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Montana Kaimin, January 11, 1980

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Computer simplifies scholarships

By JIM O’DAY
Montana Kaimin Reporter

Heavy snowfall is increasing the number of passengers on Missoula’s bus system and buses are running as much as 45 minutes late because of it. Missoula drivers, tired of brushing the heavy snow off their cars or worried about driving on the city’s slippery streets, are flooding to the buses. Ridership increased from an average of 3,000 to 3,800, Dave Smith, manager of the Mountain Line bus system, said yesterday.

Smith, who has managed Mountain Line since its creation in December 1977, said more riders are using the city’s buses because it is much simpler than in the past and Main streets. (Staff photo by Barbara Miller.)

PRAYING FOR A BUS. Missoula resident George Grewing awaits a ride on the Mountain Line Thursday at the corner of Pattee and Main streets. (Staff photo by Barbara Miller.)

Financial Aids Office develops new procedures

Computer simplifies scholarships

By DEBBIE KEHR
Montana Kaimin Reporter

Those of you who spent Dec. 25 dreaming of a white Christmas, but not getting one, may want to think of the 1981 application of snow on the ground in Missoula as a late Christmas present.

After all, you enjoy snowshoeing, winter camping, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing or watching people struggle against the elements, the recent weather in the Garden City is perfect.

If you don’t, you may wish to consider a trip to Tampa, Fla., where the temperature Wednesday was 80°F. or的美好计划, which supplies the university with natural gas, was allowed higher rate increases in natural gas prices than was originally forecast to the university by the state Public Service Commission.

UM President Richard Bowers said that UM is not alone in its problem.

Bowers said the university does not have the money to pay the deficit, but he added that UM is delaying expenditures on equipment because of the problem.

“We’ll also have to see how the winter goes before overreacting,” he said.

Parker said he hopes the university and the students will continue to conserve energy by setting their thermostats at 65 degrees.

According to Lynda Johns, assistant director of financial aids, students short on time or patience often failed to apply for all the scholarships they would have.

The manual system also entailed more work for the Financial Aids Office because students’ application cards were not under their own names, but under the name of the individual scholarships. If a student was selected for one scholarship the office workers had to go through the card catalog and remove that person’s name from the other scholarship lists.

The computer printout will list students by rank, determined by their grade point average. All possible scholarships will be listed in descending order of monetary value based on the student’s name.

To the moose, waiting at 34th and Paxson streets, and were handed the ransom. Unfortunately, Putman was driving a small pickup truck with a camper, and Bertha would not fit inside.

Putman took the ransom back, went for 45 minutes and returned with a larger truck and three other forecasters. He then handed over the ransom again, loaded Bertha aboard and departed.

In the words of one of the forecasters, it was “kind of a screw-up.”

Putman could not be reached last night, but Crapser said he was surprised that Putman returned the ransom since he was with three other forecasters.

“I can’t believe he didn’t just take her (Bertha),” he said.

The forecasters were wearing ski masks, but Crapser said the forecasters “have lots of leads” as to their identities.

When asked if the forecasters were planning any reprisals, he said, “I think my best bet is to say ‘no comment’ at this point.”
Opinion

Bowers bound to receive mixed evaluation

Richardson stresses the importance of his job as the end of the decade section of the Kaimin contained a few editing errors and was not perfectly formatted. Since I submitted a story three times longer than the assigned limit, my cuts had to be made at the last minute and mistakes were almost inevitable. The movement for social change has stretched in an unbroken chain from 1970 to 1980. UM activists were instrumental in founding Freddy's Feed and Read, a collectively-run book and grocery store which was a focal point for the anti-war movement and social activism in the early 1970s and is still going strong.

Several UM students and professors helped form the Montana New Socialist Party, which marched from the UC campus to the Federal Building and blocked all entrances to the building for several hours. The next day, about 100 campus activists took over the ROTC building for the second time in UM history. They occupied the building all day, slept there overnight and left the building the following afternoon. The UM administration granted them a microphone to address students at the Oval.

The movement for social change has transformed a once-dormant campus into a vibrant community of students, faculty, staff and community members who are committed to civil liberties and serve on the editorial board of the Montana New Socialist Press.

The original article ended on a note of disillusionment by noting the change in the political climate. The new decade began with an exuberant optimism and has been part of the fabric of American life. The movement for social change has stretched in an unbroken chain from 1970 to 1980. UM activists were instrumental in founding Freddy's Feed and Read, a collectively-run book and grocery store which was a focal point for the anti-war movement and social activism in the early 1970s and is still going strong.

