spots, including two that focus on UM sports and Grizzly athletics, have aired on various cable networks throughout Montana; during the playoff football game that pitted

the Grizzlies against the University of Massachusetts, the spots appeared nationally on ESPN.

"These ads were done with lots of folks on campus working together — deans, faculty, staff, students," said Jim Foley, UM's executive vice president. The ads were made to appeal to potential students as well as alumni, potential donors and policymakers, Foley said. He added that UM and Chisel Industries plan to make more commercials when spring weather offers better filming opportunities.

The ADDY Awards competition is a three-tiered national competition conducted annually by the American Advertising Federation. Gold and silver awards advance to regional ADDYs and winners advance to the national competition. Of the 468 entries received, 53 Gold ADDYs were presented for professional entries and four were presented for student entries. 🐾

## Eggstravaganza!

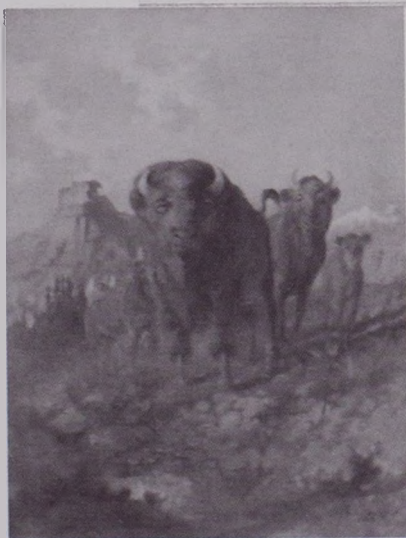
Don't miss the seventh annual Easter Eggstravaganza at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 7, on the UM Oval. Free and open to the public, it's the region's largest egg hunt, featuring separate sections for age groups: 0-2, 3-4-5, 6-7 and 8-9. Parents are allowed to help infants and toddlers. 🐾





**Forestry Honors**—Several alumni and professors of UM's College of Forestry and Conservation were honored recently by the Society of American Foresters. John McMahon, who graduated from UM with a bachelor's degree in forestry in 1960 and earned a master's degree in 1964, was named president of SAF in January. McMahon had a long career with the Weyerhaeuser Co., beginning in 1964 and ending in 2001 when he retired as vice president of timberlands and external and regulatory affairs. He lives in Normandy Park, Wash. CFC Dean Perry Brown and three UM alumni — Stephen Arno of Florence; Russell Graham of Moscow, Idaho; and Carl Fiedler, UM research professor of silviculture — were elected as SAF Fellows. The title honors SAF members who have provided outstanding contributions to the society and to the forestry profession.

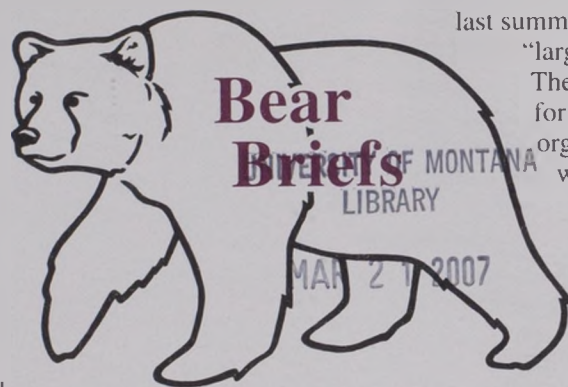
**Art Donation**—The Montana Museum of Art & Culture at UM recently acquired an important donation of 161 works of Western art through the generosity of the Bill and Polly Nordeen family. The acquisition, known as the Bill and Polly Nordeen Collection, contains works by some of the most well-known pioneers of Western art, including Karl Bodmer, Edward Borein, George Catlin, Ace Powell, Edgar Paxson, Frederic Remington and C.M. Russell. The works are primarily oil and watercolor paintings that depict scenes of Western life, landscapes, portraits, wildlife and still life. The collection also includes three hand-tinted lithographs by George Catlin, a 1903 oil painting by Edgar Paxson titled "At the Waterhole," Western bronzes, Pre-Columbian ceramics and Mexican and American Indian masks and baskets.



Edgar Paxson's "At the Waterhole"

**More Students**—UM enrollment continues to climb, but the big news this semester is that students are taking more credit hours. While head count increased to 13,309 — 24 above last spring's enrollment — the number of full-time equivalents jumped 202 — from 11,096 to 11,398. An analysis is still under way, but it appears the numbers can be attributed in part to online registration and the conversion of Wintersession courses counting toward spring semester.

