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### KUFM may expand broadcasting to entire Missoula Valley

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KUFM MAY EXPAND BROADCASTING  
TO ENTIRE MISSOULA VALLEY

By Bobby Freddie  
UM Information Services

MISSOULA--

KUFM, a 28-watt noncommercial FM broadcast station operated by the Radio-Television Department at the University of Montana, Missoula, is applying to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for federal matching funds to increase its power to more than 3,000 watts, with an operating schedule of 12 hours per day, six days a week.

Philip J. Hess, chairman of the UM Radio-Television Department, said that if all goes well the new operation "will be on the air by next fall."

Hess said there is no public educational broadcasting station in the Rocky Mountain region of Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. Because of this the U.S. Office of Education is anxious to establish one.

"We are the only station in the area ready to apply for this status," Hess said.

Hess said the total cost of the project would be about \$27,000. The federal government would provide about \$20,000 of that amount through the HEW Office of Education under the Educational Broadcasting Facilities Act, which makes funds available to noncommercial radio and television stations.

KUFM is operated by radio and television students at UM under the direction of UM faculty members in the Department of Radio and Television and School of Journalism.

KUFM now can be heard only within a three-mile radius of the campus and its programming is limited to a seven-hour broadcast day five days each week. The increase to 3,000 watts would allow KUFM to broadcast to the entire Missoula Valley. The new operation also would expand broadcasting to include most of the summer.

more.

KUFM MAY EXPAND BROADCASTING--2

With increased power, KUFM would be eligible to join the National Public Radio Network of live interconnected stations throughout the country. Programming on the station would be designed to provide informational and cultural programs not now available to Missoula listeners. Such programs would include William F. Buckley's "Firing Line," speeches from the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., and special concerts, operas and congressional hearings.

In addition, KUFM would operate two subsidiary program channels which would be available to noncommercial organizations and institutions in Western Montana.

Hess said these channels would permit KUFM to transmit information to individuals who obtain an inexpensive special receiver.

Access to these channels by telephone would be possible, Hess said.

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