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Administration grain purchase may not actually be delivered

WASHINGTON (AP) — A possi­bility was raised yesterday that the govern­ment, committed by the Carter administration to buy huge quantities of corn and wheat that were destined for the Soviet Union, might not actually take physical delivery of all the grain.

If the price situation fails and "another person, another firm" has the opportunity to "use the grain, the government might sell the contracts instead of taking delivery," a senior Agriculture Department official said.

Howard W. Hjort, the depart­ment's chief economist and policy analyst, said at a briefing that in any case the government still is committed to buy nearly 4 million metric tons of wheat and about 10 million of corn.

Also, he said, the boycott of Soviet ship loading by the Inter­national Longshoremen’s Associa­tion "is a matter of concern" because of shipments of grain the Soviet Union is still eligible to get.

President Carter embargoed the delivery of 17 million of the 253 million metric tons of grain the Soviets were expected to buy this year. Exempted were 8 million that are allowed under a long-term agreement.

But since actual sales totaling only about 2.1 million metric tons had been disclosed at the time of Carter's order, the government will buy up the grain companies' contracts for the difference be­tween that amount and the 8 million being allowed to go to Russia.

A metric ton is about 2,205 pounds and is equal to 39.4 bushels of corn or 36.7 bushels of wheat.

The wheat presents a relatively minor problem, since it is intended to go into Food for Peace aid to foreign countries and into a "food security reserve" Congress has been asked to authorize.

But the corn — some 10 million metric tons — offers at least a couple of alternatives, Hjort said. If market prices recover, as he has predicted, and corn at some future point is worth more than the $2.40 a bushel at the farm it was

last Friday before Carter issued his embargo order, Hjort said it might be possible for USDA to find a buyer for the grain without having to take actual delivery.

Under law, once USDA's Com­modity Credit Corp. takes official delivery of grain, it cannot resell it back on the market for less than 150 percent of the price support loan rate received by farmers, which is $2.10 a bushel. That would force the CCC to sell its corn for no less than $3.15 a bushel.

But in any case, Hjort said, the corn bought by the government will not be sold back into the market unless the price is more than $2.40 a bushel.

Hjort admitted, however, that if market prices do not climb again, the government will have no cho­ice but to take over the corn and store it at taxpayer expense.

He said the ILA boycott has had some impact — as yet undefined fully — on the nation's commodity markets.

Storm batters Northwest, kills 13

(AP) — A "dynamic" winter storm that moved much of the Pacific Northwest with waist-deep snow and left 13 people dead snowed on Thursday, shutting off highways and snapping power lines.

With Seattle and Portland, Ore., closed by heavy snows rarely seen in seashore states, at least 500 boats sank or were damaged under its weight — the storm continued its blitz in Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and North Da­kota.

Travelers and truckers were stranded throughout the region and highways were strewn with abandoned vehicles.

"You can take this Montana snow and you can show it," growled Joseph Ruehm, a truck driver from New Orleans whose rig missed a turn on a slick street in Missoula, Mont., and mined up to the bumper in the city's 15-inch layer of snow.

More than a foot of wind-swept snow fell on Yellowstone National Park and much of the rest of Wyoming, where forecasters described the storm as "dynamic."

Winds were gusting to 60 mph in Cheyenne.

As the storm bore down on Idaho and Utah, a 136,000-volt power line feeding Idaho's Wood River Valley snapped, cutting power to the Sun Valley and Ketchum areas.

As more snow fell on Portland, Ore., which already had 10 inches on the ground, Hood River, a town of 5,000 about 60 miles to the east, was virtually isolated under a 3-foot cover.

Portland General Electric Co. reported about 30,000 customers were still without electricity yester­day in the fourth day of the storm.

In Washington, the storm which punished the Puget Sound area earlier in the week dumped more than 2 feet of snow in the southern part of the state.

The storm has killed at least three persons in Washington, including a 24-year-old man who died Wednesday night in a sled­ding accident. Authorities said Martin J. French was sliding down a hilly street in front of his house when he was snagged underneath a car and dragged 500 feet.

The storm also has been blamed for two deaths earlier this week in Oregon. Three died in California and five in Hawaii in heavy rains associated with the storm system.
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What are you doing in Colorado?

Hi! I'm Rick, in the next town.
Oh, hey, he and Andy were pretty chummy.

I haven't seen him in a while.

What are you doing in Colorado?

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A lot of people don't appreciate classical music, but it's really very calming, you ought be pretty proud of yourself.

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Come Down and Enjoy

HELENA (AP) — Attorney General Mike Greely has filed a brief in a California case aimed at stopping the federal government from pre-empting states' authority over nuclear power plants.

