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Rivertop Renewables
Reshape Chemical
Industry

Erin Go Bragh

Irish Studies
Program
Flourishes at UM



Eye On The Tiger
John Seidensticker '66, M.S. '68

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WINTER 2012

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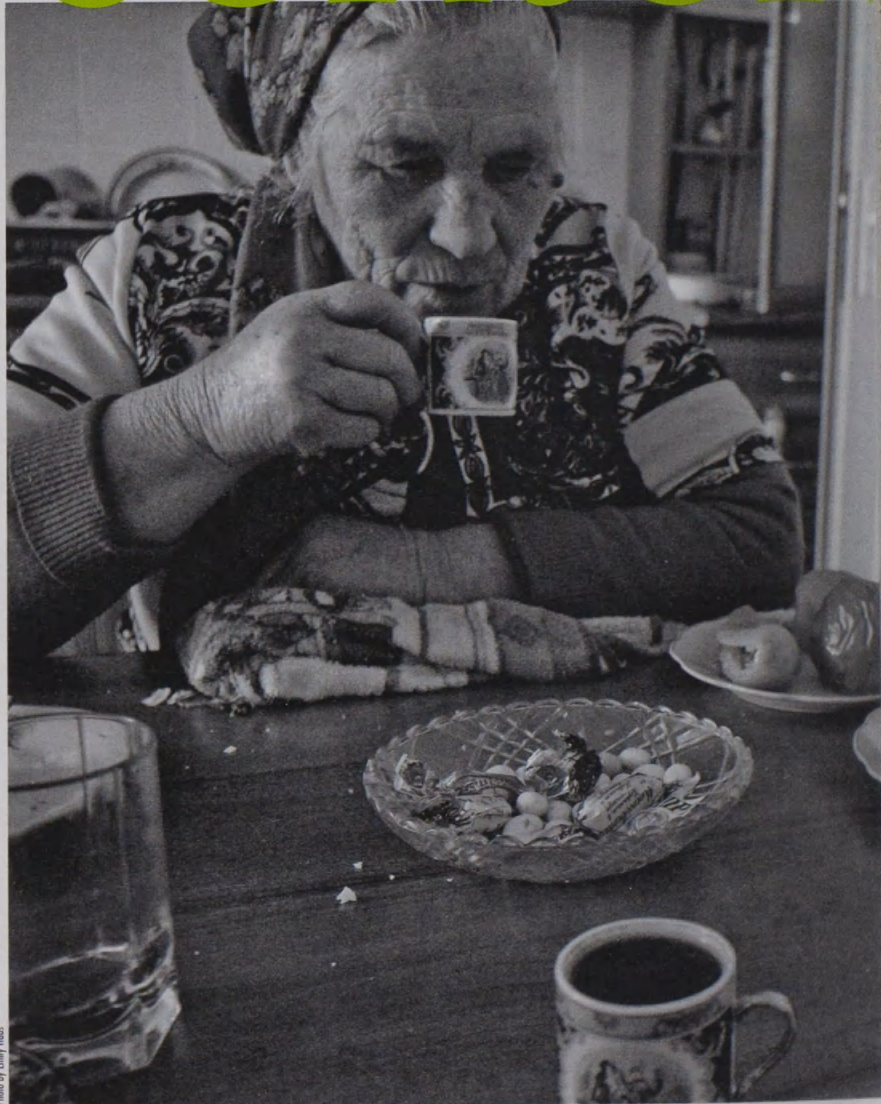


Photo by Emily Haas

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
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33 Peace Corps volunteer Danny Lovell and his host mother, Lydia Babayan, drink Armenian coffee over breakfast at Babayan's house in Verin Getashen, Armenia, in March 2010. The photo, taken by Emily Haas '08, won second place in the Peace Corps Fiftieth Anniversary Photo Contest. "The picture really shows Armenian culture," Haas says. "You can't walk down the street in Armenia and not get invited into someone's house for coffee. It's a ritualistic part of the day, and that's something Danny and Lydia did together every morning." Read more about Haas and other UM grads in About Alumni, starting on page 33.

 PLEASE RECYCLE YOUR MONTANAN



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ON THE COVER:

UM has helped nurture and incubate Rivertop Renewables from both a business and research standpoint.

COVER PHOTO ILLUSTRATION
BY TODD GOODRICH

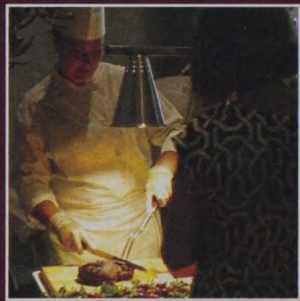


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Casey Kriley '93, reality television show producer, at her office in Los Angeles



"I'll never forget the time [James Kriley] stopped me on campus and asked who I'd been cast as that semester. I told him I had not been cast in any show. In true Dr. Kriley fashion, he placed his hand on my shoulder and said, 'That's bulls--t. You had one of the best auditions I saw.'"

Carly Booth Oppie '03



LIFE OF KRILEY

Thank you for your beautiful story on Casey Kriley in the fall 2011 *Montanan*. "Her Father's Daughter" is right. James Kriley was by far my favorite and most inspirational professor while I studied drama at UM. He spoke of his family in class all the time, and I could see and hear his love for them in his voice. His untimely death was very hard on me and many colleagues and friends. There wasn't a dry eye in the Montana Theatre during his memorial.

I'll never forget the time he stopped me on campus and asked who I'd been cast as that semester. I told him I had not been cast in any show. In true Dr. Kriley fashion, he placed his hand on my shoulder and said, "That's bulls--t. You had one of the best auditions I saw."

He told me how talented I was and to try out for whatever else I could that semester. I did, and I still do whatever theater I can wherever I am. Currently, that's Boise, Idaho. My most recent show opened in October.

I think of him every time I doubt myself, and I miss him whenever I've accomplished something great in the arts.

God bless you, Dr. Kriley. If you could only see Casey and all of your students now ... but I'm sure you can.

Carly Booth Oppie '03
Boise, Idaho

PROUDLY INSPIRED

Words scarcely suffice to say how proud I felt of my home state and its universities when I read the fall 2011 *Montanan*. I use the plural because I have had trouble deciding on whose side to sit at the Griz-Cat game, having gone to both Bozeman and Missoula.

This issue may have ended that ambivalence.

I was particularly struck by the placement and content of the article titled "Aspiring Minds" about an education summit sponsored by the Washington family, which was a few pages ahead of an article on Tom Brokaw's inspiring

Commencement address in the football stadium named for the same family.

Aspiring and inspiring seem like the same thing, though Webster's may not agree. It's surely hard to aspire if you're not inspired.

I may be reading too much into that article's placement, and its content, but I saw something similar last spring in Absarokee High School's graduation ceremony. Athletics once dominated the school from which I graduated in 1966. If a prospective teacher could not coach better than he or she taught, he or she wasn't hired, it seemed. Last spring, I saw a renewed interest in good grades, which seem not nearly so nerdy as they once were. Athletics have their place, certainly, but that place is not ahead of academics.

I congratulate and admire the Washingtons for their continuing dedication to our school, both in athletics and academics, and Mr. Brokaw for his outstanding service to our country. No better role models could be imagined, from Helena to Helsinki, and from Drummond to Dhahran. I've had the opportunity to see all four places, thanks to my UM education. Thank you for an outstanding and inspiring magazine and university. It certainly satisfied all my aspirations, and more.

Chuck Hammond, J.D. '80
Sonoita, Ariz.

WANTED: YOUR OPINIONS

The *Montanan* welcomes letters to the editor. Please sign and include your graduating year

or years of attendance, home address, and phone number or e-mail address.

Send them to: *Montanan* Editor, 325 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812 or themontanan@umontana.edu.

Because of space limitations, we are not able to include all letters sent to us. Letters may be edited for length or clarity. While universities are places of discussion where good people do not always agree, letters deemed potentially libelous or that malign a person or group will not be published. Opinions expressed in the *Montanan* do not necessarily reflect those of The University of Montana.

The *Montanan* would like to thank the following people for recently donating to the magazine: Carla Boettcher, Ruth McFarland, Beth Miller, Ken and Sherry Morrison, and W.B. Thompson.

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NEVER FORGOTTEN

New Memorial Pays Tribute to Fallen Soldiers

The steady drizzle of rain accompanied by the solemn sound of bagpipes marked the unveiling of the Fallen Soldier Memorial at The University of Montana, which honors Montana military members who died in Iraq and Afghanistan. As heads bowed to remember the deceased, families huddled around the names of those they lost—forty names etched in stone, never to be forgotten.

Located along Memorial Row, the larger-than-life bronze sculptures created by Montana artist Rick Rowley depict a helmet placed atop a rifle, with the fallen soldier's boots resting by its side. The soldier's child, accompanied by a teacher and the soldier's parents, look on to the makeshift battlefield cross. Granite tiles engraved with the names of those who died circle the figures. Representing more than remembrance and appreciation, the new memorial serves as a promise to the children of those lost in the wars.

The memorial is a gift from Grateful Nation Montana, a revolutionary program that

ensures a guaranteed college education at a state school to children who have lost parents in the recent military conflicts. UM alum David Bell, the co-founder of Grateful Nation, started the ball rolling to create the memorial in addition to providing educational



David Bell

assistance. Thanks to the help of former UM President George Dennison and current President Royce Engstrom, Bell's vision became reality on November 4.

Hundreds of people packed the Montana Theatre to be part

of the dedication ceremony. Boy Scout Troop No. 1911 handed out small flags and shook the hands of those in uniform. An instant camaraderie formed within the theater. Everyone shared the same purpose: to honor the fallen and support those who were left behind.

U.S. Senator Max Baucus had a personal reason for attending the ceremony. In 2006, his nephew, Phillip E. Baucus, died in Iraq.

"I loved Phillip like a son," Baucus says. "When he died, he returned to the family ranch one last time. We spread his ashes on his favorite mountain. We all died a little bit that day, but we were better people for all knowing dear, wonderful Phillip."

Dennison, Engstrom, and Brigadier General Matt Quinn of the Montana National Guard attended the ceremony. Each promised to uphold their support for the families and communities of those left behind, and each thanked Bell.

When Bell rose to speak, he was met with a standing ovation.

The unveiling of the Fallen Soldier Memorial

"This journey that Grateful Nation has taken me on, to be candid, is more than I originally bargained for," Bell says. "I am haunted by the blessing of having the images of all forty of our boys permanently and vividly etched in my mind. They fought for us. Now let's fight for them."

The unveiling and dedication ceremony was held in conjunction with the inaugural Military Reunion weekend at UM. Current military members, veterans, and their families unfurled a gigantic American flag across Washington-Grizzly Stadium before the Griz took on Western Oregon. The crowd cheered as a pair of F-15 fighter jets roared overhead.

The weekend also marked the grand opening of the UM Veterans Education and Transition Services office on campus. The office serves as a one-stop shop for veterans' resources and a place to find camaraderie with other student veterans.

Montana has a long-standing history of military service. The state has suffered more casualties per capita than any other state. The weekend recognized the honor, sacrifice, and commitment of many Montanans.

"Montanans volunteer for military service at the highest rates in the country," Baucus says. "Living under this beautiful Big Sky, you can't help but fall in love with America and want to do whatever it takes to defend it."

—Alyse Backus

GRIZZLY SCHOLARSHIP ASSOCIATION

Providing scholarships for UM student-athletes



Grizzly Athletics Walk of Champions Brick Campaign

The Grizzly Scholarship Association is pleased to present a special opportunity to leave your legacy and become a permanent part of the Grizzly Athletics Walk of Champions.

By participating in the Grizzly Athletics Walk of Champions Brick Campaign, you can have a personal message engraved on one of the bricks in the Memorial Grove outside the Adams Center.

Each brick is \$200. All contributions associated with purchasing a brick are 100% tax deductible.

For more information on the Grizzly Athletics Walk of Champions Brick Campaign, please visit the official website of Grizzly Athletics at www.gogriz.com or call 406.243.6481.



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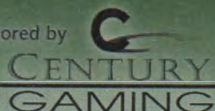
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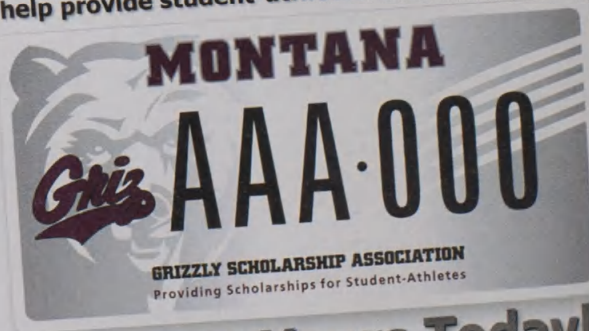
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For more information about the Grizzly Scholarship Association and Grizzly events please visit www.gogriz.com.



NEW FLAG HONORS GRIZ TRADITION

IT'S A NUMBER THAT RESONATES THROUGHOUT GRIZ NATION.

It's been on the jersey of a select group of Grizzly football greats. Players like Kraig Paulson, Tim Hauck, Todd Ericson, Jason Crebo, and Ciche Pitcher.

It's the number thirty-seven. "I believe it's one of the greatest traditions that Grizzly football has," UM Director of Athletics Jim O'Day says.

Now the tradition is celebrated not only on the jersey of a player, but also with a new flag-raising ceremony held during pregame festivities at home football games.

UM alum Randy Rupert came to Grizzly Athletics with the idea, which is a play on what the NFL's Seattle Seahawks do when they raise a number twelve flag, honoring the fans, or the "twelfth man."

"That twelfth-man flag really gets the crowd going in Seattle," says Rupert, who works at CTA Architects

and Engineers in Missoula. "I thought, 'Why don't we raise a thirty-seven flag in tribute to the fans and all the outstanding players who have played for the Griz?'"

UM was on board, and away they went.

Just after the team captains are announced, a maroon and silver flag with "Montana" and "37" stitched on it is run up the pole, which sits atop the north end zone bleachers. The flag flies just a bit higher than the others representing Big Sky Conference schools.

UM senior Ryan Fetherston wore the famed jersey this season, and his parents were the first to raise the flag. Pitcher, who donned the jersey from 2001 to 2003, had the honor of raising the flag during Homecoming.

"It was a really cool experience," says Pitcher, an Anaconda native. "I got to watch the game from the sidelines and see some of my old teammates. It was fun."

Paulson, now the defensive coordinator at the University of

Nevada-Las Vegas, began the jersey tradition in 1983 with the idea that it would be passed on to a younger player who hails from Montana. He gave it to Big Timber's Hauck, who passed it on to Butte's Ericson. The tradition continued.

"It was special when it was given to me," Pitcher says. "When you grow up in Montana, you value that tradition and you look up to the guys who wore it. Not just because they were successful, but their approach to playing football. They were talented, hard-working, smart players—the kind of player I wanted to be. It was great to have that honor."

Former standout Griz Shann Schillinger, now a member of the NFL's Atlanta Falcons, raises the new flag at Washington-Grizzly Stadium.



Rupert hopes to have all of the past players who wore the number raise the flag, but since there are only nine, others will be sought.

"Seeing the crowd respond to something new like this is exciting," Rupert says. "And having the flag flying up there, knowing that it's honoring a long-standing tradition unique to the Griz, means a lot."



The Montana Grizzlies reclaimed the Great Divide Trophy by drubbing the Montana State University Bobcats, 36-10, in November. It was UM's twenty-second win in the past twenty-six games against the rival Bobcats, who were the top-ranked team in the country coming into the contest. The win also gave the Griz a share of the Big Sky Conference title and the league's automatic bid in the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs. The Griz have won or shared thirteen of the past fourteen league championships.

UM's soccer team won the 2011 Big Sky Conference title, outlasting Weber State during a November shootout at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. UM, led by first-year head coach Mark Plakorus, beat tournament host UNC in the semifinal round, also in a shootout. The Grizzlies advanced to the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2000. They drew top-ranked Stanford in the first round and fell 3-0. The Cardinal went on to win the national championship.



Flathead Lake Biological Station Lands \$1 Million Challenge Gift

Known for its pristine waters that reflect the Rocky Mountains, Flathead Lake is one of Montana's most treasured natural assets. Preservation of this asset just received a significant boost: a \$1 million challenge gift for UM's Flathead Lake Biological Station.

The funding is from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. Scientists will use the additional resources for water-quality monitoring and limnological research, which focuses on the study of inland freshwater. The anonymous donor will match contributions dollar-for-dollar up to \$1 million.

"We are grateful for this expression of support for one of The University of Montana's premier research programs, the Flathead Lake Biological Station," UM President Royce Engstrom says. "The gift will make a significant impact on UM's efforts to help preserve our natural resources."

FLBS researchers began lake monitoring in the 1890s through periodic studies. Since 1977 the measurements have been



Assistant Professor
Bonnie Ellis at
the Flathead
Lake Biological
Station

continuous but focused on a single mid-lake sampling site. In addition to taking measurements more frequently and at greater depths, the gift will allow the program to continue without interruption and cover a larger area of Flathead Lake.

The long-term data and interpretations compiled by UM researchers help citizens, managers, and governments evaluate their actions and conserve the clarity and cleanliness of the lake. The research activities also provide training for the next generation of water-quality managers and educators.

"We are thrilled to receive this generous gift," says Bonnie Ellis, FLBS research assistant professor. "With community support, we can raise the matching funds to meet the \$1 million challenge and double our efforts to help protect the Flathead Lake ecosystem for years to come."

To contribute and help double the impact of this gift, call Ellis at 406-982-3301 ext. 239 or e-mail bonnie.ellis@umontana.edu.



West

ODYSSEY OF THE STARS HONORS WEST

THE UM COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS will pay tribute to Palmer West '98, producer of acclaimed

independent films such as *Requiem for a Dream*, during its twelfth annual *Odyssey of the Stars—A Celebration of Artistic Journeys*.

This year's show, *In the Moment*, will start at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24, in the University Theatre. It features UM students, faculty, and West as the guest artist and honoree. *Odyssey of the Stars* pays tribute to UM performing and visual arts alumni and tells the story of their artistic journeys, showcasing the many different roads to success that an artist can travel.

Two years after graduating with a

degree in drama from UM, West quickly established himself in the competitive world of independent filmmaking. *Requiem for a Dream*, his second film, was a critical and commercial success and garnered 2001 Golden Globe and Academy Award nominations for Ellen Burstyn in the Best Actress category. It won a variety of awards from the Boston Society of Film Critics, Chicago Film Critics Association, Las Vegas Film Critics Society, and the National Board of Review.

The team West put together for the film also included director Darren Aronofsky (a 2010 Academy Award nominee for directing *Black Swan*) and Jennifer Connelly (a 2002 Best Supporting Actress Academy Award winner for *A Beautiful Mind*).

