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14 UM psychology students to visit prison June 3

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14 UM PSYCHOLOGY
STUDENTS TO VISIT
PRISON JUNE 3

MISSOULA--

A group of 14 students from a psychology honors class at the University of Montana will visit the Montana State Prison at Deer Lodge June 3 for discussions with inmates who are active in the LaBarge Jaycees at the prison.

The visit by the students will be the second such visit they have made in recent weeks, under the direction of Dr. Robert R. Zimmermann, a professor of psychology, and Dr. Joseph Jennings, an associate professor of psychology at UM.

"The students were so impressed by their first visit to the State Prison," Dr. Zimmermann said, "that they asked us if they could return there to visit again with the inmates."

The preliminary visit on May 14 emphasized a get acquainted session with the prison facility as a whole, followed by small-group discussions between the inmates and the students.

"During our first visit we also had a group discussion led by the inmates on the problems encountered in making adjustments to prison life," Dr. Zimmermann said.

"I think the most important thing that the students learned," he added, "was that the prisoners are real people who have very real problems. The students now realize that the prison inmates are just like you and me. They, too, are people."

The students' June 3 visit to the prison will include a discussion of the problems of the development of prisoners' self-image and self-concept in the institutional setting.

Dr. Zimmermann said the inmates initiated the idea of the student visits through the LaBarge Jaycees.

more

PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS TO VISIT PRISON--2

Students in the psychology honors section at UM include: Deborah Anne Clark, Billings; David R. Peck, Libby; Jerrold A. Richards, Helena; Bryan T. Veis, Scobey; Randy C. York, St. Ignatius; and Rita M. Ness, Leticia Offerdahl and Robert C. Kittams, Great Falls; Achilles L. Brown, Richard A. Dickman, Pamela L. Fritz and Diane M. Stinger, Missoula; David E. Wanzenried, Twin Falls, Ida., and John L. Hechtel, Westchester, Ill.

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