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19 UM students participate in Missoula YMCA program

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MISSOULA--

Nineteen University of Montana students are participating in a recreational program designed for grade school students as part of the Greater Missoula Family YMCA.

Diane Alaine Gallik, former junior in speech pathology and audiology at UM and program supervisor, said 16 practicum students from the UM Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation and three volunteer students comprise the staff for a nine-week pilot program sponsored by the YMCA for youths in the third through sixth grades. Coordinator for the program is Patrick A. Dodson, executive director of the YMCA in Missoula.

Dodson, a 1968 UM graduate with a bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation, meets with the students once a week to discuss the feasibility of proposed activities and make further suggestions or alterations in preparation for the coming weekend.

"The program is designed to give students practical experience, and they create the curriculum themselves," Dodson said.

The students meet with the grade schoolers on Saturdays at Target Range and Rattlesnake schools. The grade schoolers are divided into three sections, each with three class sessions of 45 minutes and one 45-minute free period. The three class sessions comprise recreation, physical skills and arts and crafts.
UM recreation majors must do a practicum as part of their required field work. They receive University credit for the work.

"Response to the program is good," Miss Gallik said. "The participants enjoy themselves. Everyone, including the instructors, really have fun. Practicum students seem to really enjoy doing this type of thing. They are getting just as involved as the youngsters are."

In the area of recreation the UM students assist the children in games they enjoy playing. In physical skills the children work in skills which facilitate coordination, such as dribbling or shooting a basketball, putting all of the skills together to play the game.

In arts and crafts the children present projects which can be finished in one day.

"For instance," Miss Gallik said, "the children do straw paintings. They suck a bit of paint up the straw, then blow it out onto the paper."

The students, the areas in which they work and their hometowns are as follows:

Recreation--Barbara Diane Day, Billings, Linda Kay Ross and Nicholas L. Bourdeau, Great Falls; Steven J. Haugen, Endicott, Wash., and Terry Dee Sather, Glasgow.

Arts and crafts--Rosalie Wolff Handley, Missoula; Sally Ann Janssen, Plentywood; Earl Y. Jyono, San Francisco, Calif.; Margaret Cannon, Park Ridge, Ill.; Jennifer Retha Uselman, Wadena, Minn., and Karen Louise Nelson, Olivia, Minn.

Physical skills--Guy T. Patch, Alberton; Richard G. Helson, Billings; Michael V. Lyngstad, Columbia Falls; Gary A. Swartz, Great Falls; Eugene A. Lescantz, Anaconda; Donald F. Clarke, Spokane, Wash.; Edward W. Rosston, Lafayette, Calif. and Richard A. Lau, Rochester, N.Y.

Miss Gallik was chosen as supervisor of the program because of previous experience working with the Great Falls YMCA as a swimming instructor and lifeguard. The YMCA program is considered by the University as a work-study position for her. The three UM students who are working with the YMCA on a volunteer basis are Miss Cannon, Jyono and Bourdeau.