West has worked with an impressive list of actors and directors on his many successful films, including Robert Redford, Helen Mirren, and Willem Dafoe in *The*

Clearing; Keanu Reeves, Winona Ryder, and Robert Downey Jr. in *A Scanner Darkly*; and Ryan Gosling, Don Cheadle, and Kevin Spacey in *The United States of Leland*.

In addition to producing films, West and his partner, Jonah Smith, launched an apparel line in 2009. Aether Apparel provides clothing for outdoor enthusiasts who want modern, sophisticated style. The apparel line is another example of West's commitment to excellence and represents the artistic spirit and strong work ethic that lie at the heart of the College of Visual and Performing Arts' mission.

Odyssey of the Stars, an evening of entertainment spotlighting students from the schools of Music, Theatre & Dance, Media Arts, and Art, benefits the College of Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship Fund. For ticket and sponsorship information, call 406-243-4970 or e-mail cvpadean@mso.umt.edu.

THE
BOTTOM
LINE:

680: Military and veteran students enrolled at UM, which was named a military-friendly school by *G.I. Jobs* magazine

\$500,000: Dollars the Grizzly Scholarship Association State Board of Directors voted to commit in matched funding to the athletic facility improvement project at UM

UM Researcher Named Regents Professor

UM Professor Richard Bridges joined an elite group in November when the state Board of Regents unanimously voted to name him Regents Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology.

Regents Professor is the top rank awarded to faculty members in the Montana University System. Bridges is only the ninth UM professor to earn the title since the policy of naming Regents Professors started in 1991.

"This is really a tremendous honor considering not only the many accomplishments of the other Regents Professors, but also all the high-quality faculty in our programs and centers who I have the pleasure of working with every day," Bridges says. "What means the most to me is that this appointment recognizes that teaching and research are essentially inseparable and that the two must be increasingly combined to properly prepare our students to compete and succeed."

Regents Professors must demonstrate unusual excellence in instruction,

scholarship, and service, as well as distinctive impact through their work. The rank is awarded by the Board of Regents upon the recommendation of the University president.

"Professor Bridges joins the ranks of individuals who exemplify the spirit of the faculty at UM," President Royce Engstrom says. "We are proud to recognize him not just for his outstanding accomplishments,

but his distinction as a University citizen."

Bridges has chaired UM's Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences since 2008. That department is part of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy in UM's College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.

"Professor Bridges really deserves this honor because he is an outstanding researcher," says Dave Forbes, dean of the college. "He also uses his excellent problem-solving skills to deftly communicate complex biomedical concepts to the school's health professional students using innovative computer technology."



New Regents Professor Rich Bridges



UM President Royce Engstrom toasts Emma Lommasson on her 100th birthday.

EMMA'S BIG DAY

UM Gathers to Celebrate Emma Lommasson's 100th Birthday

HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE recently crowded into the University Center Ballroom to celebrate the 100th birthday of one of UM's greatest treasures.

On December 10, 2011, the University community came together to wish Emma Lommasson a happy birthday, as scores of former students, co-workers, and friends gathered for her special day. The catering staff had to open the other half of the ballroom to accommodate all 400 of her well-wishers.

As servers passed around cake and champagne, distinguished guests spoke kind words about Lommasson. She even received a birthday card from President Barack and First Lady Michelle Obama. Missoula Mayor John Engen declared the date Emma B. Lommasson Day.

"Here at the University we talk about building the University for the next century," UM President Royce Engstrom says. "We just finished building the University for the Emma Lommasson century."

"Her lifetime association with the University has become the stuff of legends," says former UM President George Dennison.

Lommasson spent fifty-eight years at UM either as a student, undergraduate adviser, teacher, staff member, or registrar. She enrolled as a mathematics student in 1929 and graduated in 1933. She went back to her hometown of Sand Coulee to teach for six years before returning to UM to earn her master's degree and becoming a staff member. In 2002 the student services building was named in her honor. She has known all but four UM presidents.

"It's far more appropriate and revealing to say, all but four presidents knew Emma," Dennison says.

—Alyse Backus

The famous Big Sky Little League All-Star baseball team from Billings was honored at the Grizzlies' home-opening football game this past fall. In August the squad became the first from Montana to advance to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Penn., where they went on an incredible run to the United States championship game, which aired live on national TV. Unfortunately, they fell 11-2 to California, a team they beat a few days prior.



15,669: Total headcount enrollment at UM for autumn semester 2011, an all-time record

#1: UM's ranking for safest campus in Montana, according to StateUniversity.com

4: Number of former Montana Grizzlies on the NFL Pro Bowl ballot: Miami's Dan Carpenter, Philadelphia's Colt Anderson, Tennessee's Marc Mariani, and Atlanta's Kroy Biermann

UM School of Law Celebrates Centennial

UM'S SCHOOL OF LAW CELEBRATED A MAJOR MILESTONE IN 2011, as the school turned 100 years old. Its official birthday is February 17, but the school took the opportunity to celebrate all year long, culminating in an alumni reunion and gala dinner on campus in early September.

More than 400 law school alumni gathered for the celebration, which included panel discussions and a tailgate party before the Griz football game against Cal Poly. During the dinner, short videos played depicting the school's rich history.

"The event was wonderful and well-received," law school Dean Irma Russell says. "We heard superlatives about everything. Everyone said it was over-the-top and a great event."

U.S. Senator Max Baucus attended, as did UM President Royce Engstrom. Missoula Mayor John Engen emceed the gala.

A hundred years ago, the school welcomed in its first class of seventeen students. Today, more than 250 are enrolled in the school's programs.



UM School of Law Dean Irma Russell and past deans J. Martin Burke, left, John O. (Jack) Mudd, and E. Edwin Eck celebrate the school's 100th anniversary.

Notable law school alumni include numerous members of the judiciary such as William J. Jameson, former U.S. District Court judge and president of the American Bar Association; James R. Browning, former chief judge of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and clerk of the U.S. Supreme Court; Judge Sydney R. Thomas of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals; and many current members of the federal and state judiciary in Montana.

Former U.S. Senator Lee Metcalf, former Montana Governors Marc Racicot and Donald Nutter, former Montana Attorneys General Joseph Mazurek and Michael Greely, and current Superintendent of Public Instruction Denise Juneau also are graduates of the school.

UM Lands \$9.9 Million Research Grant



UM RECENTLY RECEIVED A \$9.9 MILLION GRANT TO FUND RESEARCH AT ITS CENTER FOR BIOMOLECULAR STRUCTURE AND DYNAMICS.

The center will use the resources to study physiological processes and diseases from a perspective concentrated on atomic structure, chemistry, and

physics. The grant also earns the center designation as a National Institutes of Health Center of Biomedical Research Excellence [COBRE], one of only four in the nation in 2011.

"This award increases the opportunity for research and training at UM by providing salaries for junior investigators and their support staff, as well as funds for essential cutting-edge technology," says Dr. Barbara Alving, director of the National Center for Research Resources, the NIH entity that awarded the grant.

The center's faculty are from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, the Division of Biological Sciences, and the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Research funded by the grant will delve into new therapeutic approaches to drug resistance, heart disease, behavioral disorders, and viral diseases, says Stephen Sprang, UM program director of the NIH COBRE grant.


It will fund specific research of four faculty members.


Erica Woodahl will use biochemical and spectroscopic methods to understand how certain transporter proteins alter the therapeutic effect of drugs. She hopes this information will be used to improve drug development. In summer 2010, Woodahl started a five-year study to determine how a person's individual genes affect the success of the cancer-fighting drug tamoxifen.


"The funding will provide money for personnel and laboratory supplies to complete experiments," Woodahl says. "It will be able to support the research I am doing for the next three years."


Klara Briknarova will work with advanced spectroscopic methods to understand how viruses employ specialized proteins to invade human cells. By using quantum mechanical methods, Xi Chu is learning how physiologically critical enzymes use metal ions to catalyze reactions. Valeriy Smirnov uses state-of-the-art biochemical methods to understand the catalytic mechanism of an enzyme that uses iron to convert the common amino acid tryptophan into serotonin, an important neurotransmitter.


Notable *and* Quotable


 The Montana Board of Regents recently approved UM's proposal to rename the University Theatre in honor of past **UM President George M. Dennison and his wife, Jane**. Dennison served twenty years as president of UM. A formal dedication ceremony will take place toward the end of spring semester.

 **The Payne Family Native American Center** has received LEED Platinum status, the highest level of certification awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council for achieving sustainable building standards. "The Payne Family Native American Center was the first building for which UM pursued LEED certification," campus architect **Jameel Chaudhry** says. "The fact that we were able to achieve Platinum status shows the commitment UM has toward our campus sustainability goals." LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is the nation's pre-eminent program for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings.

 **UM Regents Professor of Marketing Jakki Mohr** delivered a TED talk at the TEDxSanDiego event in December. Her speech, *Unleashing the Promise of Biomimicry for Sustainable Innovation*, promoted recent developments in biomimicry, which uses the designs and processes of nature to inspire solutions for human problems. TED, which stands for Technology, Entertainment, Design, touts itself as a nonprofit organization devoted to "ideas worth spreading." TED holds an annual conference that brings together inspired thinkers to give "the talk of their lives" in eighteen minutes or less. Videos of the talks are posted to the popular TEDTalks website and attract millions of views worldwide.

 The **Old Journalism** building is now known as **Stone Hall**, commemorating UM's first journalism school dean, **Arthur L. Stone**. He founded the school in 1914, which began as a collection of borrowed army tents used for classrooms. In 1937 the journalism building, considered one of the finest in the nation at the time, was built. Now more than seventy years later, it bears his name.

 Former ASUM president and 2011 UM graduate **Ashleen Williams** has been named the University's first **Mitchell Scholar**. Selected from more than 300 applicants, Williams is one of twelve students who will pursue postgraduate studies at universities across Ireland and Northern Ireland during the 2012-13 academic year. Williams, currently a U.S. Fulbright English teaching assistant in Bahrain, will study peace and conflict studies at the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland.

 UM's **Department of Physics and Astronomy** celebrated its 100th anniversary during Homecoming. "It is an honor to think that we are carrying on a tradition of teaching physics and astronomy at UM that has been ongoing for 100 years," says **Andrew Ware**, department chair. "We were lucky to have a distinguished group of alumni return to UM to tell us about their current work." Presenters included **Hilary Martens**, California Institute of Technology graduate student; **David Westerly**, University of Colorado-Denver assistant professor; **Brent Buffington**, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory mission specialist; and **Ahmed Diallo**, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory scientist.

Greetings!

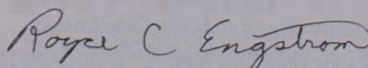
As I write this column on an evening during finals week, the campus looks especially beautiful under a blanket of snow. Across the Oval, I see the glow of lights in The Payne Family Native American Center, reminding me of the contribution that facility makes to our learning environment. Such a dynamic learning environment is made of the people who work and learn here, the programming that makes up both the academic and co-curricular opportunities for students, the facilities and underlying infrastructure, and the campus atmosphere that signals a supportive and exciting place to learn.

We have taken important steps this fall to strengthen our learning environment. In November we dedicated a memorial to Montanans who have given their lives during the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. Alumnus David Bell was the driving force behind the memorial, gifting it to the University through the Grateful Nation project. Several hundred people attended the powerful ceremony. That same weekend, we held an open house of our new veterans' center, a place where students can congregate and find support services tailored to their needs.

The leadership of the UM affiliation—UM-Helena, UM Western, Montana Tech, and the Missoula campus—traveled throughout the state visiting Montana's tribal colleges to learn more about their programs and communities. The discussion focused on student success and opportunities for collaboration. We strive to develop a learning environment especially supportive of Native American students.

Innovative academic programming contributes to the excitement. This fall, we began a new Ph.D. program in systems ecology, and a proposal for a minor in Arabic studies is making its way through the approval process.

The seemingly unlimited special events, whether they are academic, cultural, athletic, or simply entertainment, keep the campus vibrant. We are fortunate to call The University of Montana our home!



Royce C. Engstrom
President





Kate Davis of Raptors of the Rockies shows Erick Greene a great horned owl, one of the chickadee's top predators.

Bird Songs

Music, Biology Combine to Create Chickadee Symphony

Classical music often finds its inspirations from the songs of birds. By listening closely to the sounds of a symphony, playful songbirds are heard in the high pitch of a flute, and the eerie hoot of a great horned owl resides in the deep resonance of a tuba. Is this how biology and art blend? Thanks to the collaboration among a biologist, a composer, and the UM Symphonic Wind Ensemble, the answer is yes.

UM Professor Erick Greene and composer Craig Naylor have two things in common: music and biology. Greene originally started as a jazz musician who then switched to biology. Naylor went the other way—his first love was wildlife biology, but music became his ultimate passion. By combining forces, these two created a musical sensation based on pure science.

"I really wanted to combine my passion for acoustics with biology," Greene says. "This is a neat mixture of art and sciences."

The two paired up and spent more than a year researching and breaking down black-capped chickadee vocalizations, with a majority of the work conducted at UM. The project culminated with *Chickadee Symphony*, which was performed in October in the University Theatre.

Before playing the symphony in its entirety, Greene, Naylor, and renowned UM conductor James Smart presented a short lecture. Greene played authentic chickadee calls as he explained the biology behind the unique acoustics. Naylor broke down the musical composition of the calls before Smart had his student musicians play the melodious version of the vocalizations.

The first movement in the piece illustrated the beauty of the world waking up. Naylor drew chuckles from the audience when he joked about how chickadees awake with one thing in mind: sex. That familiar "chick-a-dee-dee-dee" call is essentially a mating call.

"It's wonderfully evocative when the world is waking up," Greene says.

A later movement in the piece called *Danger* reflected the threats chickadees face.

"Chickadees are like potato chips," Naylor says. "Who can eat just one?"

Two predators, a great horned owl and a northern pygmy owl—aptly named iPod—were escorted into the hall. These predators may not seem vicious, but their ability to inflict terror on chickadees is not to be underestimated.

"People were really enthusiastic about the piece," says Greene. "It's a pretty rare thing to have that cross-fertilization between the arts and science. Craig Naylor has done some really neat, innovative things with sound in general. I would love to do something with him again."

—Alyse Backus



Meet Grizwald,

UM's cartoon bear. In frequent issues of the *Montanan*, we provide a drawing of Grizwald that needs a creative, original caption. It's up to you, our readers, to provide it. The winning contestant will receive a Griz stadium blanket. Send submissions to themontan@umontana.edu.



WHERE'S YOUR GRIZ BEEN?

CHUCK HAMILTON '88 sports his Griz gear outside Baejarins Beztu Pylsur, one of the most famous hot dog stands in the world. It's located in Reykjavik, Iceland. "I put together a rugby tour to Iceland, which included twenty-two players and twelve supporters," Hamilton says. His team played two matches against the Reykjavik Raiders and visited sites such as the Gullfoss waterfall, Geysir, the Blue Lagoon geothermal spa, and Thingvellir, the site of the world's first parliament more than 1,000 years ago. *Congratulations, Chuck. You have won a \$50 gift card for The Bookstore at UM.*

Do you have a photo of yourself wearing your Griz gear in an amazing place or while on an incredible adventure? If so, send it along with a brief description to themontan@umontana.edu. Winners will see their photo published in the *Montanan* and will receive a \$50 gift card to The Bookstore at UM. To be considered, photos must be in focus with the UM or Griz logo clearly visible.



FACETIME: EMILY VON JENTZEN, J.D. '09

Emily von Jentzen has accomplished what many considered impossible: the 2009 graduate of UM's School of Law became the first woman to swim the length of Flathead Lake and the first person to swim the length of Lake Chelan in Washington. The swims, however, weren't about individual achievements. Von Jentzen, a Flathead County deputy attorney, swam for two little girls fighting the battle of their lives. In 2010 von Jentzen swam the thirty-mile length of Flathead Lake in eighteen hours and twenty-six minutes for Missoula resident Karmyn Flanagan, a four-year-old battling leukemia. Kalispell resident Katelyn Roker, age six, fought stage-four high-risk neuroblastoma. The fifty-mile, nearly thirty-six-hour swim at Lake Chelan this past September was dedicated to her. The swims raised more than \$17,000 to alleviate expenses for the girls and their families.

Why do you do these swims? I have always been into causes and fundraising. There are lots of organizations that help a lot of families but can't give as much. I really wanted to have a big impact on one family. Basically, my thoughts are, if you can use something you love to help someone else, why wouldn't you do it?

How do you train for the swims? There isn't much information out there on proper training for swims of this magnitude. I pretty much used my collegiate swimming background [at Central Washington University] and my coaching knowledge. I basically built my own plan. It was a lot of swimming, but I still had to work. So I really had to make training sessions count.

What toll do the swims take on your body? During the last swim, I hallucinated, which was really weird. I have never had that happen before. I'm not sure if it was shock or hypothermia. I just knew I had to finish; I wasn't getting back on the boat. Lake Chelan was a lot colder than people told me it would be. So the temperature was really difficult. The sheer exhaustion also was hard to overcome.

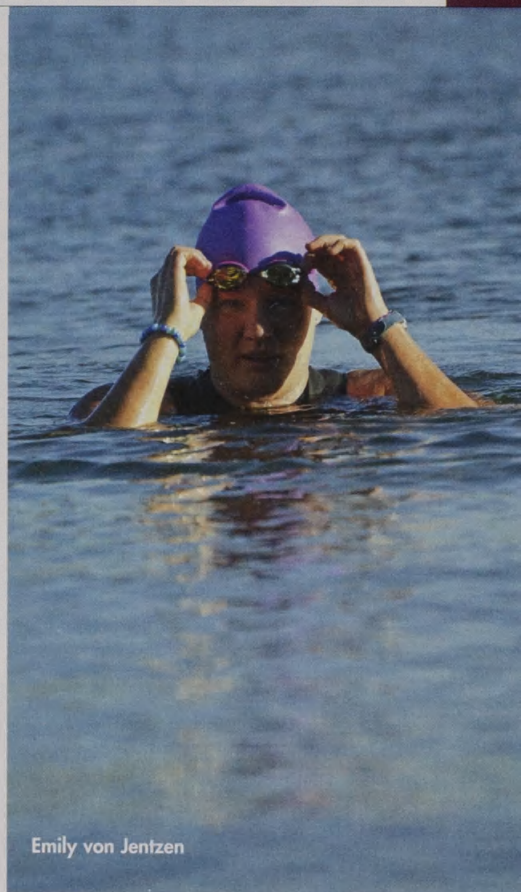
What is your strategy for overcoming such long distances? I always had to come back to the reason why I was swimming. If I were swimming just to prove I could do it, I may have quit and got back on the boat. At Lake Chelan, Katelyn was in the support boat right before the weather got bad. I just had to remember she doesn't get to choose when she has cancer or when her treatments are.