**Garage Sale**—A UM parking structure will be a bargain hunter's paradise Saturday, April 28, when it transforms into the "World's Largest Garage Sale." The sale runs from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the first and second levels of the parking garage on Campus Drive next to the Mansfield Library. The "world's largest" claim, which has been used for years to tout the sale, was acknowledged in a story in the New York Times travel section



last summer. The writer of the article attributed the "largest" claim to "the size of its garage." The 18th semi-annual event is a fundraiser for UM Advocates, a campus service organization of more than 100 members who provide volunteer services for many campus functions. Previous sales have drawn nearly 100 sellers and thousands of shoppers.

**Environmental Study**—Robin Saha, a UM environmental studies assistant professor, contributed to an update of a landmark 1987 report that revealed how U.S. citizens who are minorities or poor are much more likely to have hazardous-waste facilities in their neighborhoods. The update, titled "A Current Appraisal of Toxic Waste and Race in the United States," found there has not been any positive progress since release of the first report. Saha, who has been a scholar in the environmental justice field for the last decade, wrote a key chapter in the update titled "A Current Appraisal of Toxic Waste and Race in the United States." A summary of the new study was released in February at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in San Francisco.

**Provost Search**—The search for a new UM provost and vice president for academic affairs has been extended. President George Dennison said UM will seek assistance from a search firm to move the process forward. An earlier search yielded three candidates who came to campus for interviews, but none was offered the position. Dennison said Teresa Branch, vice president for student affairs, will chair the search committee from this point forward, since former chair Dan Dwyer, vice president for research and development, has pressing business commitments. Dennison said there is a need to identify someone to assume the provost position as soon as possible. The president has been serving as interim provost since Lois Muir was removed from the position nearly one year ago.

**Board Appointee**—Bob Ream was appointed by Gov. Brian Schweitzer to the UM Local Executive Board in late February. He replaces Leonard Landa as a public representative on the board and will serve through April 2009. Ream will provide consultative and advisory service to UM President Dennison, act as a liaison between the community and the University, and foster public awareness of the contributions of UM to Missoula and the state. A retired professor of wildlife management, Ream taught in the UM School of Forestry and Conservation for 28 years and was named the acting dean of forestry in 1993. Ream served as a representative in the Montana Legislature for 16 years, where he chaired the House Fish and Game Committee. The appointment was approved by the state Board of Regents at its Feb. 28-March 1 meeting.



**Centennial Bricks**—Become a permanent part of the UM campus by having your name — or another person's — engraved in Centennial Circle on the Oval. The deadline for buying bricks for the spring engraving is Friday, April 13. The cost is \$150. For more information call University Relations at 406-243-2522 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/urelations/bricks.htm>.

# UM Events

**Film—March 22, "Liberty Bound,"** 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., University Center Theater. An event of the Spring 2007 Peace and Justice Film Series. Discussion will follow each screening. Free and open to the public. Information: <http://www.peaceandjusticefilms.org>.

**Concert—March 22,** UM Symphonic Wind Ensemble, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre. \$5 general; \$3 students/seniors. Information: UM Department of Music, 406-243-6880, [griz.music@umontana.edu](mailto:griz.music@umontana.edu).

**Film Festival—March 25,** Sneak Peek: International Wildlife Film Festival, awards party announcing the 2007 Best of Festival film, 8:30 p.m., Roxy Theater, 728 S. Higgins, Missoula. \$25. Tickets and information: 406-728-9380, [iwff@wildlifefilms.org](mailto:iwff@wildlifefilms.org), <http://www.wildlifefilms.org/festivals/iwff/index.html>.

**Spring Break Camp—March 26,** Nature Detectives, Montana Natural History Center Spring Break Camp. For students in third through fifth grade. March 26-30, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$180; \$150 for MNHC members; \$25 nonrefundable deposit required for registration. Information: MNHC, 406-327-0405, <http://www.montanaturalist.com>.

**Basketball—March 29,** "Nothing Like It Tour 2007," Harlem Globetrotters, 7 p.m., Adams Center. Tickets and information: <http://www.adamseventcenter.com>.

**Meeting—April 2,** South Campus Master Plan Committee Meeting, 3-5 p.m., Lewis and Clark Community Center, 3000 S. Higgins, Missoula. Open to the public. Information: Rosi Keller, committee chair, 406-243-4662. Meeting agendas and schedules: <http://www.umt.edu/southcampus>.

**Film—April 5,** "Life and Debt," 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., University Center Theater. An event of the Spring 2007 Peace and Justice Film Series. Discussion will follow each screening. Free and open to the public. Information: <http://www.peaceandjusticefilms.org>.

