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Community support helps Excellence Fund top goal

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MEDIA RELEASE

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT HELPS EXCELLENCE FUND TOP GOAL

MISSOULA--

"Two for two."

That's how Col. Tom C. Davis announced that the University of Montana Excellence Fund drive had exceeded its \$60,000 goal for the second year in a row.

Davis, the 1980-81 Missoula chairman, said he was especially pleased that despite difficult economic conditions, Missoula businesses gave strong support to this year's drive, donating more than \$73,000.

"Everyone in Missoula should be proud of the support this community has given UM," said Davis. "We are taking important steps to ensure the quality of the University of Montana for future generations of Missoula and Montana students."

The UM Excellence Fund raises annual gifts from alumni and friends of the University. Donations support outreach programs, the UM Alumni Association, and special projects such as the UM Marching Band and the Montana Repertory Theatre. Among the special projects of the 1980-81 Excellence Fund drive was the purchase of a new computer for the School of Journalism.

Davis commended Excellence Fund Steering Committee members Thomas H. Boone, Paul Chumrau, Dan Lambros, George Leland, John Ruffato, Tom Brown, Chester Murphy and Dr. Leonard Brewer for their hard work on behalf of the University.

Steering committee members and some 75 campaign volunteers called on more than 400 Missoula-area businesses and UM alumni to raise money for the Excellence Fund. More than 300 gifts were received-- an increase of 100 percent in the number

(over)

COMMUNITY SUPPORT-- add one

of donors since the 1979-80 campaign.

The national Excellence Fund has raised \$175,000. With three weeks left in the campaign, the university still hopes to reach its national goal of \$200,000, and a final push is now under way across Montana and the rest of the country.

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