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NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 21, 2007

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KIMMITT FAMILY TALKS OF PUBLIC SERVICE IN NAMING INTERNSHIP AND LECTURE SERIES

MISSOULA -

The children of Stan Kimmitt, former Secretary of the U.S. Senate and aide to the late Montana Sen. Mike Mansfield, today announced an internship and lecture series in his name at The University of Montana.

The five siblings, including U.S. Deputy Secretary of Treasury Robert Kimmitt and U.S. Assistant Deputy Secretary of Defense Mark Kimmitt, met with students and held a panel at UM to announce the J. Stanley Kimmitt Public Service Lecture and Internship.

Their father spent most of his lifetime in public service, and all of the Kimmitt children, including Jay Kimmitt, Mary Laxton and Judy Rainey, have been drawn to public service as well.

At the event UM President George Dennison said the internship will be a paid position in the offices of one member of the Montana delegation. The lecture series will bring a nationally known public servant to speak at UM every year.

Former Montana Representative Pat Williams remembered Stan Kimmitt as a mentor to countless Montanans who ventured into the legislative maze of Washington, D.C.

“He was a master of order, rules and keeping legislative box scores,” Williams said.

“He never seemed to tire of the public’s purpose. He was thrilled when government was at its best.”

Williams said Kimmitt, who was born in **Lewistown** and raised in **Great Falls**, had a Western sense of public service and government that went beyond partisan politics. “His idea was, if it works, let’s try it,” said Williams.

Robert Kimmitt said his father “imbued in all of us a deep understanding of what it is to serve others.” Kimmitt told of how a young Bill Clinton, then a junior at Georgetown University, shyly ventured into Stan Kimmitt’s office. Clinton ended up spending more than an hour in conversation with Kimmitt and later said, “Stan Kimmitt was the first person to treat me like I was a somebody when I was a nobody.”

Kimmitt said his father would have not allowed all the hoopla about him. “He would have never wanted it to be about him,” Kimmitt said. He ended with advice his father gave to a legislative staff person right before he died: “If you want to be successful in public service, never sacrifice your principles.”

Kimmitt said his father “left Montana but Montana never left him.”

When asked whom they most admired as public servants, Judy Rainey, who has worked in the Senate for 30 years, said for her it was Mansfield. She noted his focus was never about “getting his name out there.” He often would lead on an issue and let other people take credit for it, she said.

Mark Kimmitt said for him it would be American soldiers, all volunteers, who put their lives on the line for their country and are paid about the same as someone working at Wal-

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Mart.

Jay Kimmitt cited his mother, who was a Red Cross nurse in Germany when she met his father. She played a key background role in Stan Kimmitt's success, often hosting people, many of them Montanans, at their home with little notice.

When asked what they would suggest students do to prepare for a successful life in public service or another career, key elements of their response were: find what you like to do and pursue it with a passion, learn a foreign language and try to get an internship while you're in school.

Robert Kimmitt made two other stops in Montana to recognize two organizations receiving awards from the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund. The Montana HomeOwnership Network in Great Falls will receive a \$64,875 technical assistance grant to support its work in foreclosure prevention assistance.

Sovereign Leasing and Finance Company, Inc., in **Pablo** is receiving a \$149,760 award from the CDFI fund to help incubate new small businesses owned by members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes on the Flathead Reservation.

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