How do you balance training with a new career? I would get up at 4:30 a.m. to fit in a two-hour swim before work. Swimming outside in the morning in the dark isn't a very smart thing to do by yourself, so I spent most of the time in the pool. My job made it difficult though. The legal profession isn't limited to nine-to-five. It was all about time management. I had to make a lot of sacrifices.

What is your relationship like with the girls you helped and their families? I see Karmyn fairly often. Her family is great, and I have become close with them. Her mom told me that she will pretend to swim in the bathtub and she will say, "Look! I'm like Emily!" I think she will look up to me for a while. Katelyn's family lives in Kalispell, not very far from me. Unfortunately, Katelyn's health took a turn for the worse. They found a brain tumor in early September, and she passed away. She fought really hard for two years. I would have still done the swim for her even knowing the outcome.

What effect have your swims and the girls had on you? I felt I did something I didn't think was possible. Emotionally, it has been really hard to grasp the unfairness of it all. Katelyn had so much life in her. It is terrible to watch her family go through that. She was one of the toughest people, not just the toughest child. She just didn't let cancer get her down.

What is recovery like after your swims? After my last swim, I had some health problems. As a preventative measure, I

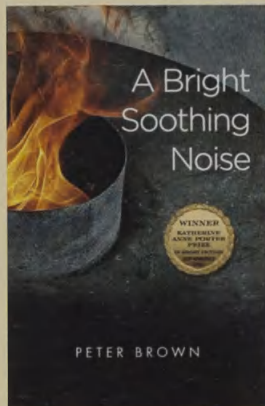


Emily von Jentzen

was taking ibuprofen during my swim. During the Flathead swim, my shoulders really hurt. So I wanted to take care of that before it got really bad. The doctor told me after that I had taken too much ibuprofen. They called it acute renal failure, which I thought was a little dramatic. It's funny; here I was a week and a half out after my swim, and I just kept asking them if this would prevent me from doing something like this again. They just looked at me like I was nuts.

What's next for you? I made my family a promise. I wouldn't do a long swim in this next year. After two swims in two years, it's been really tough on my family and friends' support and my body. I really want to start a foundation. With a nonprofit I could get more fundraising accomplished. I also want to start a race series. There are so many lakes in Flathead County, and I think it would be neat to have some one-, two-, and three-mile open-water races.

—Interview by Alyse Backus



A BRIGHT SOOTHING NOISE

By *Peter Brown*

University of North Texas Press, 2010, 212 Pages, \$14.95

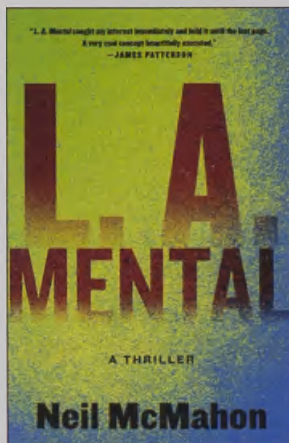
Peter Brown studied with the UM creative writing greats of the early 1980s and graduated with a double major in liberal arts and creative writing. This collection of stories won the Katherine Anne Porter Prize in Short Fiction. His former Professor William Kittredge calls the work “a compelling if sometimes unsettling book of stories.” Brown can write of the wounded pride and sweetness of despair in the eyes of a farm pig, as well as the terrible consequences for a London man gone wrong with a fifteen-year-old girl.

L.A. MENTAL

By *Neil McMahon*

Harper/HarperCollins Publishers, 2011, 304 pages, \$24.99

Neil McMahon is the author of six novels and has plenty of experience giving his readers the creeps. Master of the psychological thriller, McMahon twists his stories tightly, not letting go of the reader until the final page. *L.A. Mental* starts with a judge going berserk and takes its protagonist into the world of nanotechnology in search of answers to save his brother. The story is set inside the Los Angeles movie-making culture. McMahon earned his M.F.A. in creative writing at UM and was a Stegner Fellow at Stanford University.

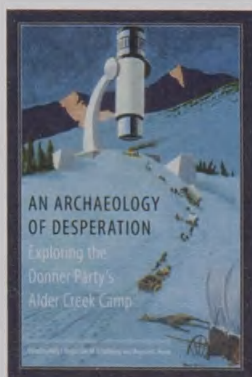


AN ARCHAEOLOGY OF DESPERATION: EXPLORING THE DONNER PARTY'S ALDER CREEK CAMP

Edited by *Kelly J. Dixon, Julie M. Schablitsky, and Shannon A. Novak*

University of Oklahoma Press, 2011, 384 pages, \$34.95

UM Associate Professor of Anthropology Kelly J. Dixon and two other editors put together a new look at the infamous Donner Party. The story of eighty-some people stranded in the Sierra Nevada in the winter of 1846-47 has been the subject of more than 300 books, histories, and films, and is known for the survivors' resorting to cannibalism. Combining history, ethnohistory, archaeology, bioarchaeology, and social anthropology, the editors use the archaeological investigations of the summers of 2003 and 2004 to question old suppositions and add new dimensions to the story.



LIBERTY LANES

By *Robin Troy*

University of Nevada Press, 2011, 182 pages, \$22

Robin Troy's novel began when she was working as a staff writer for the *Missoula Independent* and was desperate for a Christmas-season story. Missoula resident Norm Laughlin, a seasonal Santa whom she met on a barstool at the VFW Post, invited her to his weekly senior bowling game at the old Liberty Lanes. Troy discovered that the hundreds of bowlers in their seventies, eighties, and nineties drink, dance, and date more than she does, and they stay up later, too. Her fiction-writer's sensibility took off into a novel that explores the differing perspectives of age. Troy earned her M.F.A. in creative writing at UM and teaches at Southern Connecticut State University, where she directs the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing.

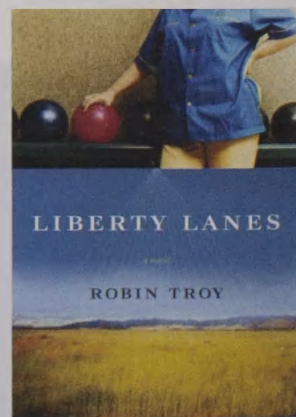


EXTREMOPHILIA

By *Fred Haeefe*

Bangtail Press, 2011, 145 pages, \$16.95

Fred Haeefe takes the term “extremophile,” an organism able to thrive in hostile and unlikely environments, and uses it as a lens to unite his seventeen essays. Each portrays people who live and work in Montana and the West, and each conveys Haeefe's admiration for his nonfiction characters. The book is filled with adventures involving rafting, motorcycles, hunting, the Unabomber, firefighting and, of course, writing. Haeefe earned his M.F.A. in creative writing at UM and is the author of a memoir, *Rebuilding the Indian*.



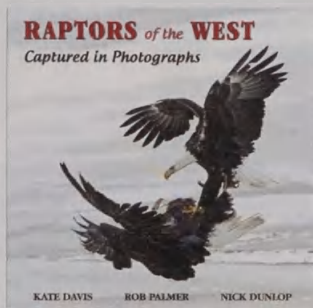
RAPTORS OF THE WEST:

CAPTURED IN PHOTOGRAPHS

By *Kate Davis, with photographs by Kate Davis, Rob Palmer, and Nick Dunlop*

Mountain Press Publishing Company, 2011, 242 pages, \$30

Kate Davis earned her degree in zoology at UM and has gone on to delight and inform thousands of people about raptors with her ambassador birds and her nonprofit Raptors of the Rockies. This collection of more than 400 photographs of the forty-five different birds of prey that fly over the American West takes the reader from Arctic tundra to the Southwest. The big round eyes of the tiny northern saw-whet owl and the direct gaze of the imposing gyrfalcon are among the remarkable images.



GEOLOGY UNDERFOOT IN YELLOWSTONE COUNTRY

By *Marc S. Hendrix*

Mountain Press Publishing Company, 2011, 312 pages, \$24

UM geology Professor Marc Hendrix explains the powerful forces that made the greater Yellowstone National Park area look and smell as it does today. He looks at the Madison limestone formations and sees the shallow seas that covered the landscape six times in the past 500 million years, and he recalls the ancient glaciers whose work is visible along the Beartooth Highway. The book is a roadside guide, with "Getting There" boxes directing the reader to the features Hendrix illuminates.



Where Elk Roam

Conservation and Biopolitics of Our National Elk Herd



Bruce L. Smith, PhD

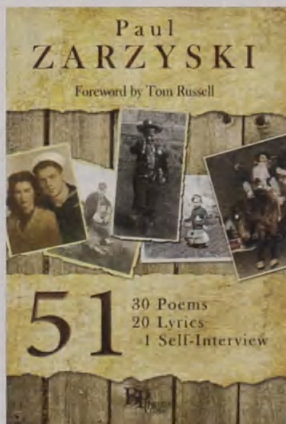
WHERE ELK ROAM:

CONSERVATION AND BIOPOLITICS OF OUR NATIONAL ELK HERD

By *Bruce L. Smith*

Lyons Press, 2011, 266 pages, \$18.95

Bruce Smith earned bachelor's and master's degrees at UM, studying the winter ecology of mountain goats in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. He went on to spend twenty-two years of his thirty-year career managing the wildlife on the National Elk Refuge in Wyoming. In his book, Smith tells the history of the National Elk Refuge from its founding in the valley of Jackson Hole in 1912 and also looks at its future. Should wildlife managers continue to winter-feed 25,000 elk despite the risks of disease and habitat damage at the feeding grounds? Could hunting have a place in a national park and wildlife refuge?



51

By *Paul Zarzyski*

Bangtail Press, 2011, 249 pages, \$19.95

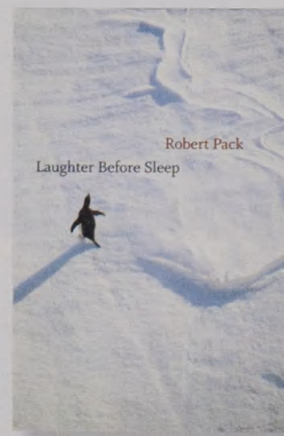
Paul Zarzyski, a 1951-model poet who transplanted from Hurley, Wis., to Montana and never looked back, earned his M.F.A. in creative writing at UM under the guiding hand of poet Richard Hugo. He rodeoed as a bareback bronc rider as passionately as he writes and performs poems. Last year marked his twenty-fifth at the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nev. Here he gives us thirty poems, twenty song lyrics, and one self-interview, where he shows us how he's put together and what keeps him going.

LAUGHTER BEFORE SLEEP

By *Robert Pack*

The University of Chicago Press, 2011, 141 pages, \$18

Robert Pack, who teaches in the Davidson Honors College at UM and is known as an eminent American nature poet, looks at some of his perennial themes through the eyes and sensibility of maturity. Pack's poetry takes his readers with him on a journey toward the end of life. In "Blindness," Pack writes of his mother, who lost her sight at ninety-nine. In "Pain," he looks at the transformation of the mind and emotions by pain of the body. Pack's poetic look through a lifetime rounds out eighteen books of poems.



If you are a UM alum with a recent book release, don't forget about your alma mater. To be considered for Bookshelf, you must send a copy of the book, along with any press materials and contact information, to: Montanan, University Relations, 325 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. Submission of materials does not guarantee that your work will be featured.

Ginny Merriam lives in Missoula.

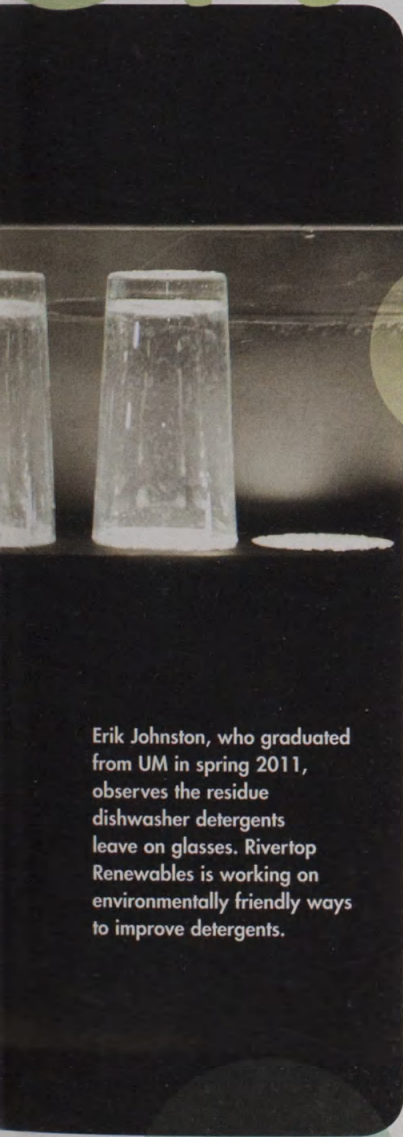
Team Ch



STORY BY **GINNY MERRIAM** PHOTOS BY **TODD GOODRICH**

Chemistry

Born of UM Research, Rivertop Renewables Aims to Change Chemical Industry



Erik Johnston, who graduated from UM in spring 2011, observes the residue dishwasher detergents leave on glasses. Rivertop Renewables is working on environmentally friendly ways to improve detergents.

ere Kolstad likes to say that after forty years, Don Kiely is about to become an overnight success.

Kiely likes to say he's just a chemist with an idea based on decades of research: Instead of making so many of the things we use in everyday life out of petrochemicals made of oil or mined minerals like phosphates, let's make them out of green chemicals made from plants. They do the same work, then they break down and disappear once their jobs are done.

"You wear a diaper for three hours, and it's in the landfill for 500 years," Kolstad says. "It's crazy."

Kiely is founder and chairman and Kolstad is president and chief financial officer of Rivertop Renewables, a four-year-old progressive chemical company based in Missoula. The company has taken Kiely's chemistry and is poised to share it with the world—in dishwasher detergents, water systems, and road deicers.

Along the way to that "overnight" success, The University of Montana has nurtured and incubated the research and the company. Private investors and grants have kept Rivertop growing, and a team of professionals has taken it from the scientists' bench toward the global market. Today, it provides exciting

professional jobs for fourteen people who might otherwise have left Missoula for Seattle or other cities known for their startup-company environments.

That's the blessing and the continued challenge, says Mike Kadas, Rivertop's director of special projects.

"The complexity of the detergent industry, what goes on, is remarkable," he says. "You need top-level people. We have to convince investors you don't have to be in the Bay Area to do this. And you have to attract Ph.D.-level scientists."

But first, the chemistry.

Kiely, who's now proudly seventy-four years old, became a leader in carbohydrate chemistry during his twenty-nine years on

the faculty at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. In 1997 he joined UM as professor and director of the Shafizadeh Center for Wood and Carbohydrate Chemistry, where he stayed until 2008. The holder of twelve patents on his work, Kiely studied glucose, the fundamental building block of up to 70 percent of all plant material. It's readily available in the corn-refining industry.

"When you talk about renewable resources, the most dominant one is glucose," Kiely says. "It's converted into different products that people are interested in. It's available, it's cheap, and the whole infrastructure to use it is there."

Kiely's research applies to glucose simple chemistry that's more than 100 years old but has never been tamed or developed. It creates glucaric acid. Glucaric acid can become the building blocks in long chains of molecules called polymers that are used to make things. Think of pearls in a necklace, Kiely explains.

"What glucaric acid did was it provided me with a way to make a whole range of new polymers which were new and different from anything done before," Kiely says.

The chemical business today—worth \$2 trillion a year worldwide—bases the polymers used to make plastics, pharmaceuticals, polyesters, and other products on petroleum. That includes, for instance, disposable diapers, polyester blouses, nylon book bags, polyethylene trash bags, Capilene long underwear, plastic bottles, and polystyrene cups. Other products, such as flame retardants and anticorrosive agents, are based on phosphate mined from the Earth. Phosphates have long been an ingredient in dishwasher detergents, but they're being banned state by state, including in Montana, to protect watersheds.

Products made from glucaric acid can do the same jobs without polluting and without the complexities of the oil market. And glucarate is identified by the U.S. Department of Energy as one of the top twelve renewable chemical building blocks, showing vast economic promise.

N ext, the business.

Kiely knew that they were a long way from making glucaric acid in small quantities on the laboratory bench to producing it wholesale in quantities of thousands of pounds at a time, but he thought it could be done. He's a chemist, not a business entrepreneur, and he wanted his ideas to be preserved and used. Five years ago, with the help of UM's Office of Technology Transfer, he registered a company with the state of Montana. The company, which he first called Montana Renewable Alternatives, licensed the intellectual property Kiely developed at the UM lab.

Enter Don Kiely's son, Jason Kiely. Jason, who's thirty-nine, grew up listening to his dad's chemistry and understood its promise. He was working in environmental organizing in Missoula.

"At that point, Jason came to my assistance," Don says. "He was the key person to connect the science, the University, and the business community."

Jason joined up and is now vice president of marketing and

administration. With a small team, they launched Rivertop Renewables—the name refers to its position at the headwaters of renewable chemistry—in 2008. They wrote the business plan at Break Espresso in downtown Missoula and spent hundreds of hours developing the vision.

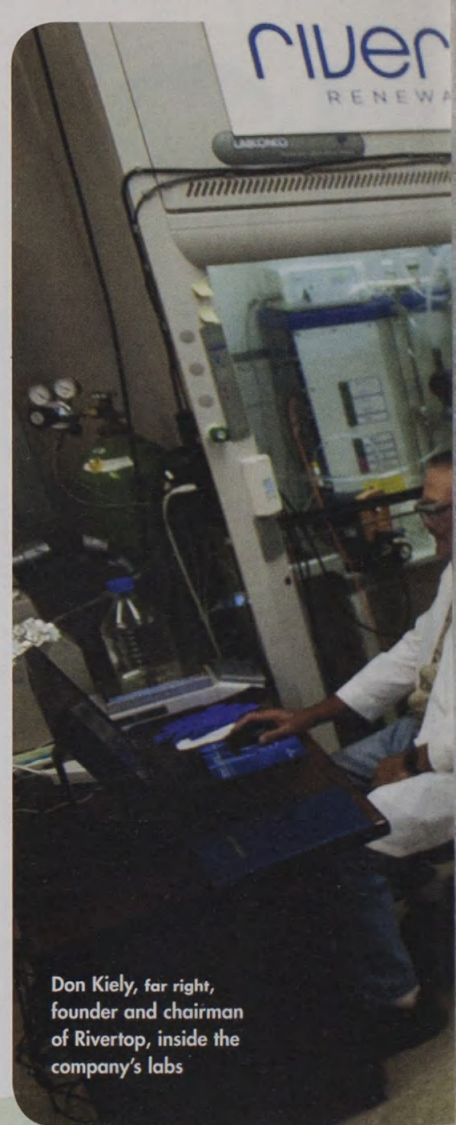
"Jason is the behind-the-scenes glue," his father says. "He's the one who holds all the pieces together."

