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7,668 enrollment record set at University of Montana; 7,900 students expected

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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MISSOULA---

Gross enrollment at the University of Montana already has reached a record
7,668, a figure which exceeds earlier predictions of University officials.

The record enrollment, which was reached Wednesday evening, is 18 above the high
prediction of 7,650 estimated a month ago by Leo Smith, UM registrar. Approximately
250 additional students are expected to enroll later this month, which would boost the
figure past the 7,900 mark.

Asked about the increase, Smith said, "We seem to have had more than the usual number
of former students coming in very late to register. We have had a lot of former students
enroll since regular registration last week. The late registrants include students
from all levels--freshmen through seniors."

Smith said his prediction of another 250 students to register at the University
within the next several days is based on experience in past years.

"The record 7,668 students to date is 663 more students than were enrolled on the
comparable day (Wednesday) of the first week of classes a year ago," Smith said. "A
total of 7,005 were enrolled last year by the same day of the week. The boost represents
an increase of 9.4 per cent so far this fall."

The 7,668 gross head count through Wednesday of this week also is 400 more students
or 5.5 per cent above the previous all-time record high of 7,268, set for the entire fall
quarter a year ago.

Officials in the office of Leonard L. Lewis, manager of data processing at the
University, said that through Wednesday 5,022 men and 2,646 coeds had enrolled at the
University, a ratio of nearly 2 to 1.

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