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NEWS RELEASE

April 4, 2008

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ANNUAL JAZZ FESTIVAL BRINGS MUSICIANS TO MISSOULA

MISSOULA –

Student and guest musicians will join legendary jazz great Buddy DeFranco for a weekend of electrifying performances and educational clinics April 25-26 when the annual Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival returns to The University of Montana.

Festival events include two evening concerts featuring DeFranco, a world-class clarinetist, and special guest artists. The concerts are at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights in the University Theatre. Tickets are \$22 for one night and \$40 for both nights. Students and seniors pay \$17 for one night or \$30 for both nights. All seats are reserved.

Featured artists James Morrison, multi-instrumentalist, and guitarist Bucky Pizzarelli will play with DeFranco and the UM Jazz Band under the direction of Lance Boyd on Friday, April 25.

On Saturday, alto saxophonist Phil Woods and trombonist John Allred will play with DeFranco and the UM Jazz Band.

High school jazz bands from Montana, Washington and Idaho also will perform every 30 minutes at the festival from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Each band will have an opportunity to work with the guest artists following their daytime performances.

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Pizzarelli and Morrison will present a clinic at 1 p.m. Friday. Woods and Allred will host a clinic at 1 p.m. Saturday. High school jazz band performances and clinics also take place in the University Theatre and are free and open to the public.

Advanced tickets are available at all GrizTix outlets, online at <http://www.griztix.com> or by calling 406-243-4051 or 888-666-8262. They also will be available at the University Theatre box office during the festival from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 6:15 p.m. until concerts begin.

For more information on the Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival, visit <http://www.sfa.umt.edu/music/Jazz/06jazzfest/> or call Professor Lance Boyd of the UM's Department of Music at 406-243-5071 or 406-243-6880.

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