Among Jason's early charges is raising money for the capital-intensive business, and he found financial friends for Rivertop in Montana.

"There are very few venture capital firms here," Jason says. "But there are people who want to invest in the right idea."

Investors like the idea of a Missoula-based company that helps employ educated Montanans, and they like supporting the development of green chemistry.

“What glucaric acid did was it provided me with a way to make a whole range of new polymers which were new and different from anything done before.”



Don Kiely, far right, founder and chairman of Rivertop, inside the company's labs

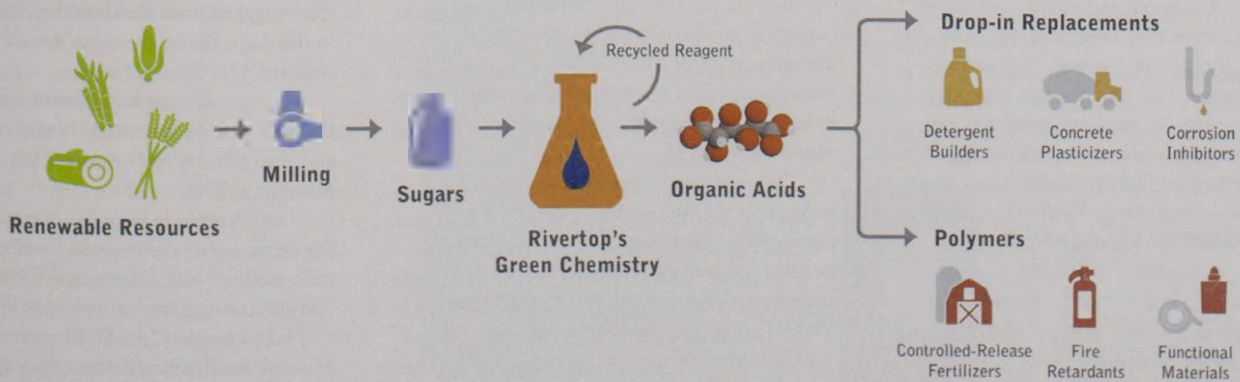
"They like the idea that we want to do something big in Missoula," Jason says. "The thing about Montana is it's a great state to grow in because it's big enough, but it's small enough that you know everybody."

The team grew. Kadas, a former Missoula mayor who's a UM-trained economist, connected Rivertop with a home at the business and technology incubator MonTEC, the Montana Technology Enterprise Center, on East Broadway in Missoula. He also recently assisted the University in securing a U.S. Commerce Department Economic Development Administration grant, with the help of U.S. Senator Max Baucus. The EDA grant was matched by UM to total more than \$3.5 million.

Kolstad came along by accident. Based in Seattle, he had just finished a startup software company that sold and was on his way to Glasgow to start a wind farm on his family's land. He stopped in Missoula to visit a



This chart breaks down Rivertop's process from beginning to end.



MonTEC Helps Nurture Fledgling Companies

Rivertop Renewables is the perfect example of what's possible at the Montana Technology Enterprise Center, Missoula's business and technology incubator known as MonTEC.

Once the renewable chemical company reached a certain phase in its development, it needed a protected place where it had shared support staff and affordable rent. Now it needs to expand, and MonTEC is making that possible. In January construction was scheduled to start at the MonTEC building on East Broadway that will place Rivertop as the anchor tenant and allow it to create a pilot plant.

MonTEC's existence keeps the company in Missoula, says Joe Fanguy, UM's director of technology transfer. A federal economic development grant—secured with help from U.S. Senator Max Baucus—with a match from UM pushed expansion into the real world.

"I was excited, they were excited, everybody was so excited, but where were they going to go?" Fanguy says. "How were they going to expand? This has allowed them to stay here."

UM began the MonTEC enterprise in 2002 in partnership with the Missoula Area Economic Development Corporation. MAEDC managed MonTEC for its first decade of existence, with a specific purpose of transferring UM's intellectual property to the private sector.

Marcy Allen, executive director of the three-county, federally designated BitterRoot Economic Development District Inc., thinks of MonTEC as the pathway from the research lab to commercialized ideas.

"It's connecting companies to the resources they need to grow," she says.

It also helps young companies connect with one another, creating specialty clusters that enhance one another's work and attract attention from venture capital firms and angel investors. Clean technology business shows special promise for Montana, she says.

In Rivertop's new position as anchor tenant, Allen sees the company as a mentor to spin-off and smaller companies.

MonTEC has nurtured businesses such as Alter Enterprise, which developed tools and equipment for watching and studying wildlife, and Purity Systems, which pioneered a method of extracting metals from industrial waste for reuse.

Today, with the recent dissolution of MAEDC, MonTEC has its own nonprofit status, and UM has stepped into the management role of the incubator. A new five-member board is in place, with representation from UM, Missoula County, and the Missoula Economic Partnership, and plans to continue its vital role nurturing great-fit enterprises.



Research chemist
Kylie Presta

MonTEC proves that companies can capitalize on the Montana University System's brain power to develop professional jobs that keep Montanans here and contribute to a high-level economy, Allen says.

"One of the opportunities we have in Montana is the quality of life this place offers," she says. "We don't have to be in Seattle. We can do business anywhere. One of the great things about MonTEC is it can capitalize on that."

—Ginny Merriam

friend from school who knew the Kielys. Kolstad was "completely sidetracked." It was clear to him that all the ideas needed was someone with the ability to execute them. With seventeen years of experience in startups and a strong financial background, he joined up, too.

"You know they say, 'Success has 1,000 fathers, and failure is an orphan,'" the Glasgow native says. "Doing something great, something environmentally great, it's a cool place to be."

Don Kiely also brought along the firm's first three chemist employees, all from UM.

"They all worked with me for a number of years," he says. "These people

were engaged from the time they walked in the door. Before there was a door to walk in."

Research chemist Kylie Presta never thought she'd be knee-deep in concrete and road salt, but she's now the lab manager at Rivertop.

"I'm interested in what this company represents—greener living and keeping toxic products out of the home," she says. "It's good to support that and work in it."

Ph.D. chemist Tyler Smith came to Missoula by chance, fleeing a doctoral

program at the University of Texas that was too big and impersonal for him. A meeting with UM Department of Chemistry Chairman Ed Rosenberg during a visit to Missoula reeled him in. He wound up working for Don Kiely at UM and earning his doctorate. He believed in Kiely's ideas of short-life chemicals and loved studying in a department where education is still the foundation, he says.

"I had a wonderful experience at The University of Montana," he says. "The chemistry program is very tight-knit. And the faculty really cares about the students and about turning out the best chemists possible."

Smith, now Rivertop's director of research and development, is still astonished at the opportunity to be in on an innovative company from the beginning.

"I believe in Don and what he's doing," he says. "I love Missoula. I love the outdoors, and Missoula is an amazing place to raise children."

And, he says, it's easier to work in a field that helps preserve the natural

world when the mountains surrounding the Missoula Valley are right out the window.

Without Rivertop, he likely would have had to leave Montana for a postdoctoral position in a larger city.

"That's part of what Rivertop represents in my mind from an economic development point of view—fourteen employees now, the potential for twenty-five more," says Joe Fanguy, director of technology transfer at UM. "That represents jobs that would not be here otherwise."

Rivertop's principals all say, "Without UM, we wouldn't be here." But the company is equally valuable to UM, the managing force behind MonTEC.

"They will continue to do a lot of research in partnership with UM as the company's Missoula operation grows," Fanguy says. "That's an enhancement for the University's research enterprise."

The company will continue to provide education for UM students through internships and eventual employment. And it'll bring investment dollars to Missoula.

"Those are all things that we'd like to continue to duplicate," Fanguy says.

The patents on Kiely's chemistry are



Jason Kiely, left, Don Kiely, and Jere Kolstad

royalty bearing, and when Rivertop turns a profit, UM will get a piece back.

Rivertop also is poised to embark on an expansion that will remodel the MonTEC building and establish the company as the anchor tenant. The EDA grant funds will be used to renovate the business incubator and construct a shell for a

pilot plant, called semi-works, which will be funded by Rivertop. The remodel will cover the east half of the building, where space opened recently following the move of Missoula's convention and visitors bureau to downtown.

Construction will start in January with a wrap-up date set for July. An atrium with skylights will bring light into the labs and take chemists' offices out of them. Now, for instance, desks share the area where a bank of three dishwashers tests detergents' ability to prevent spots on glassware.

The pilot plant is key to taking production from the lab to the large scale, says Kadas.

"We have to build a model and see how it works," he says. "A commercial plant is a \$20- to \$30-million item. You can't just go straight from the bench to that."


In addition, Rivertop has found a contract manufacturer in Danville, Va., that has the equipment and the proximity to raw materials to start making Rivertop's products. Rivertop's natural chemicals will first show up as anticorrosion products for road deicers and water-cooling tanks. Then it's on to dishwasher soaps and concretes.

Two significant events this past fall have further brightened Rivertop's future. Cultivian Ventures, an Indiana-based venture capital fund focused on high-technology opportunities in food and agriculture, invested \$1.5 million in Rivertop in November. Along with the investment came Cultivian co-founder and principal Ron Meeusen, who joined the Rivertop board and brings more than thirty years of experience in taking new technologies and products to market.

"They're a really good fit for us at this point in our development," Jason Kiely says. "It's a big validation in the finance world. And it's validation for potential customers."

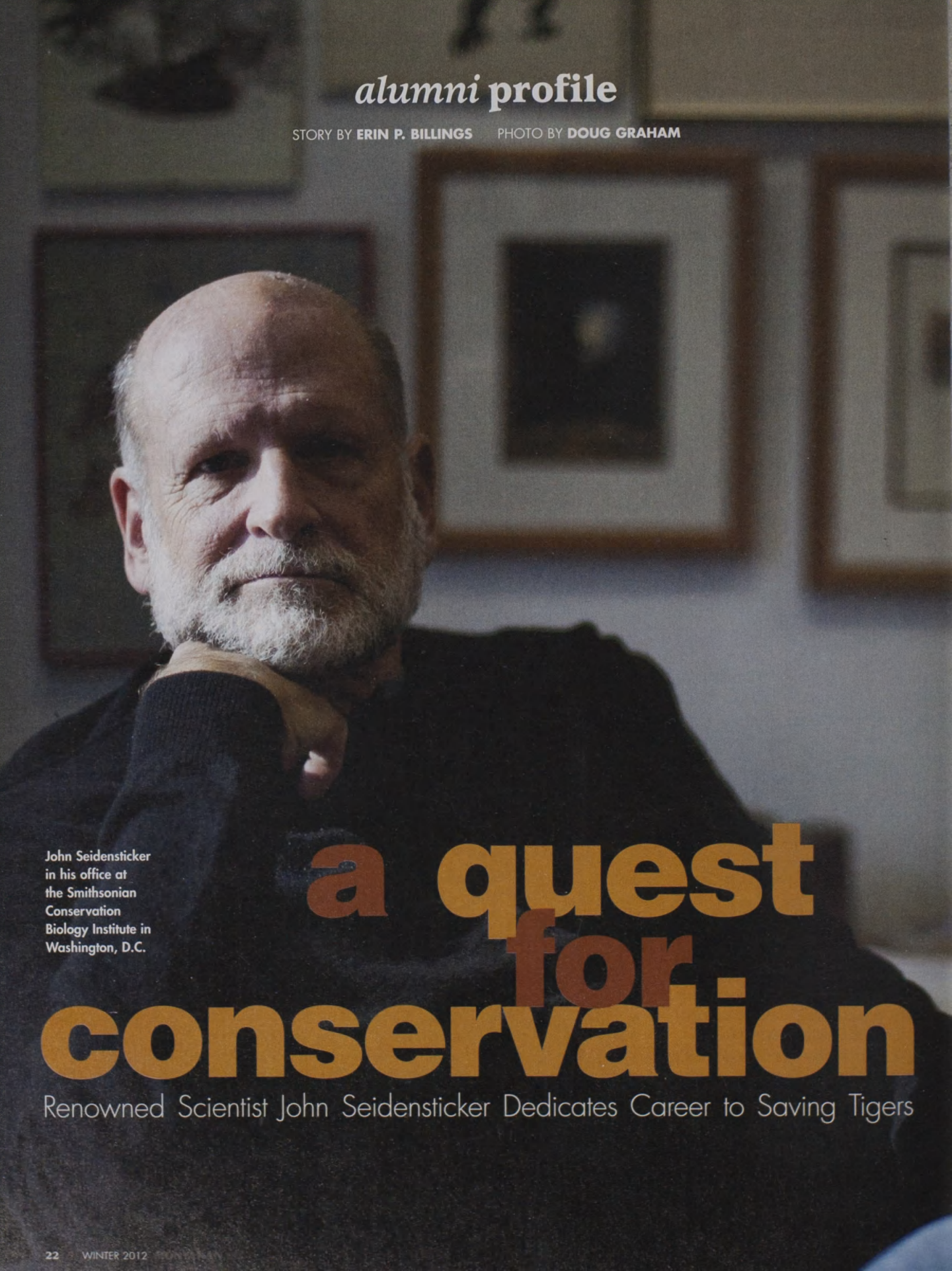
Also in November, Rivertop connected with one of those customers, contracting with the Montana Department of Transportation to supply 110,000 gallons of bio-based corrosion inhibitor for use with liquid deicers on Montana's roads this winter. The corrosion inhibitor works to protect infrastructure, such as bridges, from damage by road salts and also offers protection for vehicles.

The contract is exciting because it gets a foot in the market for the Rivertop crew, giving them market experience while they formulate a related chemical.

"I'm always optimistic," says Smith, "even though there are a lot of challenges. That's exciting to me. And every day's a different day here." 



Ginny Merriam is a graduate of The University of Montana School of Journalism and worked as an award-winning reporter at the Missoulian newspaper. She writes from Missoula.



alumni profile

STORY BY ERIN P. BILLINGS PHOTO BY DOUG GRAHAM

John Seidensticker
in his office at
the Smithsonian
Conservation
Biology Institute in
Washington, D.C.

a quest
for

conservation

Renowned Scientist John Seidensticker Dedicates Career to Saving Tigers

There's not much about John Seidensticker that doesn't have to do with cats. Big cats, specifically.

Peppering the walls of his office at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute at the National Zoo are drawings, sketches, photos, and paintings of cats. His bookshelves are flush with books about them; the table that cuts his office in half is piled high with papers, documents, and writings on them.

Maybe that's why he's seen as the dean of tiger biology.

Seidensticker, a conservation scientist, has come a long way from growing up and working summers on his family's cattle ranch near Twin Bridges. He's traveled a good part of the globe—crossing the Pacific four times last year and seven times in 2010—in the name of saving tigers.

"It was a big deal for me to leave Montana," says Seidensticker, sixty-seven, from his cluttered office near the Adams Morgan neighborhood in Washington, D.C. "It was a big deal for me to say I wasn't going to become a rancher. My family, being ranchers of course, they were great hunters; my grandfather and my father hunted and fished all over the world. I guess I always thought there ought to be something more than just shooting things."

Seidensticker's mother was a homemaker and his father a medical doctor who spent his spare time on the ranch. As it turned out, none of the Seidensticker children—there were six—pursued a career in ranching or medicine. Three became teachers, one entered pharmacy, and one became a librarian. Seidensticker chose science.

His father was demanding with high standards. Still, Seidensticker says his dad was extraordinarily supportive of his children doing what they wanted to do.

Seidensticker didn't seem to struggle with a career choice. He enrolled as a zoology student at UM in 1963 with an eye toward conservation. It was a horizon-broadening time.

"Catching my first tiger was pretty wild."

"At the University you met people who had been places," says Seidensticker, who earned a B.A. in zoology in 1966 and an M.S. in zoology in 1968. "I was pretty parochial. I used to joke that I hadn't been east of Hardin until I went to Asia.

"What you got from the professors at The University of Montana was this flavor that there were all these opportunities out there, that people could actually make a living being a wildlife biologist. That was a big discovery."

An avid reader of *National Geographic*, Seidensticker says he knew in high school that he wanted the opportunity to work with then-Professor John Craighead after reading an article Craighead wrote with his brother, Frank, on

the plight of the grizzly bear in Yellowstone National Park. The Craighead brothers spent more than a decade researching the imperiled grizzlies.

At nineteen, Seidensticker was determined to work with Craighead.

He recalls waiting in Craighead's UM office—saying, "I got to know his office and his secretary pretty well"—until "finally John's secretary fit me into his schedule."

In spring 1964 Craighead offered him a job, but Seidensticker had already accepted a position at the Bureau of Land Management. So it wasn't until the fall that he joined Craighead at the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Unit as a research assistant. In the next field season, Seidensticker joined the unit as an assistant studying the ecology of the grizzly bear.

Craighead would go on to serve as an adviser for Seidensticker as he earned his master's, but he turned into much more than that. He also was a mentor.

"John gave me five big points in life," Seidensticker says. "Number one, don't be afraid to take on big challenges. Two, get your science right—get your baselines right. Three, focus on the apex predators and the landscapes they need to support them. Four, communicate widely what you find. And the final thing was to have fun doing it.

"That's what I took away from my four years under John. That's what he did and that's what I've been doing."

Seidensticker didn't stick with grizzlies. Traveling west to Idaho for his doctorate, his dissertation focused on mountain

lions. As he was finishing up in 1973, he secured a grant, somewhat by happenstance, from the World Wildlife Fund through the Smithsonian to study tigers in Nepal. Tigers had just been declared endangered the year before.

It's been more than thirty years, but Seidensticker's face still lights up when he talks about the Smithsonian Nepal Tiger Ecology Project. Being in Nepal, he says, "was like being in a candy store—there were all these big mammals."

It was very much new ground. For the first time ever, Seidensticker worked to catch tigers and leopards and put radio transmitters on them. "It was just a terrific experience," he says. "That's where we started.

"Catching my first tiger was pretty wild."

Jerry Seidensticker, John's younger brother by eleven years, traveled to Nepal on that first study. Just eighteen at the time, he remembers it as a once-in-a-lifetime experience, even though he admits he did get a little homesick. He recalls being amazed by his brother's ability to communicate and work effectively in such a new and unfamiliar culture.

