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NEWS RELEASE

May 2, 2001

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GREENFIELD RESIDENT PUTS ACADEMICS TO WORK IN MONTANA

MISSOULA, Mont. –

University of Montana student Robert Smith from **Greenfield** is putting academics to work in a spring-semester internship offered through UM's Center for Work-Based Learning.

Smith, a senior majoring in environmental studies, is an organic farm intern at the Program in Ecological and Agricultural Society in Missoula, where farming practices – including pest and weed control – occur without the application of chemicals or fertilizers.

"We grow food that is natural – no genetic modification, wholesome, and beneficial to the environment," Smith says. "Technology is limited, and the majority of the work is done with hand tools – no tractors or mechanized equipment."

Smith graduated from Greenfield High School in 1994. His parents are Roger and Carol Smith.

UM's Center for Work-Based Learning's internship program provides opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to integrate academic theories and principles with practical job experience related to their chosen fields.

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The program serves about 1,800 students each year, placing 400 to 500 of them as interns throughout Montana, the United States and overseas in more than 35 fields of employment. For more information, visit the center's Web site at www.umt.edu/internships/.

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BD/tb
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