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### University of Montana graduate student from Oklahoma is motorcycle fan

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UM GRADUATE STUDENT  
FROM OKLAHOMA  
IS MOTORCYCLE FAN

By Kathleen Bourke  
UM Information Services

MISSOULA, Mont.--

Rise daily at four a.m. Rev up the engine on the motorcycle. Load sleepy, two year-old daughter, Laura Lee on the front. And shove off for a morning study period before class.

Mrs. Harold Jay Whitaker of Muskogee, Okla., has observed this rigid schedule five days a week through the entire summer while she attended classes at the University of Montana, Missoula.

Riding a motorcycle to class is not uncommon in this west-central Montana city. But, according to Mrs. Whitaker, she is performing what is considered a daring act in her hometown of Muskogee.

Giving her reasons for purchasing the motorcycle, Mrs. Whitaker said that expense played a big part in her decision. She says that her motor vehicle is supposed to run 200 miles per gallon and so far this summer she has filled the gas tank only once.

Besides being inexpensive the motorcycle is easy for her to care for and manipulate.

For the next three summers Mrs. Whitaker plans to attend the University of Montana to continue study toward a master's degree in mathematics. She has made arrangements to store her motorcycle for the winter months, and she plans to use it during future summer school sessions in Montana.

This year Mrs. Whitaker found a young mother to care for her daughter, Laura Lee, during her early morning study hours and class periods. Mrs. Whitaker entertains her energetic youngster during the afternoons and cool evenings and visits with new friends she has made this summer.

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Unfortunately, her husband, Jay, was unable to spend the summer in Missoula with his wife, who is the former Leslie Hiller. Jay owns a cookware franchise but hopes to come with Mrs. Whitaker next summer and conduct business from Missoula.

According to Mrs. Whitaker, this summer has been most rewarding. She enjoys studying and feels that UM's math department offers "a curriculum that is very challenging and has a theoretical approach that is very much in keeping with my interest in the field."

Her summer address is 609 Pioneer Court in Elliott Village in the University family housing area. The Whitakers manage an apartment building in Muskogee. Speaking from experience, Mrs. Whitaker observed, "The housing here is sufficient, nice apartments, reasonable rent and convenient leasing, which is handled from home."

Mrs. Whitaker is the recipient of a National Science Foundation Grant which allows her to attend school for her master's degree. The young mother and wife is also a junior-senior math teacher at Muskogee Central High School.

She was graduated from Northeastern State College, Tahlequa, Okla., in 1965 with a degree in mathematics.

Montana, the fourth largest state in the U.S., is an ideal vacationland, says Mrs. Whitaker. On weekends she travels with friends and so far has visited both Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks and the Bison Range at Moiese. She and Laura Lee also went on a tour of Montana ghost towns, which was sponsored by the UM summer session.

Mrs. George Hiller, 2421 Carolyn, Muskogee, is Mrs. Whitaker's mother. Whitaker's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold J. Whitaker, 1016 Maple, Muskogee.

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