"One of the things John taught me, and it still sticks with me, is how to be patient," says Jerry Seidensticker, principal at Rattlesnake Elementary School in Missoula. "I probably could still use some of that. I've always been impressed with his ability to sit back and listen to other people's ideas. In third world countries, things move very slowly. He knew that already and had an acceptance of that."

At that time, just one other scientific study had been conducted on tigers, so there was much that was unknown: how much area would it take to support a viable tiger population, how large was a tiger's home range, how many animals did a tiger kill each month to survive.

"Nearly everything we knew about the natural history of tigers had been learned down the sights of a rifle," Seidensticker says. "This was all new stuff—the fact you could catch them and follow them around and figure out what they were doing."

Seidensticker struggles to give just one explanation for why he's drawn to tigers. In part, he says it's because he comes from a long line of conservationists: His grandfather was very active in ensuring the reintroduction of white-tailed deer, bighorn sheep, and turkeys. But moreover, he says he's intrigued by how such a powerful and large animal—he recalls tracking a male tiger that was more than 500 pounds—could be so vulnerable to the threats of the human-dominated landscape that surround the few patches of natural habitat where they still live.

So he's dedicated a large portion of his career to their protection. While at the Smithsonian—his employer for almost his entire professional life—he's written scores of research papers, studies, and books on the subject. He's by every measure prolific, even though he struggles with dyslexia. He thanks the spell-check on his computer for helping him deal with his disability.

Those who know him admire his tenacity and patience in a career that can challenge both.

"He's Zen-like," says Eric Dinerstein, chief scientist and vice president at the World Wildlife Fund, who has known Seidensticker since 1980.

"He's very quiet; he just sits back and absorbs it all," Dinerstein says. "Often, you will be sitting in a meeting, and he won't say anything at all. Then, later, after he's assessed it all, he'll say something and very often it's something that stops everyone in their tracks and they say, 'Yes, that's what we should do.'"

Joel Berger, now the John J. Craighead Chair of Wildlife Biology at UM, first met Seidensticker in 1979 while Berger was doing his postdoctorate work at the Smithsonian. He says that as a "young and impressionable scientist," he looked up to Seidensticker.

"I thought, 'Oh yeah, Seidensticker, he does some cool stuff in a lot of exciting places,' Berger says. "He's somebody I think I could learn from."

"I'm hoping that in twenty-five or thirty years, John is known as one of the people that really helped to save tigers."

A curious young male tiger, Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, central India, 2003



Seidensticker's studies aren't limited to tigers. In 2003 he and his Indian colleagues conducted a broad study of sloth bear ecology and behavior in the Panna Tiger Reserve. It was the first such study of the ant- and termite-eating bear undertaken in India's seasonal dry forests.



launched in 2008 to save tigers from extinction. At a summit a year ago in St. Petersburg, Russia, participants set an ambitious goal to double the world's wild tiger population from 3,200 to 6,400 in a dozen years. Seidensticker serves as an independent adviser to the World Bank for the initiative, while Lumpkin is a consultant to the World Bank for the project. The World Bank helped start the effort and funds the Global Tiger Initiative's secretariat.

Seidensticker calls being involved with the Global Tiger Initiative one of the most challenging times of his career.

"Most people hit sixty-five and they are ready to retire," he says. "This is the most intense learning curve I've ever been on."

Scott Derrickson, who is deputy director of the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute in Front Royal, Va., and oversees the research centers at the National Zoo, including Seidensticker's, says if the Global Tiger Initiative doesn't work, nothing will. But his hope is that it does, and that ultimately it will define Seidensticker's legacy.

"I'm hoping that in twenty-five or thirty years, John is known as one of the people that really helped to save tigers," says Derrickson.

Lumpkin doesn't pause when she talks about Seidensticker's passion for and success at conservation biology. He is tireless, tolerant, and has an uncanny sense of landscape, which she attributes to his having grown up in Montana.

"Coming from Montana is a really powerful part of John's being," she says.

It's been forty years since Seidensticker left Montana. He and Lumpkin, a Michigan native, make it a point to visit, but they never really entertained moving back for good.

"Susan and I joke that once you get warm, you can't get cold again," he says.

There's no doubt Seidensticker is both comfortable and challenged at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, and he doesn't seem to have plans to go elsewhere. Besides, he admits, he still has much more work to do to meet the goals of the Global Tiger Initiative.

Whatever lies ahead, Seidensticker is already viewed as having played a critical, if not unmatched, role in preserving and enhancing the world's tiger population. But don't try to give him the credit.

"There are a lot of champions," he says. "I'm just one of the players." ■

Berger calls Seidensticker a "muddy boots-type guy" who can see both sides of the conservation equation: the animal perspective and the human perspective. And, Berger says, he has "a beautiful calmness."

"He doesn't have to be the guy out at the front, chest beating," Berger says. "He has amazing patience and internal confidence."

For all the accolades, Seidensticker is quick to credit his wife of twenty-nine years, Susan Lumpkin, with whom he has partnered on numerous projects and written and edited ten books. In many ways, as they both admit, they have shared a career. They met at the zoo when Lumpkin was a postdoctorate fellow three decades ago.

"She's the voice. She's the writer. She writes the poetry," Seidensticker says.

Lumpkin recalls meeting John and says even though it took them a year or two to come together, it was "love at first sight."

It was her first job interview at the zoo, and afterward, Seidensticker offered to walk her back to Connecticut Avenue, a major thoroughfare in D.C. Lumpkin remembers how Seidensticker took her, all dressed up and wearing heels, on a trek over a hill and through some woods to get to her destination. Since then, she says: "We've spent most of our lives going up and down mountains together."

They both are involved in the Global Tiger Initiative, an alliance of governments, conservationists, and international organizations



Erin P. Billings is a freelance writer and public relations consultant living in Washington, D.C. She spent more than fifteen years working as an editor and reporter in Montana and D.C. She earned her master's degree from UM's School of Journalism in 1995.

STORY BY CHAD DUNDAS

Green Pastures

After a
Successful Start,
UM's Irish Studies
Program Looks
to Stay Ahead
of the Competition

Growing up in Seattle,

Constance Shepardson never gave a second thought to The University of Montana.

When she imagined herself getting a degree, it was always from a cozy, private liberal arts school like Reed in Portland, Ore., Whitman in her home state of Washington, or Iowa's Cornell College. She already knew her ultimate goal was to attend

graduate school in library science, and Shepardson was looking for the undergraduate experience that would best prepare her for that future.

"Honestly, when I first started looking I had no interest in going to a big state school," she says. "I wanted the small, private, heavy-duty four years to set me up for grad school."

While casting around for an institution that would accept the college credit she'd earned in high school, however, she unexpectedly found herself perusing UM's course catalog. There, the fourth-generation Irish American made a discovery that would significantly alter her plans.

"When I saw that Montana offered Irish Studies, it was a game-changer," says Shepardson, who explains that pride in their heritage has always been strong in her family. "When I realized it was a full-fledged minor with the language fully integrated and an emphasis both on the history and the modern, I was just blown away. How did I not realize this existed before?"

She didn't realize it because even today, UM's young—but rapidly growing—Irish Studies program is one of the school's best-kept secrets.

What began with one instructor teaching the Irish language to thirteen pupils in 2006 has grown to include around 200 students. About fifty of those are pursuing the full-scale eighteen-credit minor, which folds classes on language, history, literature, music, and dance into a cohesive field that organizers say make it a one-of-a-kind experience for scholars.

"There are very few universities that teach the Irish language," says Traolach Ó Ríordáin, UM's director of Irish Studies. "You have kind of a unique program here because it embraces all elements of the Irish culture. You have the Gaelic culture and you have the Anglo culture of Ireland. You have the music and you have the dance, so you have the performing arts involved as well. That sets us apart as unique in a national context."

That distinctive feel gives the Irish Studies program almost unmatched potential for growth, Ó Ríordáin says. It is currently the only program of its kind west of the Mississippi and—along with the University of Notre Dame—one of just two nationally that offers students a minor with an emphasis on the Irish language. UM's program also is the only one in the country located at a state school.

"It'll cost you fifty grand a year to go to Notre Dame," Ó Ríordáin says. "It'll cost you fifteen here. This makes our program relevant on a national basis because if Mary up in Philadelphia wants to study the sciences or business but wants to pursue her passion for Irish language, literature, music, and dance, well, where's she going to do that? There's only one university where she can do it at an affordable rate, and that'd be The University of Montana."

The program's uniqueness is not just limited to the classroom, either. With a close relationship to community groups such as the Friends of Irish Studies, the Irish Studies program regularly sponsors public arts events like dance recitals, concerts, theater productions, and lectures by guest speakers. In 2008 it also began a partnership with the federal court in Missoula, offering an exchange program that gives Irish law students the opportunity to not only study our legal system on American soil, but to actually intern in a working courthouse. As far as Ó Ríordáin knows, that exchange is the only one of its kind in the nation.

All of this comes together to make the University's Irish Studies program distinctly different, and that, Ó Ríordáin says, could make it a powerful tool in attracting students who might not otherwise have considered UM as an option.

Students like Constance Shepardson.



Traolach Ó Ríordáin, UM's director of Irish studies, and his daughter, Róisín-Marie.

"...This makes our program relevant on a national basis because if Mary up in Philadelphia wants to study the sciences or business but wants to pursue her passion for Irish language, literature, music, and dance, well, where's she going to do that? There's only one university where she can do it at an affordable rate, and that'd be The University of Montana."

Deep Roots

At forty-seven years old, Ó Ríordáin is a big man, with a thick shock of black hair and an even thicker Irish brogue. His knowledge and energy make him a charismatic speaker, and dual degrees in literature and language make him a formidable academic. He quotes Gaelic poetry and song in conversation, and ask him one question about Irish Studies and he might talk for twenty minutes without interruption. In short, he's about as effective a spokesman for the fledgling program as UM could hope to have.

"He's an extremely bright kid," says Pat Byrne, a Missoula Realtor and member of the Friends of Irish Studies, who Ó Ríordáin calls "Uncle P" and describes as instrumental



Many Irish relocated to Butte to work in the mines in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

in getting the program off the ground. “I think he oftentimes takes on more than he can chew, but he’s moving this program ahead very rapidly. His knowledge of Irish history and literature is just outstanding. We are very, very, very lucky to have him here.”

A native of Cork City near Ireland’s southwestern coast, Ó Ríordáin spent time teaching and studying in better-known Irish-American hotbeds such as Boston and San Francisco before coming to Missoula. He now says

there’s something distinctive about the spirit of the Montana Irish—who flocked to cities such as Butte and Anaconda during the hard-rock mining heydays of the late 1800s and early 1900s—which makes the state perfectly suited to host a comprehensive Irish Studies program.

“The narrative that underpins the Irish in Montana is a pretty cohesive one,” Ó Ríordáin says. “There’s certain things about the Montana identity, about Montana culture. You have this shared heritage—a kind of very unifying and uniform historical narrative—and it has a very strong Gaelic component.”

The mining industry in Butte and Anaconda began its decline after

Eamon de Valera, center, president of the Provisional Government of the Irish Republic, visited Butte in 1919 to encourage support for Ireland’s fight for independence.



“There’s certain things about the Montana identity, about Montana culture. You have this shared heritage—a kind of very unifying and uniform historical narrative—and it has a very strong Gaelic component.”

World War II, and with the invention of open-pit mining during the 1950s, many of the old ethnic neighborhoods in Butte were lost. When the Irish decamped from those traditional cultural strongholds, they spread their influence to towns such as Great Falls, Helena, and Missoula.

Then in the 1990s, Professor David Emmons put UM on the Irish studies map when he published his seminal book *The Butte*

Irish and began teaching classes on Irish history. The Montana Gaelic Cultural Society was founded in 1997, and the success of its Irish language, music, and dance classes over the next decade prompted Byrne and other members to approach the University about the possibility of creating an Irish Studies program.

UM officials were interested, and Byrne’s connections within the Irish government made it possible for several dignitaries to visit Montana

during the next few years. All of them were excited about the idea of establishing an Irish Studies program on campus. The University then struck up an exchange program with Ireland's University College Cork, and in May 2006 Irish President Mary McAleese visited UM to help announce the official launch of the program.

Her endorsement came along with a \$40,000 grant from the Irish government, and soon after Friends of Irish Studies was incorporated to help fund the program. During its first five years Irish Studies has hatched classes on a bevy of subjects, such as English, history, and foreign language, as well as the schools of Music and Theatre & Dance. So far, attracting students to fill those classrooms has not been a problem.

"We got it going, and now I believe it's one of the fastest growing, if not the fastest growing, programs on campus," Byrne says. "It just seems to be mushrooming."

Eyes on the Future

Four years after beginning her search for the right school, Shepardson is now a senior at UM, preparing to receive her degree in English literature with a minor in Irish Studies. She may not have gotten the small, private-school feel she was looking for in her college experience, but wound up with something that might be even more important to her: the chance to study her Irish heritage as completely and comprehensively as perhaps any undergraduate in the country.

"I think infectious is the best word for it," she says. "That's one of the things about studying an entire culture. You start to realize there are so many things you want to learn about it and there are so many different aspects of it. It's not just literature, and it's not just history. It's a living, breathing culture."

After starting out intending to focus her studies only on language and literature, Shepardson says she branched out to history and even some music and dance. In January she took part in a two-week tour of Ireland organized by UM's Davidson Honors

Irish dancer
Brian Cunningham
performs at the
University Theatre.



"That's one of the things about studying an entire culture. You start to realize there are so many things you want to learn about it and there are so many different aspects of it. It's not just literature, and it's not just history. It's a living, breathing culture."




begin to recognize UM's success and follow suit.

"We're ahead of the posse now," Ó Ríordáin says. "But two years from now, will we still be ahead of the posse? Unless we get the word out there and get ourselves established in the pole position pretty soon, we're going to have challengers."

For one thing, Ó Ríordáin would like to see the Irish Studies minor expanded into a full-blown major. To do that, UM will need to expand its offerings to include more Irish-centric classes in more disciplines. Ó Ríordáin says he would also like to do more outreach to Montana high school students, in addition to the Irish language classes the program currently offers online through the Montana Digital Academy.

Accomplishing any or all of that will take funding, obviously, something that is always a challenge. It'll also take more community outreach, more marketing, and a concerted effort to keep UM's program a step ahead of the competition.

"Hopefully when everything gets done, what we'd like to see here is a national center of Irish and Irish Gaelic studies," Ó Ríordáin says, "so that anybody who wants to learn the Irish language can come to Montana. When they want to study Irish music, they can come to Montana. When they want to study Irish dance, literature, or history, they can come to Montana. We could provide it all."

For more information or to get involved in the Irish Studies program, go online to www.cas.umt.edu/irishstudies or www.friendsofirishstudies.org. 



A native Montanan, Chad Dundas earned a bachelor's degree in journalism in 2002 and an M.F.A. in English-creative writing in 2006, both from UM. He covers mixed martial arts for ESPN.com and lives in Missoula with his wife.

PLAN A GIFT. IT JUST MIGHT

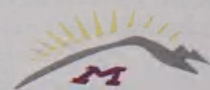
CHANGE YOUR LIFE, TOO.



MORA PAYNE, UM alumna and supporter, takes Winston Churchill's famous words to heart: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." That's why, over the years, Mora has established numerous planned gifts at The University of Montana Foundation. She has included the Foundation in her will to support the Mora Skari Payne Scholarship in Violin and the Carman Skari Scholarship Fund in history. Mora also has created a charitable gift annuity, where she receives life income, to ultimately support the Payne Faculty Development Endowment in political science. And most recently, Mora has supported UM with an IRA Rollover. "When I came to Missoula as an 18-year-old," Mora says, "I received a \$75 violin performance scholarship. That \$75 changed my life." Mora's planned gifts will change lives for UM students—while keeping Mora connected to the school she fell in love with as a young woman visiting from Butte. "I graduated from the School of Music, and I've been involved ever since. I go to concerts. I stay in touch. It all goes back to that first time I visited, when I instantly knew this was where I had to be."

To follow Mora's lead and to develop your own planned gifts, contact Theresa Boyer, director of gift planning, at **406.243.2593** or theresa.boyer@mso.umt.edu.

Give now at SupportUM.org/Montanan



the UNIVERSITY of MONTANA
FOUNDATION

Raising Montana



Culture of Giving Puts UM on the Map

Ask Tara Udall to identify the moment when she felt she was a part of something bigger, and she'll tell you that moment was riding a rhino up Mount Sentinel to the famous M overlooking The University of Montana campus.

But not that kind of rhino.

The "rhino" in question was a Yamaha ATV, and Udall's memory was tied to the Senior Challenge project becoming a reality.

"I remember riding to the M with the facilities crew, looking over the city, and this time Missoula looked different," Udall says. "Seeing the map physically installed made it real. Until then, all of it had just been drawings and ideas."

The project, spearheaded by Udall and the Senior Challenge committee, was the Class of 2011's gift to the University: an illustrated map detailing all the buildings on campus installed at the M on Mount Sentinel.

The Senior Challenge is a student-run fundraising campaign to educate graduating seniors about the importance of philanthropy. Participating seniors choose the programs or area on campus their

fundraising efforts will support. Seniors who give before the end of April are recognized in the semester's final *Kaimin* issue and on the UM Foundation's website. Donors also

Above: UM students Katie Corwin, Ashley Glover, and Becca Millsap, (left to right) members of the Senior Challenge 2012 committee, and Tara Udall, UM Foundation staff member and Senior Challenge 2011 committee member, celebrate the unveiling of a campus map at the M.

receive a special tassel charm to wear during Commencement. Most importantly, these seniors have the opportunity to contribute to UM's legacy.

Each class answers the challenge in new and interesting ways. For the Class of 2011, it was the

map at the M. The Class of 2010 planted new trees on the Oval, and the Class of 2009 installed a bike rack. And the Senior Challenge doesn't just fund individual projects; all donations and pledges that aren't specifically used for the project go directly to scholarships.

"When you're a student, you don't always think about where the buildings and facilities come from," Udall says. "But when you get ready to leave, you begin to see the bigger picture. The University gave me a world-class education, and this

was one way for me to give something back, to really leave my mark."

Becca Millsap, chair of this year's Senior Challenge committee, agrees.

"You go into this, calling seniors and asking them to commit to \$20.12—for the Class of 2012—and you think you're going to hear everyone say, 'I have loans to pay off,' or something similar. But what's really surprising is how many people are excited about it and how they realize this truly does mean something. It's just the spirit of giving, and every \$20 is the start of a relationship. These are people who may give large gifts later and may have stadiums or buildings named after them at some point."

