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Geology department to receive display cases

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IMMEDIATELY

GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT
TO RECEIVE DISPLAY CASES

parks/stc
10/5/79
state

The Department of Geology of the University of Montana will receive a projected 10 display cases for the exhibit of geological specimens on the first floor of the Science Complex, according to William Melton, a member of the department.

Funding for the project was obtained through a proposal prepared by the Hellgate Rocks and Minerals Society of Missoula, with the help of Melton. The proposal was submitted last spring to the Montana Federation of Rocks and Mineral Clubs. During its annual state show in June the Federation allotted \$1,000 for the project. The Livingston Mineral Club and the Hellgate Club also donated \$200 each, bringing the total for the project to \$1,400.

The cases will be constructed by members of the Hellgate Club. When completed they will house a portion of the geology department's specimen collection, which includes 6,800 vertebrate fossil specimens, 12,000 invertebrate fossil specimens, 3,200 mineral samples, and 5,000 rock specimens.

The collection, whose samples range in age from over one billion to 11,000 years old, are mostly from Montana but come from all parts of the world, according to Melton.

The samples in the display cases will be used to reinforce current teaching, arouse student interest, and educate the public. The geology department is visited by approximately 20-30 schools each year to view specimens, he reports.

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