

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

University of Montana News Releases, 1928,  
1956-present

University Relations

---

5-13-1976

### 7 to enter 'Miss Wheelchair Montana Pageant' this weekend at University of Montana

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

---

#### Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "7 to enter 'Miss Wheelchair Montana Pageant' this weekend at University of Montana" (1976). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 27252.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/27252>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

IMMEDIATELY

sale/rb  
5-13-76  
state + cs + ht

7 TO ENTER 'MISS WHEELCHAIR MONTANA PAGEANT'  
THIS WEEKEND AT UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

MISSOULA--

A total of seven contestants will enter the "Miss Wheelchair Montana Pageant" this weekend at the University of Montana in Missoula.

The pageant chairperson, Sylvia Elaine Stevens, Dillon, the reigning "Miss Wheelchair Montana," who is a sophomore in business administration at UM, said the finals in the competition, which will be open to the public without charge, will be at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 16, in the University Center (UC) Ballroom.

Contest preliminary judging will be from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday in the UC Montana Rooms. Names of the three semifinalists will be announced at the opening of the Sunday night pageant.

The weekend pageant officially launches "National Handicapped Awareness Week" in Montana, which is May 16-22, Stevens said. The Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Great Falls, is sponsoring handicapped awareness recognition in the state.

The seven contestants who have signed up for the competition include Kathleen Baumgart, Bozeman; Evelyn Maxwell, Cascade; Velma Dumontier, Cut Bank; Mary Ann Randolph, Florence; Judy Backa, Helena, and Monna Solvie and Susan Stephenson, both of Missoula. A previous entrant, Diane Topel of Great Falls, will be unable to compete in the contest because she will be in Billings this weekend.

Judges for the weekend competition include Donna Braunchetti, an employe of the local multiple sclerosis office, who represents the handicapped; Diane Gallik, an advertising salesperson for The Missoulian, and Arnold A. Lund, who makes leg braces for Missoula Orthopedic Supply.

7 TO ENTER 'MISS WHEELCHAIR MONTANA PAGEANT'--page 2

Judging will be on accomplishments, personality and appearance.

Scott P. Alexander, Albuquerque, N.M., a UM sophomore in journalism, who is a part-time announcer for KYLT radio station in Missoula, will be master of ceremonies at the pageant Sunday evening.

The Navy recruiting office in Missoula is scheduled to provide 10 escorts for the Sunday night pageant.

A Missoula barbershop quartet, the "U-Four-ia Sounds," will sing at the contest finals Sunday night. Quartet members, who are members of the Rocky Mountainaires, Missoula's barbershop chorus, include Garrett Wolverton, lead; Robert Lundquist, bass; Donald P. Lentz, baritone, and Douglas C. Ernst, tenor.

The winner of the "Miss Wheelchair Montana Pageant" will be eligible to enter the fifth annual "Miss Wheelchair America Pageant" in September in Columbus, Ohio.

A number of businesses have made contributions for funding the state pageant and to send "Miss Wheelchair Montana" to the national pageant. Additional funds also are being sought to cover costs, which will include a total of about \$750 to send "Miss Wheelchair Montana" and her chaperone to Ohio, Stevens said.

Additional information may be obtained from Stevens at room 154, Aber Hall, University of Montana, Missoula, Mont. 59801, or by phoning 243-2040.

##