The Senior Challenge fits into the overall culture of philanthropy among UM alumni and supporters. Major projects bear the names of people who have strong

continued on page 32



Make a gift online at www.SupportUM.org

from page 31

ties to the University and Missoula. The Gallagher Business Building. The Payne Family Native American Center. Washington-Grizzly Stadium. The Davidson Honors College. Don Anderson Hall. The list goes on. Senior Challenge is a first step on that road to giving.

“It’s not just about taking your diploma and never looking back,” Udall says.

If it all sounds like an effort to create connections with graduating seniors, it is. The Senior Challenge encourages the graduating class to identify needs, of course. But more than that, it’s a powerful way to transition from UM students to UM alumni.

That’s important, because the relationships can be powerful and enduring, says Millsap. The past four years, she’s participated in the Excellence Fund phonathon, talking to alumni across the world.

“For many people, we’re their only access to the University,” she says. “Maybe it’s a forestry grad who loves to talk about Foresters’ Ball. Or maybe it’s a music major who asks about *Odyssey of the Stars* or the jazz festival. You get a sense of that common bond, of what it means to be a University of Montana student and alum.”

The importance of giving and what it means is vividly displayed for Millsap at the beginning of each phonathon drive.

“We gather all of our callers, and we start by asking who is the recipient of a scholarship,” Millsap says. “Almost every hand goes up.”



That’s why the Senior Challenge, and giving in general, focuses on participation more than a dollar amount—every gift, no matter the size, really is a major gift.


“Most students don’t realize those scholarships are made possible by alumni who are

simply being kind, giving back to the University, giving to them,” Millsap says. “They don’t think about how many individual contributors give to their scholarships. But when they start making those calls, they get it. And it’s pretty powerful when they realize it.”

The experience is coming in handy for Millsap now that her Senior Challenge committee is starting to call on fellow seniors.

“I really do want to get the whole senior class involved this year,” she says. “I want it to be their campaign, and I want it to be their gift—something that represents our University, and represents our class as a whole.” She pauses. “Ten years from now, we’ll be able to look at something we did, point to it, and say we were a part of it.”

It’s a feeling shared by the thousands of alumni who give each year. And that, after all, is the whole mission of the Senior Challenge: to create a sense of shared identity and shared giving.

Seeing how UM graduates are rising to the Senior Challenge, it’s safe to say: Mission accomplished. 



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'60s

IN 1967, The University of Montana Jubileers, a select group of the University's best singers and one of its most beloved traditions, were selected by the USO to entertain men and women serving in the U.S. military across the Asian Pacific. Little did the Jubileers know that the ten-week tour would turn out to be one of the most memorable experiences of their lives. They performed a total of fifty-nine shows in Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Guam, and Hawaii. Forty-four years later, all fourteen Jubileers turned out to attend the group's reunion this past August in Bigfork. "Flathead Lake provided a beautiful setting for a re-gathering of the group once billed as 'Montana's Finest Voices,'" writes **DENNIS BURNS '69**, who helped organize the reunion. "All in the group have enhanced the vocal music climate of many parts of the nation, with several having been professional, full-time musicians since leaving the UM School of Music." One attendee drove from Florida while others came from as far away as New York and Hawaii. "The get-together was scheduled for one day, but most spent four days catching up on the last four decades and singing," writes Dennis. "Some even wore their signature red dresses that were made for the USO show in 1967. The group gathered around the piano and sang many of the numbers performed in the overseas shows."



ABOVE: Tour director Joseph Mussulman (front, center), led UM's finest voices off to visit military hospitals and entertain troops across the Pacific in 1967.

TOP PHOTO: No other USO troop is known to have gathered for a reunion like the one held in August 2011 in Bigfork.

Front row: Dennis Burns '69, Nancy Senechal Schulze '69, Joseph Mussulman, Carol Ash Wyard '70, Doug Dunnell '67, and Diane Morrow Hammack '67.

Back row, left to right: Susan Emrick '68, Jim Selway '68, Gary Guthrie '68, Edd Blackler '70, Greg Devlin '71, Judy Stowe Colbo '68, Don Collins '68, Ruth Silvius Dobson '68, and Marcia Olson Cobb '69. Except for Jim Selway and Gary Guthrie, who are reversed, each Jubilee assumed the same position as in the 1967 photo.

Keep Us Posted. Send your news to The University of Montana Alumni Association, Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. Go to www.GrizAlum.com and click on "Class Notes," fax your news to 406-243-4467, or call 1-877-UM-ALUMS (877-862-5867). Material in this issue reached our office by November 2, 2011.

Note: The year immediately following an alum's name indicates either an undergraduate degree year or attendance at UM. Graduate degrees from UM are indicated by initials.

Snowbirds/Sunbirds—Anyone! Whenever you change your mailing address, please contact the alumni office. Let us know where you are and when. Thank you.



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Grateful Campus

The University of Montana, through the Office of Alumni Relations, held its first-ever Military Reunion November 3-6, 2011. The most senior of the alumni who attended the reunion was a veteran of World War II. What an honor it was to welcome back these individuals who not only represented our campus, but also served our country with distinction. How impressive it

was to see a major general, along with several brigadier generals and naval captains, come together with enlisted personnel to celebrate their service to the United States and their education from The University of Montana. Everyone agreed that regular reunions would be a great idea.

Additionally, UM alumnus David Bell, co-founder of Grateful Nation Montana [www.gratefulnationmontana.com] decided to hold the unveiling of the Fallen Soldier Memorial on Friday during the reunion. The memorial, which honors the forty Montanans who gave their lives during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, was a gift from supporters of the Grateful Nation Montana program. More than 800 people attended both the formal ceremony held in the Montana Theatre and the unveiling of the monument on Memorial Row. A cold rain turned to sleet and then snow as the military parachute used as the veil for the memorial was removed by UM ROTC cadets. People stayed well into the night to see the memorial. It was a very moving ceremony and experience. In a short span of time the memorial has established itself as a place to reflect and contemplate.

Thank you to all our alumni and friends who serve our University and country in many different ways. We are a grateful campus.

BILL JOHNSTON '79, M.P.A. '91
DIRECTOR, ALUMNI RELATIONS
PRESIDENT AND CEO, UM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Washington Education Center offers training for new and veteran teachers, administrators, and counselors in current technologies and distance learning.



RICH MOY '66, M.A. '72, Helena, was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as one of three U.S. representatives on the six-member International Joint Commission. The commission works to uphold the 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty between the United States and Canada, which was enacted to prevent international disputes over lakes and rivers that cross the border.

MICHAEL DWYER '67, '76, Missoula, initially earned a degree in sociology from UM and went on to serve aboard two U.S. Navy destroyers, Boyd and Chevalier, as a signalman 2. After two deployments to Vietnam, he returned to UM and earned an additional bachelor's in social work. In 2007 Michael retired after thirty years as a state social worker for adults with developmental disabilities. He remains active in several veterans groups, including Vietnam Veterans of America Bitterroot Chapter, as well as the associations of both ships he served aboard.

'70s

KEN ROBERTSON '70, Kennewick, Wash., retired

as executive editor of the *Tri-City Herald* in July. Ken held the position for twenty of the thirty-five years he worked at the paper. "We can't thank him enough for his service and leadership over the years," says Bob Weil, vice president of operations for the McClatchy Co., the *Herald's* owner. "Ken is the embodiment of that most fundamental McClatchy value: quality journalism." The *Herald* won't have to do without a Grizzly at the helm for long. City editor



and assistant managing editor **LAURIE WILLIAMS** '89 will succeed Ken. Laurie started at the *Herald* as a reporter in 1984. Weil noted how that length of time reflects Laurie's roots in the community and at the paper, and continued, "In Laurie, we get a next-generation McClatchy editor, a newsroom leader hard at work transitioning our business and our public service mission for the digital age, serving readers on multiple platforms and in multiple formats."

ROBERT JOHNSON '71, Olympia, Wash., is chief

'60s

SALLY CARROLL BULTMANN '64 and **CHUCK BULTMANN** '66, M.B.A. '85, Colleyville,



Texas, received the 2011 Grapevine Heritage Foundation Restoration Award from the Grapevine City Council. The award recognized Sally and Chuck's accurate restoration of the J.E. Foust Building. Built in 1889, the building is located in the Grapevine Historic Township and is home to Chuck and Sally's store, Good Things for All Seasons.

PHYLLIS J. WASHINGTON '64, Missoula, is married to Montana industrialist and philanthropist

Dennis Washington. A former teacher, Phyllis commented to *Forbes* magazine in September about the importance of parent-teacher collaboration in education. "The responsibility of learning falls equally on both parents and teachers," she tells *Forbes*. "Teaching is a team effort, especially today with so many divided homes." Financed by a generous gift from the Phyllis and Dennis Washington Foundation and opened in 2009, UM's Phyllis J.



Johnson

executive officer and president of PRN Services Inc., which provides relief pharmacy services throughout southwest Washington.

THOMAS BROWN, M.A. '71, Queenstown, New Zealand, went on to the Louvre Museum in Paris to study the meticulous art of copying paintings. The experience served him well this past fall when he created a series of original paintings commemorating New Zealand's hosting of the Rugby World Cup. On display at the BONZ art gallery in the Queenstown Mall, the paintings reflect New Zealand's nearly religious fervor for the game. One depicts team captain Richie McCaw as a Greco-Roman god surrounded by adoring toga-wearing fans.

DON WETZEL, SR. '72, M. Ed. '81, Statesville, N.C., was inducted into the Montana Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in July in Billings. A former Griz player, basketball coach, and educator, Don established the hall in 2007 in honor of his late father **WALTER S. "BLACKIE" WETZEL** '38, also a UM athlete.

DAVID H. ELLIS, Ph.D. '73, and his wife, Cathy, Oracle, Ariz., have published *Steamboat Springs*, the new volume in Arcadia Publishing's Images of America series. The book tells the history of the Colorado town from early settlement to its current fame as a winter

resort and includes 200 vintage photographs. **DOROTHY BRINKEL JOHNSON, Ph.D.** '73, Olympia, Wash., is enjoying her recent retirement from the Washington State Attorney General's office.



Leib

MICHAEL LEIB, M.A. '74, West Bloomfield, Mich., was recognized for his work in bankruptcy law by his fellow lawyers and named to the 2012 edition of *Best Lawyers in America*.

DOUG NISSEN '75, Evanston, Wyo., was appointed president of 1st Bank, a subsidiary of Glacier Bancorp. He will oversee eleven 1st Bank branches throughout Wyoming.

RICHARD B. MCMASTER '76, Lewistown, is moving to Klawok, Alaska, on Prince of Wales Island, to start an eye clinic. Working with the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium, Richard has begun making one-week visits to the island every month or so while he waits to sell his All Family Vision Care optometry practice in Lewistown. Residents of Prince of Wales Island previously had an optometrist available only two months out of the year. In an interview with *Alaska Native News*, Richard called the new eye clinic "a great addition to the Prince of Wales community." After he

settles in on the island, we can expect Richard to enjoy a few of his favorite pastimes, which include hiking, woodworking, bow hunting, and fly fishing. **ED SMITH** '76, Helena, received the J.O. Sentell Award from the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks during its August meeting in Annapolis, Md. The award is the organization's highest honor and recognizes exemplary service to the profession and the conference. Clerk of the Montana Supreme Court since 1988, Ed served as official host for the conference's 2010 Annual Meeting in Whitefish.



Smith

GARRY SOUTH '76, Santa Monica, Calif., was named one of the top fifty most influential political players in California by the journal *Capitol Weekly*. Garry, a partner

in the public affairs firm California Strategies, LLC, regularly publishes posts on current events on Politico's *The Arena* blog.

DOUG BETTERS '78, Whitefish, believes that "When You're a Griz, You're a Griz for Life." In that spirit, the former Miami Dolphin and member of the Grizzly Sports Hall of Fame created "Griz Life" vinyl decals suitable for display on everything from cars and trucks to boats and boards. A portion of the sales will help fund new and improved facilities for UM student athletes.

BUTCH LARCOMBE '78, Helena, has been named managing editor of the *Helena Independent Record*. He will continue to oversee content of *Montana Magazine*, published by Lee Enterprises.

SHERRY SCHEEL MATTEUCCI, J.D. '79, Billings, received the Montana State Bar's highest honor in October. The William J. Jameson Award is presented each year to an attorney whose career has exemplified the highest level of professionalism and ethics. During her thirty-two-

year career, Sherry served as U.S. Attorney for Montana from 1993 to 2001. Since leaving office, she has devoted much of her time to advising and consulting with the Crow Tribe and currently serves as legal adviser to the tribal court.

SHELLEY GEORGE VAN ATTA '79, Billings, received

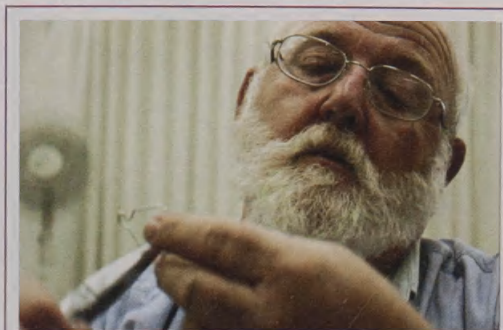


Van Atta

the Billings Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser Award from the Montana chapter of the American Association of Fundraising Professionals.

'80s

ROBERT T. ISHAM, J.D. '82, Lake Bluff, Ill., was elected to the Baytree National Bank & Trust Company's board of directors. A practicing attorney in Lake Bluff, Robert previously worked in merchant banking in Chicago and served as general counsel to Billing Services Group, a telephone billing company with operations in Texas, Germany, and England. **DONNA L. MILLER** '82, M.A. '93, Chinook, earned her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in English education from Arizona State University-Tempe. Donna has taught in the teacher training programs at both UM and ASU, and currently teaches in the Elementary Education and Early Childhood Development departments at Fort Belknap College.



FRED WOODY, M.A. '78, Austin, Texas, recently retired from the Department of Art and Art History at the University of Texas. During his thirty-two-year career, Fred was twice named "Art Educator of the Year" by the Texas Art Education Association and in 2010 was inducted as a Distinguished Fellow.



If you remember skating on the Oval, it may be time to slip on back home.

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ROSS HOLTER '83, Kalispell, is the energy services supervisor for Flathead Electric Cooperative. One of his duties in 2009 was to coordinate and oversee the development of the cooperative's Landfill-Gas-to-Energy plant, the first and only one in Montana. The plant burns methane gas collected from the landfill's decaying trash and continually generates just under one megawatt of electricity. When it came to having the new up-and-running plant painted, Ross was faced with choosing a roofing color that would go with the gray cinder block walls. "It was a no-brainer," says Ross. "Obviously it would have to be maroon." The choice has been a point of contention with some of Ross's Montana State University alumni co-workers. "Actually we have had a lot of fun with it," says Ross. "They are quick to point out that even though the Griz colors are on the outside, there is plenty of blue and gold represented on the inside. Regardless I was pretty stoked to be able to make the decision to promote the Griz colors on such a great renewable energy project." Ross and his wife **JANET MORRIS HOLTER** '83, have been married for thirty years and have two sons.

JULI ECKMANN '83, San Diego, is a flight attendant and operates her own small real estate business.

ROBERT "BOB" KEANE, M.S. '84, Missoula, a research ecologist with the USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, was named to a three-year term on American Forests' new Science Advisory board. American Forests is the oldest conservation nonprofit in the United States and the only one to focus exclusively on protecting and restoring forests.

BARTON YOUNG '84, Vero Beach, Fla., is president and chief executive officer of Barton Young & Associates. His company received the 2011 Rising Star Award from Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. in recognition of the firm's outstanding growth in revenues. Barton Young & Associates

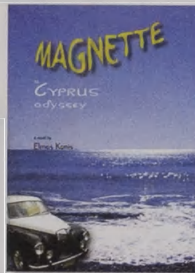
Financial Advisors is now represented in seventeen states and specializes in meeting the needs of high-net-worth clients.

DANIEL SHANEYFELT '85 lives in Nicaragua but traveled to Kenya this past June through a farmer-to-farmer program funded by the United States Agency for International Development. He shared twenty-five years of management and strategic planning experience with Kenyan rice producers, helping them learn how to overcome market barriers caused by growing competition. Daniel used his own market plan-development manual to assist a 4,500-member farmers' cooperative. He also spent three weeks investigating market conditions, local resources, and consumer preferences, as well as marketing opportunities and potential strategies.

Daniel hopes to return to Kenya and follow through on what he has learned. "I appreciate the struggles of the farmers in developing nations like Kenya and am proud to be a part of a USA effort to assist such deserving people around the world," he says. "Sending experts from the USA to such areas is a powerful tool to

help improve the financial ability of millions of people worldwide."

ELMOS KONIS '86, M.B.A.'89, Nicosia, Cyprus, published his novel *Magnette: A Cyprus Odyssey* in 2010 from



Armida Publications. The novel centers on a professor who unexpectedly begins driving a secretive elderly man around the island of Cyprus in his coveted vintage automobile. Elmos himself is an assistant professor at the European University-Cyprus and was once the proud owner of a 1962 MG Midget MK1.

JAMES SHEA '88, J.D. '91, Helena, will serve a second term as Montana state workers' compensation judge.

PAUL TUSS '88, Havre, was appointed by Governor Brian Schweitzer to serve on the Montana Board of Regents.

NICK EHLI '89, Bozeman, is managing editor of the

Bozeman Daily Chronicle and editor-in-chief of *Montana Quarterly* magazine.

'90s

MOLLY GALUSHA '90, Missoula, has opened the Buttercup Market and Café at 1221 Helen Avenue, just west of the UM campus. Housed in a historic University-district building, the café offers a Montana-grown grocery selection, fresh-baked goods, juices, and a selection of freshly brewed coffees.

SHANE VANNATTA '90, J.D. '93, Missoula, was inducted as the president of the Montana State Bar Association in September.



A Bainville native, Shane was instrumental in starting the Western Montana Bar Association's pro bono program and recently finished a seven-year term as its chair.

SUE HABBE '85, Missoula, took top honors among women forty-five to forty-nine years old in the international Reebok CrossFit games in August. A worldwide event gaining in popularity, the games attracted a large crowd at the Home Depot Center in Los Angeles and were covered live on ESPN3.com. Over the three days of competition, Sue completed five multi-faceted workouts involving rowing, running, lifting, and other high-intensity tests of strength and conditioning. Named most inspirational player during her days with Lady Griz basketball, Sue credits her trainers and CrossFit enthusiasts for preparing her mentally and physically for the grueling competition. "I really love the atmosphere and camaraderie when I'm training here in Missoula," Sue tells the *Missoulian*. "The people at CrossFit Montana I consider my brothers and sisters. No one there will settle for a second-rate effort."