**Artist's Reception—April 5,** George Longfish, in conjunction with "George Longfish — A Retrospective," 5-7 p.m., the Montana Museum of Art and Culture Meloy and Paxson galleries. Longfish will give a talk at 6 p.m. during the reception. Information: Montana Museum of Art & Culture, 406-243-2019, <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.

**Concert—April 6,** UM Percussion Ensemble and Islanders Steel Drum Band, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre. Information: UM Department of Music, 406-243-6880, [griz.music@umontana.edu](mailto:griz.music@umontana.edu).

**Reading—April 6,** Michele Glazer, 8 p.m., Turner Hall, Dell Brown Room. Glazer is UM's Spring 2007 Hugo Visiting Writer. Information: Kate Gadbow, director, UM Creative Writing Program, 406-243-2029, [kate.gadbow@mso.umt.edu](mailto:kate.gadbow@mso.umt.edu).

**Book Signing—April 7,** "Willing to Choose" by UM English Professor Robert Pack, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., The Bookstore at UM. An event of the Faculty Author Series. Information: Meg Sampson, 406-243-1234 ext. 624, [msampson@umtbookstore.com](mailto:msampson@umtbookstore.com).

**Egg Hunt—April 7,** Easter Eggstravaganza, 1 p.m., UM Oval. Information: Brianne Burrowes, University Relations, 406-243-2488, [brianne.burrowes@mso.umt.edu](mailto:brianne.burrowes@mso.umt.edu).

**Concert—April 7,** Iris DeMent, 8 p.m., University Theatre. \$24 in advance; \$26 at the door. All seating is reserved. Tickets: all GrizTix locations, 888-666-8262, <http://www.grizTix.com>.

**Reading—April 8,** Brad Eddy and Karen Volkman, Second Wind Reading Series, 7 p.m., Shakespeare & Company, 109 S. 3rd W., Missoula. Free and open to the public. Information: [second.wind.readings@gmail.com](mailto:second.wind.readings@gmail.com).

**Lecture—April 9,** "The Crisis of Teaching in America," 8 p.m., University Theatre, by Patrick Allitt, director, Center for Teaching and Curriculum, and professor of history, Emory University. A presentation of the President's Lecture Series at UM in collaboration with UM's Center for Teaching Excellence. Free and open to the public. Information: History Professor Richard Drake, 406-243-2981, [richard.drake@umontana.edu](mailto:richard.drake@umontana.edu).

**Musical—April 10,** "Urinetown, The Musical," Montana Theatre, PAR/TV Center. A UM Department of Drama/Dance and music department production. 7:30 p.m., April 10; 13 and April 17-21; 2 p.m. matinee April 14. \$15 general; \$12 students and seniors; \$5 children 12 and under. Tickets and information: 406-243-4581.

**Meeting—April 11,** Glacial Lake Missoula Chapter Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula. Information: Norman Smyers, chapter president, 406-543-9775, [normsmyers@aol.com](mailto:normsmyers@aol.com).

## Exchange — continued

UM is the only school in the United States that has such an agreement with the University of Brescia.

"These two agreements open new areas of opportunity for faculty, staff and students," said Dennison. "In the rapidly

globalizing world, we must always remain open to such opportunities," he said. "And the involvement of the World Trade Center opens new directions we have not explored in the past."

"This is good for UM, good for students, good for faculty, good for the state of Montana," Foley said.

## Symposium — continued

want a download of the concert you just attended."

The growing cost of building arts centers also is a main concern, Webster said. The current \$60 million projected cost for a new performing arts center in Missoula could be \$100 million in 10 years.

"Whatever information I get there, I can bring back to help

with long-term planning here (at UM)," Webster said. "and if Missoula does get funding for a center, I can add some expertise there."

Webster joined UM as an events coordinator in 1994 and became director of the University Theatre in 1996. He teaches an event management course in UM's School of Business Administration and is listed as one of several facility managers from across the country who contributed to the research of Webb's book.



The University of  
**Montana**

Main Hall to Main Street is published by University Relations at The University of Montana. Send questions or suggestions to Joan Melcher, editor, Brantly Hall 315, Missoula, MT 59812, or call 406-243-4842. Brianne Burrowes, Brenda Day, Rita Munzenrider, Cary Shimek, Patia Stephens and Alex Strickland are contributing editors and writers. Todd Goodrich is the primary photographer. The newsletter is online at <http://www.umt.edu/urelations/mainhall>.