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27 UM student ambassadors discuss campus life at high schools

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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MISSOULA--

Twenty-seven University of Montana students are spending part of their vacations explaining the various phases of campus life to high school students in their hometown areas and elsewhere.

The students are members of the Student Ambassador Program, launched in the fall of 1967 at UM to inform high school students about college and university life in general and to stimulate interest in high school students to attend the University in Missoula.

In charge of the program for the 1971-72 academic year are cochairmen Garry Pitts, a senior majoring in pre-medical science from Dixon and Tom Shaughnessy, a senior history-political science major from Billings. Both agree the program has been successful in the past and are encouraging high school principals to make requests to be included in the program.

Pitts said the UM Student Ambassador Program Executive Committee has received a considerable number of letters from high school administrators throughout the state and out-of-state praising the program's objectives. UM student ambassadors visited 41 schools during the 1971 spring break.

"The University ambassadors will also visit various civic clubs--including Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Moose and Elks--and other organizations which wish to learn more about the University of Montana through students' eyes," Shaughnessy said.

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UM STUDENT AMBASSADORS DISCUSS CAMPUS LIFE--2

"The visits by UM students to civic groups and other organizations are by invitation," Shaughnessy said, "much the same as the faculty talks are presented in various communities by the UM Faculty Speakers Bureau."

Pitts said high school administrators or civic groups interested in hearing discussions by UM student ambassadors may contact the UM Alumni Association on the Missoula campus for further information.

Faculty adviser at UM for the ambassador program is George Oechsli, executive director of the UM Alumni Association.

University students visiting one or more high schools during spring break and the communities they are scheduled to speak in include:

Joe Maes, Anaconda; Gary V. Staudinger and Walter J. Kero, Billings; Stephen J. Chiavaro, Boulder; Richard G. Arntson, Mike Kilroy, Michele Marie Leary and Sidni Wilkinson, Butte; Louis Ying of Hong Kong, who will visit Butte and Helena; Roger A. Jones, Clyde Park; Darris R. Flanagan, Eureka.

Also, Bruce Nelson, Fort Benton and Cascade; Mark L. Stermitz, Hamilton; Karen Ann Petelin, Hardin; Matthew M. Tennis, Harlowton; Jean M. Van Buskirk of Havre, who will visit Box Elder, Gildford and Kremlin; Shirley Lynn Hodgson, Helena; Noel K. Larrivee of Whitefish, who will visit Hot Springs and Kalispell; John B. Wheatcroft of Sand Springs, who will visit Jordan.

And, Coleen Marie Monaghan, Livingston; Janice Marie Munsell and Gary J. Coffrin, Miles City; Ann M. Mohs of Miles City, who will visit Havre; Peggy Charlene Patrick of Missoula, who will visit Rudyard; Leslie Jo Westphal, Plentywood; William A. Graham, Townsend; Rosemary Jane Riley of Finley Park, Ill., who will visit Orland Park, Ill. 

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