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9 U to You Lecture Series, Great Falls
16 Charter Day: UM's 119th birthday
23 U to You Lecture Series, Great Falls

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3-11 Travel Program: River Life along the Waterways of Holland-Belgium
15-23 Travel Program: European Coastal Civilizations—Portugal, Spain, and France

MAY
25- Travel Program: Historic Reflections
June 5 Luxury Cruise

For more details, call the Office of Alumni Relations, 877-UM-ALUMS, or visit www.GrizzAlum.com.

DEANNA TIERNEY '92, Clancy, has been promoted to private banker at Wells Fargo in Helena and Missoula. She specializes in assisting high-net-worth customers with their current and future financial service needs.

BOB CLARK '93 and Sue Fletcher Clark, Frenchtown, celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary in July with a barbecue and reception at their home. Bob serves as vice president of Clark Fork Valley Bank. Sue works as a business management bureau chief for the forestry division of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Their daughter, **ERIN CLARK '10** performed as a standout track athlete for the Grizzlies while earning degrees in marketing and management.

DAVID LOGERSTEDT '93, Ambler, Penn., recently received his Ph.D. in biomechanics and movement science from the University of Delaware. David, his wife, Kristen, and their son Matthew have welcomed a new Grizzly, Patrick

Michael, to their family. **TRACEY L. HAYES, M.S. '94**, Aurora, Colo.,

attained the rank of colonel in the U.S. Air Force in August. She is stationed at Buckley Air Force Base, where she is vice commander of the 460th Space Wing.

MARK HEINTZELMAN '94, Carlisle, Penn., is the new publisher of *The Sentinel* newspaper. Previously a controller at the *Daily Herald* in Provo, Utah, the mathematics graduate is looking forward to interacting more with businesses, community leaders, and organizations in his new home. "Being able to make where you live a better place is not a thing to be taken lightly," says Mark. "You need to embrace that opportunity."

JAMES KING '94, Shoreline, Wash., is the new director of the Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department. James tells the *Bellingham Herald* that he wants to make sure the city's well-established system of parks and greenways keeps up with community expansion and growth.

BRIAN TOVSON '94, Great Falls, was recently chosen from among fifty candidates to become one of three new Great Falls police officers.

CHRISTOPHER "KIT" DAVIS '96, J.D. '00, Libby, served as a prosecutor in San Bernardino County, Calif., for seven years. Now an infantry officer in the U.S. Army, he deployed to eastern Afghanistan in September as the mortar platoon leader for 2-5 Infantry BN, 31BCT, 1AD.

JACQUELINE WILLIAMS '98, Baltimore, received a Ph.D. in medical



family therapy from East Carolina University in May.

MARK MEREDITH, Ph.D. '99, Montana City, received the Montana Pharmacy Association's Fitzgerald Pharmacist of the Year Award.

WILL SCHAREN '99, Boulder, Colo., is principal trombone with both the Bozeman and Wyoming Symphony orchestras. In demand as a freelance musician, he plays regularly with other orchestras, including the Boulder Philharmonic, the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, and the Fort Collins Symphony.

PAUL STRASKO '99, Geneva, Switzerland, was ordained as a rabbi in Bamberg, Germany, in November. He will serve as assistant rabbi at the Communauté Israélite Libérale de Genève.

MICHAEL TREVATHAN '99, Monroe, La., is the new executive director of auxiliary enterprise administration at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. Mike remained in Monroe after earning his M.B.A. from ULM with a concentration in hospital and health care administration. A former All-American wide receiver, he hasn't forgotten his days as a Grizzly. Every year at Grizzly-Cat football time, Mike hosts a satellite tailgate party for fellow fans.

'00s

WILLIAM P. JAMES '00 and his wife, **EVE LLEWELLYN JAMES '01**, Portland, Ore., have joined with another singer to release the children's CD, coloring book, and song reader *All Aboard the Zoo Train*. Calling themselves Uncle-B, Auntie-E, and J-Dog, the trio recorded classics such as "Camptown Races," "John

Henry," and "O Susanna," not to mention "My Home's in Montana." In addition to their children's material, Eve and William perform other music around Portland under the name Floating Pointe.

JENNIFER MARIE COOPER '01, '06, Portland, Ore., earned her master's degree in health and human development from Montana State University in 2009. She has started an individual counseling practice and uses sliding-scale fees to accommodate clients with limited means.

KENT HANSEN, M.S. '01, Forest City, Iowa, has joined the faculty of Waldorf College as an assistant professor of wellness. "From a teaching point of view, I like the smallness of the class size and the intimate teaching environment at Waldorf College," says Kent. "I like personally interacting with the students." Kent previously worked for five years as a research scientist in geriatrics at the



MAGGIE PIEROSE GLEASON '02, **ALISON FISKER '02**, **MELISSA PRYOR KUCHYNKA '02**, and **JACQUELINE GUEST CASELTON '02**, all members of the Delta Gamma pledge class of 1998, enjoy the UM chapter's centennial celebration held in Missoula during Homecoming weekend this past fall. Nearly 500 people attended the celebration, which was themed *Sweet Home Montana: 100 years of Delta Gamma*. Festivities included a welcoming reception at the Missoula Children's Theatre, brunch at the Delta Gamma house, the football game, and a gala at the Hilton Garden Inn. Seven decades of DGs were represented, and a donation was given to the chapter for much-needed house repairs and updates.

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University of Colorado-Denver's School of Medicine.

QUENTIN R. HAYS '01, Ruidoso, N.M., began teaching in the Science and Natural Resources department at Eastern New Mexico University in 2010, where he has introduced popular courses in fire ecology and tropical biology. Through his firm, Bosque Wildlife and Habitat, he conducts studies and inventories for national forests and conservation groups. Quentin and his wife, Germaine Joseph-Hays, are expecting their first child in February.

ANDREA "ANDY" GARREFFA ORIZOTTI

'02, Vancouver, Wash., has joined the fund development team of Second Step Housing. The organization provides safe, stable housing and individual case management for women and families seeking a way out of homelessness.

JOSEPH DUSATKO

'04, East Helena, was chosen from among fifty candidates to become one of three new Great Falls police officers.

HEATHER SCHMIDT '04, Eagleville, Penn., is in sales for Reynolds America, and recently was promoted to a Sales Territory Manager II within the Philadelphia sales region.

PATRICK FOX, J.D. '05,

M.B.A. '05, Helena, is now a partner in the law firm of Doubek, Pyfer, & Fox, specializing in personal injury.

MICHAEL PELUSO '05, Missoula, completed his studies in European history at UM and then planned to enroll in medical school. When traditional medicine failed to come up with acceptable answers to his own health problems, he began investigating natural medicine as an alternative. After completing the four-year training program to become a licensed acupuncturist, Michael opened Missoula's first community acupuncture clinic. Treating up to four people at a time under the community clinic model keeps costs down. "My goal for this clinic is not to charge people more than I could afford myself," says Michael.

ALEX BURRESON '06 and **KOLLEEN LOZAR '06**, Renton, Wash., were married August 27 in Whitefish in front of



EMILY HAAS '08, Portland, Ore., took second place for a picture she entered in the Peace Corps Fiftieth Anniversary Photo Contest. The photo, which is featured on the contents page of this *Montanan*, was taken in 2010 during Emily's Peace Corps assignment in Armenia. More than 3,700 photos were submitted to the contest, and she placed second in the Sharing Overseas Culture with America category. "I've seen a lot of Peace Corps photos in magazines and brochures and a lot of them come from vivid, beautiful places," Emily says. "I didn't know if the drab Armenian concrete and gray landscape would compete. I was happy a cultural moment like that was chosen."

CIERRA PARKER '06, Washington, D.C., completed a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at the MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston.

Publishing Chapbook Competition.

ABBY LAUTT '07, a Hardin native, is one of the producers of the National Geographic Channel's series *Frontier Force*, which offers a peek at the day-to-day lives of law enforcement officers across Montana. "This show's just about law enforcement in rural places," Abby tells the *Billings Gazette*. Abby says she thought she "knew everything about Montana" before coming on to produce the show, but the experience proved her wrong. "I've been to the Bucking Horse Sale just as someone who attends, which is fun," she says. "But I had no idea what was going on behind the scenes, especially for law enforcement." Filmed during the course of a year, the series followed Billings, Miles City, Missoula, and Darby police departments, as well as Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks



HOLLY PICKETT '02, '05, Cairo, Egypt, was working as a freelance photojournalist near Sirte, Libya, on October 20. While shooting photos for a feature story on ambulance crews caring for wounded fighters in the civil war, she encountered the ambulance carrying mortally wounded Libyan dictator Muammar el-Qaddafi. "We chased the ambulance with our ambulance," the Butte native tells the *Montana Standard*. "They drove us back to the field hospital, where wounded and dead fighters had been brought for the past several weeks in the battle for Sirte. The doors of the ambulance were open, and everyone was chasing it on foot. People were screaming; a few fired their weapons in the air. They were hugging each other." Holly obtained photos of Qaddafi's body through the open doors of the ambulance, becoming one of the first journalists in the world to document his passing. Holly's work has previously appeared in *The New York Times*, *Time*, and other national publications. A full account of Holly's experience on October 20 is available on the *Montana Standard* website: www.mtstandard.com.



family and friends. They may have gone on to honeymoon in Bora Bora, but they never forgot they were Grizzlies.

ANNA LISA D. CHALFOUN, Ph.D. '06, Moose, Wyo., has accepted an appointment as assistant professor in the Department of Zoology and Physiology at the University of Wyoming in Laramie.

MEGAN BOEHNKE '07, Missoula, received a Global Master of Arts in international relations from Webster University. **NICHOLAS GULIG '07**, is living in Bangkok, Thailand, as a Fulbright Scholar and studying contemporary southeast Asian poetry. His own chapbook of poetry, *Ecotone*, was a finalist for the 2011 Omnidawn

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officers, various agencies in Glendive, and the Custer, Gallatin, Missoula, Flathead, and Roosevelt county sheriff offices.

AARON SCHULTZ '08, a published author and photographer, has responded to the "Great Recession" he faced after graduation by compiling



a photo book, *Montana—New York: Perspective, Form, and Volume*. "It is a comparison," writes Aaron, "through photographs, of how two very different, yet iconic, American places have shaped our country's identity and mythos." Compiling the book, writes Aaron, gave him hope "while wading through tar from unemployed to underemployed." Aaron's photography has previously appeared

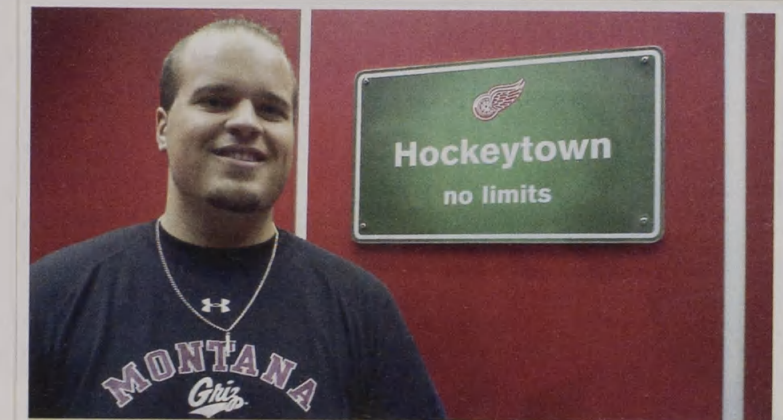
in *Outside*, *Bozeman Tributary*, ESPN.com and other publications.

STUART WING '08 and **MAKENZIE BOWEN** '06, Lake Oswego, Ore., were married in December in the bride's hometown of Gig Harbor, Wash. Stuart is branch manager for a global sourcing and original equipment manufacturing firm based in Portland, Ore. Makenzie was recently promoted to business development manager of western operations for Missoula-based Envirocon, Inc.

'10s

ORSON DWAYNE

AGUE '10, Bigfork, has completed his twelfth season as stage manager with the Bigfork Summer Playhouse. Orson has been with the theater company in some capacity since 1977, when he began as a performer. During the offseason, Orson ran restaurants, nightclubs, and sports bars in Portland, Ore., and Seattle for thirty years. "That's where I learned



MARK CHAMBERS '09, Detroit, is now an inside sales account executive with the National Hockey League's Detroit Red Wings. How he got there is quite a story. In a letter to former professors and mentors at UM, Mark credits the internships and field experience programs offered by the School of Business Administration with showing him the way. While working at Paws Up Resort outside Missoula in summer 2010, Mark had a chance conversation with Cleveland Cavaliers owner and Quicken Loans founder Dan Gilbert. "He asked me about my work history, education, and career goals," writes Mark. "I was prepared. I told him about UM, my marketing degree, and goal to work in professional sports. He asked my name, contact info, and if I had a resume. I sure did—I had a great resume to give him." Mark landed his first job with Quicken Loans in Michigan a few months later, but he didn't give up on his dream of working in professional sports. "I was determined to get there. I knew that being prepared, fostering contacts, networking, and hard work would pay off. And it did."

to understand and deal with people," Orson tells the *Bigfork Eagle*. "It helps a lot with stage management, because you have to deal with all kinds of people." Orson became a year-round Bigfork resident in 2010. "It's the place I love to be," he says. "Besides the community and the landscape, this theater keeps me here."

TRECIA CAMPBELL '10 and Brad Barfknecht, Great Falls, were married July 30 at Camp Paxson in Seeley Lake.

KEVIN HARDING '10, Orlando, Fla., completed student internships at Missoula's Hilton Garden Inn and Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham while earning his communication studies degree. After graduation, he moved to Florida to accept a third internship with Walt Disney Parks and Resorts. In October

the company offered him a full-time paid position at Walt Disney World Resort to help organize special events with community-partner organizations. "I am indebted to all my leaders and educators," writes Kevin, who credits the School of Business Entertainment Management Program with polishing his event professionalism.

SIOBHAN KIRKPATRICK '11, Colfax, Wash., married Tyler Strom on June 16 at the Gibson Mansion in Missoula. Siobhan began studies this past fall at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University in Pullman.

WESLEY SARMENTO '11, Lakewood, Colo., graduated in wildlife biology this past May and now finds himself on his way to Mongolia to work as a National Geographic

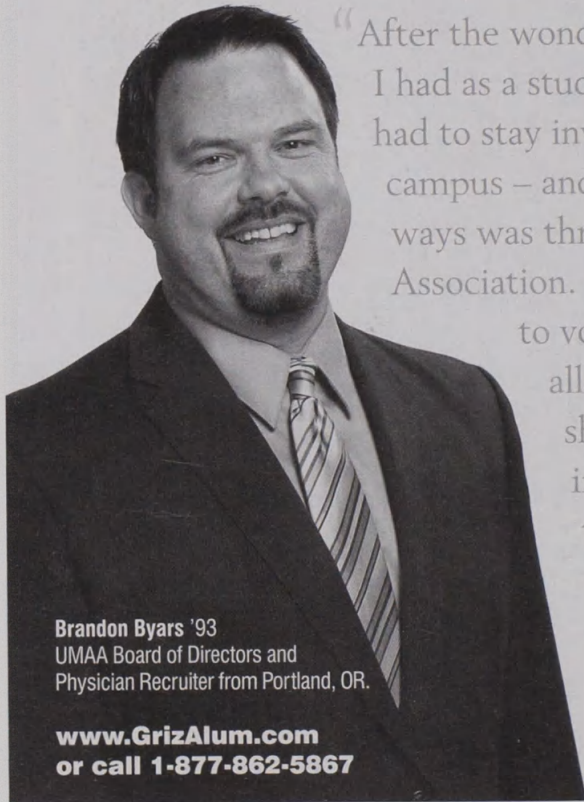
Young Explorer. While there, he'll participate in a collaborative effort between the Denver Zoological Foundation, the Mongolian Academy of Sciences, and the Argali Research Center to preserve Mongolia's argali sheep. The world's largest wild sheep, the argali are nearing extinction because of unrestricted hunting and increased grazing competition with domestic livestock. Wesley and his colleagues will work on mapping and characterizing the landscape, building local grazing capacity, monitoring argali and livestock movement, and involving local residents in conservation efforts.

VICTORIA ZIMMER '11, Kalispell, is the manager of Second Helpings, a new thrift store where sales benefit the Flathead Food Bank.

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

The following alumni and friends have made a commitment to the future of the UM Alumni Association by becoming lifetime members. You can join them by calling 877-862-5867 or by visiting our website: www.GrizAlum.com. The Alumni Association thanks them for their support. This list includes all new lifetime members through September 2011.

- F. LYNN and S. PAULETTE BATES**, Victor
- MARK COUNTERMAN**, M.S. '92, Broomfield, CO
- BONNIE P. DALTON** '58, M.S. '60, Moffett Field, CA
- RICHARD ENGEL** '72, Jacksonville, AR
- JOSEPH D. MCCAFFERY** '98, M.B.A. '01, Fremont, CA
- F. BRUCE POSEY** '77, Billings
- JOHN R. STARK** '74 and **TRISH STARK** '74, Billings
- TOM STOCKBURGER** '74 and
- LUCY REYNOLDS STOCKBURGER** '75, Littleton, CO
- MICHAEL A. STONE** '80, Bigfork
- ANNE TORREY** '81, M.A. '83, Excelsior, MN
- WILLIAM D. WALTERS, JR.**, J.D. '77, Williston, ND
- WENDY WINSOR** '87, Mukilteo, WA



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Brandon Byars '93
 UMAA Board of Directors and
 Physician Recruiter from Portland, OR.

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Clockwise from top: Charles Marion Russell, *Roping a Steer*; Carl Condit, *South Cattle and Arrieros*; Karl Bodmer, *Wolfskopf - Wolves*; Jos. Kronenberg, *The Mountain*; David Neill, *The Pioneer*

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IN MEMORIAM

We extend sympathy to the families of the following alumni, faculty, and friends. Names without class or degree years include UM alumni, employees, and friends. To be included in "In Memoriam," the UM Office of Alumni Relations requires a newspaper obituary or a letter of notification from the immediate family.

Material on this page reached our office by Oct. 31, 2011.

