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327 HIGH SCHOOL COEDS EXPECTED FOR GIRLS STATE AT U OF MONTANA

MISSOULA----

Nine days of activity centered around government and political structure in the mythical state of "Treasure" will characterize the 23rd Annual Montana Girls State at the University of Montana June 20-28.

The event will be the largest session of the annual Girls State to date, with 327 high school juniors participating.

Activities will begin on Saturday with registration from 1-5 p.m. at Aber Hall. The girls will be staying at Aber Hall, one of two 11-story dormitories at UM, and meetings will be in the University Center (UC).

During Girls State, the participants will be divided into groups representing cities, counties, and political parties, and they will conduct a model state government.

Mrs. Ralph Sluys, <u>Great Falls</u>, is Girls State director. The event is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary.

Participants in the first general assembly beginning at 10:30 a.m. Sunday (June 21) will include Mrs. Sluys; Mrs. Jack Swarthout, wife of the UM head football coach and athletic director; Mrs. George Wamsley, Stanford, president of the Montana department of the American Legion Auxiliary, and Mrs. Marian Erdmann, former Great Falls mayor.

Other speakers will include Mrs. Norma Keil, Conrad, 3:30 p.m. Monday (June 22); Janet Harrell, Helena, the 1969 Mythical Treasure State Governor, 7 p.m. Monday; Thomas J. Collins, director of the U1 Foundation and of U1 public services, 1:30 p.m. Wednesday (June 24); the Hon. Wesley Castles, Helena, associate justice of the Montana Supreme Court, 9:45 a.m. Thursday (June 25); James P. Lucas, Miles City, speaker of the Montana House of Representatives, 10:45 a.m. Thursday, and Sgt. Martin Dahl, Helena, Montana Highway Patrol, 7 p.m. Thursday.

(more)

327 HIGH SCHOOL COEDS EXPECTED FOR GIRLS STATE ----2

The inauguration of the 1970 Treasure State Governor will take place at 2:30 p.m. Thursday (June 25). The new Mythical Treasure State leader will address the Girls State delegates following the ceremonies.

Mrs. Maxine Johnson, assistant director of the UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, will deliver the final address at the final Girls State general assembly at 8 p.m. Saturday (June 27).

UM recreational facilities will be open to Girls State participants during free time.

Girls Staters will join a number of other summer visitors to the Missoula campus, including participants in the DeMolay Conclave, June 18-20; Speech Communication Institute, June 22-July 17, and winners of National Science Foundation grants doing research on campus.

Other high school groups which visit the UM campus during summer will include Fine Arts Camp, July 26-Aug. 7; Artists Camp, Aug. 10-14; Upward Bound, June 28-Aug. 15.

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