'30s

THOMAS F. WIMETT '32, Santa Fe, NM
LOIS BLANCHE GEORGE RIMEL '36, Cut Bank
KATHERINE MARY BACKES SHEVLIN '38, Helena
JULIA LEONA PRINTZ BLACKBURN '39, Missoula
FRANK C. CLAPP '39, Lafayette, CA
ALFRED R. GRAESSER '39, Missoula
RUDY JAMES "PETE" PEDERSON '39, San Angelo, TX

'40s

CHARLOTTE ALBERTA FRITZ DISSLY '40, El Paso, TX
DORIS MARJORIE WEGER KAMERAD '40, Helena
ALISON MERRIAM PAYNE '40, Springfield, VA
WILLIAM ROBERT PIATT '40, Ridgecrest, CA
ALICE M. COLVIN ROSE '40, Hamilton
THEOLA MAE MEULI SEDERHOLM '40, Bozeman
JOAN M. KENNARD FOPP '41, Great Falls
JACQUELINE DESCHAMPS KENNEDY '41,
Issaquah, WA

ELIZABETH MARIE "BETTY" RATCLIFF LARUE '42,
Hot Springs
JAMES "HAROLD" LARUE '42, Hot Springs
COLIN OSCAR "SCOTTY" MACLEOD '43, Billings
CHESTER B. "CHET" SCHEDEL '43, Bozeman
ELDEN HARRY SAUERS '45, Palm Desert, CA
JOAN ENGELKING CHRISTENSEN '47, Polson
MARIAN AVIS LACKLEN '47, Billings
ARTHUR B. MARTIN, J.D. '47, Miles City
BENJAMIN RIDDLE "BEN" DAVIS '48, Missoula
CECELIA F. WILLIAMS ANMEN '49, Boulder
LOUISE KIECKBUSCH DUNNING '49, Tucson, AZ
FRANK CHARLES OWENS '49, Deer Lodge

'50s

JERE DAVIS '50, Great Falls
JACK L. HENSLEY '50, Lakeside
PHILIP R. PALM '50, Great Falls
ARNOLD DARE SCOTT '50, Missoula
NEIL A. SYLLING '50, Merced, CA
RAYMOND TYVAND '50, Boise, ID
MAURICE O. WESEN '50, Glasgow
RICHARD MARLOW WILLEY '50, Gresham, OR
JOHN E. SAWYER '51, Missoula
DENNIS S. WEIR '51, Tucson, AZ
MARILYN GRACE HOLDEN STRAWN '52,
Puyallup, WA
RICHARD CARROLL URQUHART '52,
McMinnville, OR
GORDON LEROY VINJE '52, Bozeman
DONALD D. COLE, J.D. '53, Malta
SEUMAS VICKIE "JIM" GALLAGHER '53,
M.Ed. '68, Missoula
LOUIS GILBERT "GIL" LEIBINGER '53, Sheridan, WY
MARGARET M. CONWAY RUETTEN '53,
Escondido, CA

RUBY PEARL LINDSTROM MORRIS '54, Billings
JOHN V. POTTER, JR. '55, J.D. '56, Great Falls
DOUGLAS R. DRYSDALE, J.D. '55, Bozeman
FRANK WILLIAM MILBURN, JR. '55, Sarasota, FL
LOIS ANN ANDRUS '56, Laurel
MURRAY LOUIS MADEEN, JR. '56, Aiken, SC
LARRY J. WATTERSON '56, Helena
MICHAEL D. LYON, SR. '57, Prosser, WA
IVAN JANUS OSWALD '57, Campbell, CA
ENID MAY BOWMAN ROXTON '57, Santa
Barbara, CA
JOHN LYLE HANSEN '59, Polson
JUNE BOWMAN JOHNSON '59, Helena
LAURENCE A. TROMLY '59, Pensacola, FL
DELL E. TYLER '59, Missoula

'60s

ALEXANDER A. GEORGE '60, J.D. '62, Missoula
ROBERT JAMES THOMAS '61, Stevensville
CORDELIA CARLISLE SLATER '62, M.A. '88,
Missoula
DONALD C. ROBINSON '63, Butte
DARLENE FAITH PRICHARD SMITH '63, Missoula
JOHN RICHARD "DICK" ROSENLEAF '64, Butte
TED P. ANDERSEN '65, Libby
ROBERT L. CRIPPEN '65, Butte
KENNETH OWEN NIELSEN '65, Driggs, ID
GARY RAY CHRISTIANSEN, J.D. '67, Mesa, AZ
ANNA BESSIE NOVACEK FOSSUM '67, Pullman, WA
MARTIN W. HOLT '67, Helena
JEFFREY S. MEREDITH '67, Leavenworth, WA
THOMAS EDWARD SNELLMAN '67, Billings
NADIA NADINE BRELJE '68, Pueblo, CO
NICHOLAS H. BROWNING III '68,
Marina del Rey, CA
DUANE W. LEITZKE '68, Moses Lake, WA
RICHARD STANLEY GIBBON '69, Post Falls, ID

'70s

DOROTHY LEE PRESTON '70, Polson
ORVILLE EUGENE GETZ '71, Missoula
JEFFREY L. MANN '71, Missoula
JOHN MICHAEL MANDZAK '72, Lewiston, ID
JAMES EDWARD MANGAN, M.A. '72, Bothell, WA
PHILLIP ASBJORN SIELER, SR. '74, Kalispell
RODNEY G. STEBBINS '74, Green Valley, AZ
STEVEN ROBERT SINGLETON '75, St. Paul, MN
LUCY REYNOLDS STOCKBURGER '75, Littleton, CO
GEORGE WEIKUM '76, Naperville, IL
GLORIA SAWAI, M.F.A. '77, Edmonton, Alberta

'80s

ARVIN LEROY EYRE '80, Seattle
TIM MARTIN FLAHERTY '80, Missoula
DAVID MERMIN GALE '80, Golden, CO
TODD ROGER ELLISON '85, Marine on
St. Croix, MN
RICHARD TROY HEMMERLING '85, Ashland, OR
SHAUNA SUE SMITH '85, Helena
VIKKI CHAFFIN BACHURSKI '86, Del Norte, CO
ELLA TOBUK THOMPSON '88, Seattle
ANTHONY GARDINER '89, Missoula

'90s

DAVID FREDERICK PETERSON '91, Sheridan, WY
PHILIP JOSEPH RYAN '91, Missoula
JOSEPH E. THOMAS II, M.A.S. '92, Charleston, SC
ELAINE PATRICE "PATTY" MCCLENAHAN '95,
Columbia Falls
MARK EDWARD OLSON '96, Portland, OR

MELVIN EDWARD HARGROVE '97, Pleasanton, KS
GAILEEN DOLLY BRISBO NO RUNNER '98,
Fort Belknap
LISA MARIE PETERSEN '99, M.S.W. '09, Kalispell

'00s

KATHERINE CLINTON '00, Spokane, WA
KRISTOPHER CORY WARFIELD '00, Spokane, WA
CRAIG A. CUMMINGS '02, Belt
TERESA RAYE VELTKAMP '02, Helena
GRACE ADETOILOLA ADEOGUN '04 Lagos, Nigeria

'10s

SHAMUS MICHAEL MCCARTHY '10, Missoula

FRIENDS

THOMAS "TIM" MARION ARNOT, Conrad
JUDITH HELEN BEERS, Missoula
MARY LOU LEPIANE BEHNER, Missoula
DARLENE VIOLA PETERSON BUTCHER, Lewistown
WILLIAM PRESTON "BILL" CHILCOTE, JR.,
Missoula
ELOUISE C. COBELL, Browning
TERESA LYNNE ARCHIBALD COOK ALLISON,
Salem, OR
CHAD HUNTER CYRUS, Miles City
ROBERT ARTHUR DAME, Marana, AZ
JOSEPH L. DELILLA, Plains
ROSAMOND ELIZABETH SAPP DIGGS, Missoula
MARY ANN DUNLAP DORN, Lewistown
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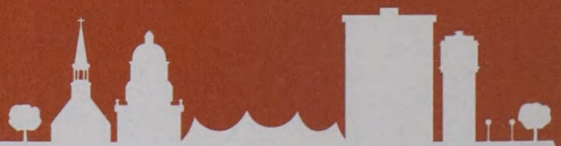
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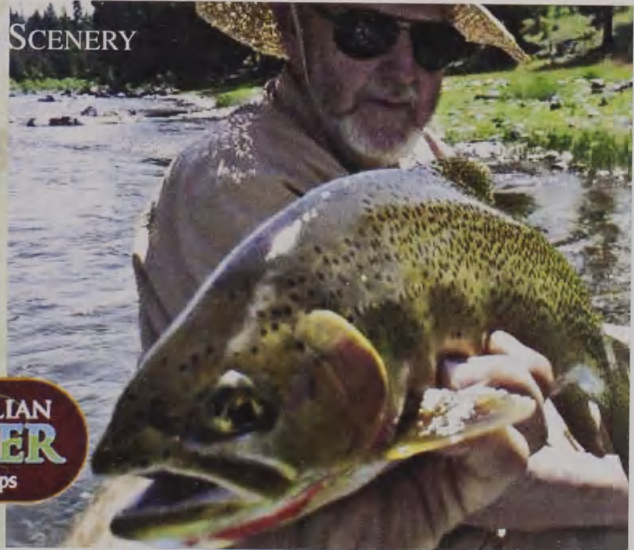
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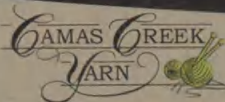
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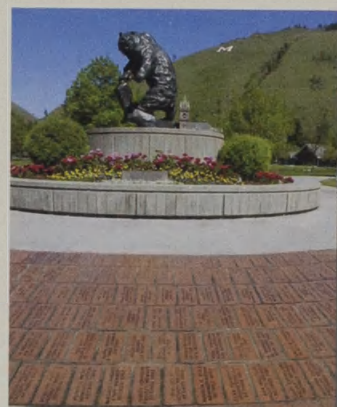
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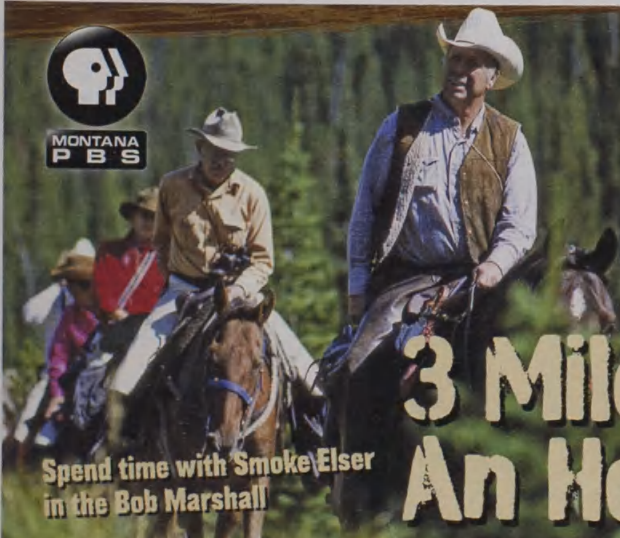
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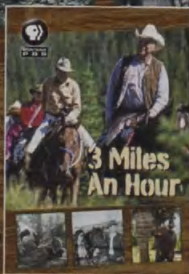


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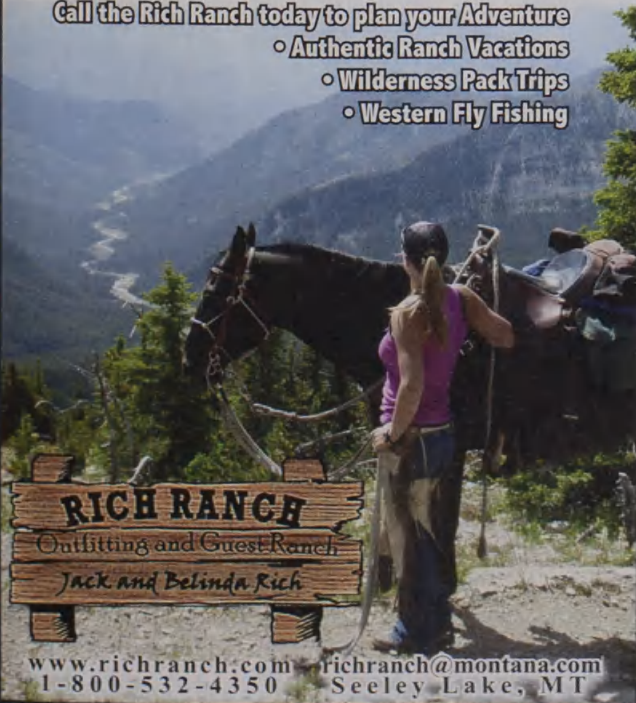
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THE SAGA OF THE SIGMA CHI BELL

The Sigma Chi Bell has been displayed in the Adams Center since 2000.

I remember the first time I saw the Sigma Chi Bell. It was sitting in the bed of a white pickup truck in front of Brantly Hall on a banner fall day in 1998. It was impressive. And it was huge. Looking back, I'm not sure how the truck's rear axle didn't snap under the weight.

But there it was, the legendary Sigma Chi Bell, back in Missoula for the first time in two decades.

Being a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity myself, I knew a lot about the bell. It originally hung on the USS Montana, a battleship built in the early 1900s that saw action in World War I. The ship was decommissioned in 1920 and renamed the USS Missoula. It was scrapped in 1930, and Professor Frederick C. Scheuch, a past acting UM president and founder of UM's Beta Delta chapter of Sigma Chi, requested the small dinner bell from the ship as a souvenir. Instead, the ship's one-ton bronze bell arrived, a gift from General Patrick Hurley, the secretary of war under President Herbert Hoover.

BY JOHN HEANEY '02

The bell's new home was at the Sigma Chi house, where it was displayed in the rose garden until a summer day in 1955, when all of a sudden, it vanished.

Over the next twenty-three years, Sigma Chi brothers, hell-bent on finding the treasured bell, followed all sorts of leads in search of it, but to no avail. Then in early 1978, rumor had it that the bell was in the backyard of a rival fraternity at Montana State University in Bozeman.

Don Bennett remembers the first time he saw the bell in person, too.

"We heard it was in Bozeman behind the Lambda Chi house,

so a group of us went to check it out," recalls Bennett, a Beta Delta Sig. "It was winter, and there was about two feet of snow on the ground. We drove by the house, and, sure enough, there it was. It

"The bell's been hidden longer than it's been on display. It's much better now that people can see it."

was encased in ice, but I could see the 'USS Montana 1908' engraving on it, so I knew it was the correct bell."

Aided by a bit of liquid courage, the crew snatched the bell in the dead of night, hoisted it into the back of Bennett's 1972 International pickup, and returned to Missoula.

Bennett says the bell was painted an ugly shade of purple, and it was dinged up. Apparently the Lambda Chis rang the bell at football games to celebrate Bobcat touchdowns. Bennett cleaned the bell and built a tower for it, which he assumed would be impervious to another theft attempt.

He was wrong.

At Christmastime that same year, a group of Lambda Chis known as the "Secret Six" swiped the bell back. It remained hidden for the next twenty years.

Rex Boller, also a Beta Delta Sig, remembers when he first saw the bell.

Boller, who spearheaded the efforts for the bell's most recent return, knew the Lambda Chis still had it, despite rumors that it was sunk to the bottom of Flathead Lake or melted down. After years of negotiations, it took the threat of a lawsuit to finally get it back. The bell was returned to the Sigma Chis, as long as it was put on display in a public place.

"We got it back just in time for Homecoming in 1998," says Boller. "And let me tell you, it was gratifying to finally see it. It was on a trailer, and a bunch of the brothers rode with it in the parade. There was a lot of excitement that day."

Alumni Director Bill Johnston undoubtedly remembers the first time he saw the bell.


He was a neutral party who helped broker the deal, and he also was charged with driving the white pickup to Bozeman to retrieve the ringer.

"It was great to be the person driving it back," Johnston says. "I'd just heard about the bell, but I'd never seen it before. I knew what it meant to the guys at the

house, and it sure was fun to deliver it."

Which is where this story began.

The bell has been safely displayed in the lobby of the Adams Center since 2000. It's on an oak pedestal topped with a marble slab etched with the fraternity's motto, "In Hoc Signo Vinces" (In this sign, you shall conquer).

"Even talking about it now gives me goose bumps," says Bennett, president of Freedom Bank in Columbia Falls. "The bell's been hidden longer than it's been on display. It's much better now that people can see it. There's a great history behind that bell." 

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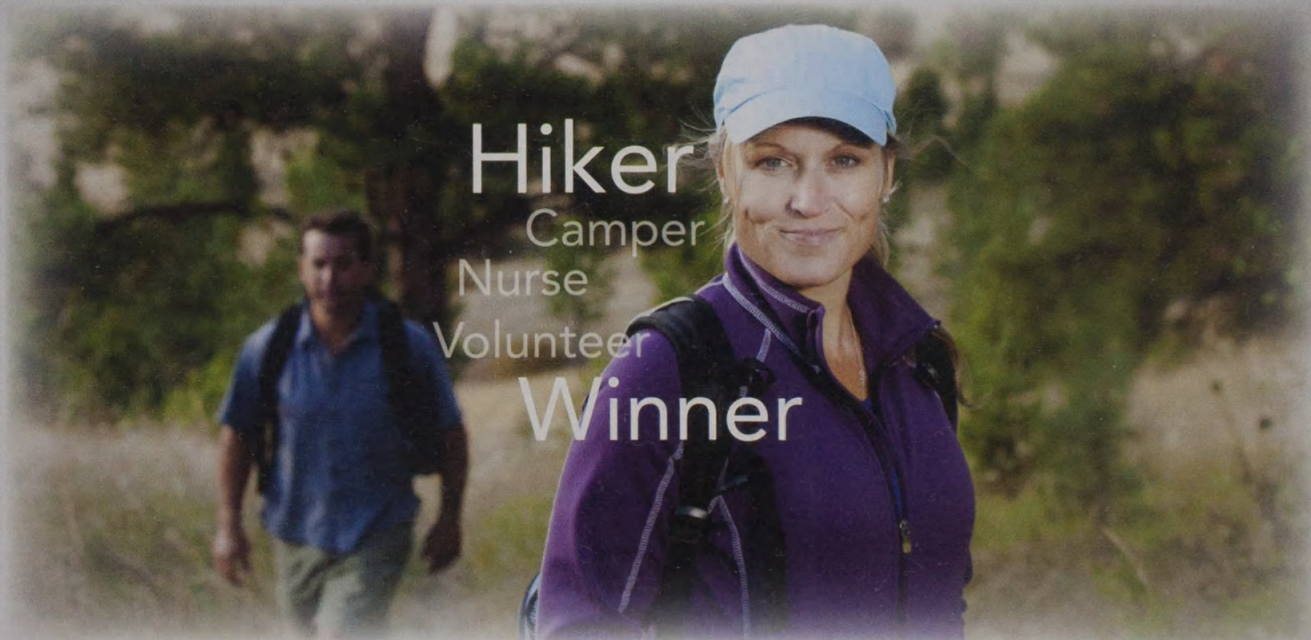
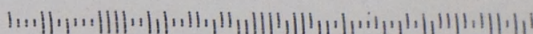
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