Greely filed the brief with the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, opposing a lower federal court ruling in California.

The lower court said the federal government had authority over nuclear plant construction and operation in California. It ruled that the U.S. Atomic Energy Act prohibits state regulation of nuclear plants if state laws had the potential to prohibit nuclear plant construction and operation.

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ASUM Programming Film Presents:
Four months since defection have been struggle for Soviet

BERLIN (AP)—Ballet star Alexander Godunov says the four and a half months since he defected from the Soviet Union have proven such a strain he has had to struggle day by day “just trying to live.”

A series of cancellations that delayed his debut with the strike-bound American Ballet Theatre in New York were “hard on the nervous,” the tall, blond dancer said in an interview.

Godunov spoke briefly following his performances scheduled in West Berlin’s Deutsche Oper, less than 3 miles from the Berlin Wall.

The performances, which began Monday night, are his first since his celebrated “leap to the West” last August while on a tour of the United States with the Bolshoi Ballet.

Godunov said he remains in contact with his wife, balleterina Ludmilla Vlasilova, 36, who refused to remain with him in the United States.

She returned to Moscow aboard a Soviet airliner last Aug. 28 after American officials held the plane for three days at New York’s Kennedy Airport.

U.S. officials allowed the plane to leave after she told them personally that she was returning voluntarily.

“I don’t want to talk about politics, about my wife,” said Godunov. “Of course, I miss her very much, but we speak on the phone regularly even though I know everybody is listening to our conversations. But for me, it’s enough to hear her voice.”

The total of Afghans in Pakistan is now estimated at 411,000, a figure that does not include those who have fled into inaccessible mountain areas, those who have gone to live with relatives or the small number who can afford to live outside the refugee camps and are not receiving assistance from the government of Pakistan.

The government of Pakistan.

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More than 2,600 Afghans are
pour into Pakistan
PIR PIAVEE, Pakistan (AP)—More than 2,000 Afghans are pouring into 12 major refugee camps in Pakistan each day, apparently in search of the religious freedom they fear has been lost in their Soviet-dominated homeland.

Once inside this Moslem land, the Afghan refugees are provided tiny food rations and tents too flimsy to withstand sub-zero temperatures many of them must endure. There are urgent shortages of medicine, baby food, mobile dispensaries and hospital facilities.

And yet the Afghans keep coming with their cattle, camels, goats and sheep from which many derive their livelihoods and are their chief means of transportation.

There is not enough food to feed the animals either, but the talk here is of refugees fleeing, not material shortages, though less than the equivalent of 50 cents is spent on each refugee each day.

“We have never been slaves, much less the slaves of the atheists and the godless Communists, and these are the ones of our fellowmen who are ruling us for the last two years,” said Rahim Gut, a 40-year-old photographer who fled from the eastern Afghanistin city of Jalalabad.

It is a theme repeated again and again by the refugees fleeing the landlocked Central Asian nation that has had three pro-Soviet Marxist governments in the past 20 months.

All three Communist governments have offered amnesty to the refugees to return home, but with the passing of each government, the number of refugees has increased.

Even before the Soviet Union sent thousands of troops into Afghanistan and helped install Babrak Karmal as president on Dec. 27, 1,000 Afghan refugees had been fleeing into Pakistan each day. In the past two weeks, the number has swelled to 2,625, and one man at this camp 40 miles inside Pakistan predicted: “With the new repressive regime in power, and the Ruw’s Russians roaming all over our country, the number will increase further.”

The total of Afghans in Pakistan is now estimated at 411,000, a figure that does not include those

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(From the University take Mountain Line Bus 1 or 5)
Regional energy conflict mounting

SEATTLE (AP) — The Pacific Northwest will have power battles among four states if a regional energy bill doesn't pass Congress, says Rep. Al Swift, D-Wash.

"We don't have unified support for this bill in the Northwest congressional delegation, and this makes it very difficult to persuade people from other states to support it," Swift said in a speech Wednesday.

The bill, which cleared the Senate last summer but stalled in the House, would set up a regional power planning program, establish conservation programs and set up a mechanism for underwriting power plants — including coal and nuclear facilities — if needed. Swift, a member of the House

Water and Power subcommittees, noted that public utilities now monopolize cheap power from federal dams on the Columbia River. Most PUD customers are in Washington, and Oregon has passed legislation which would — in effect — turn the state into a public utility to gain the low-cost electricity.

"Idaho would clearly follow and so would western Montana," said Swift.

He said he would attempt to provide a two-tiered rate system in the bill. Customers could buy a minimum amount of power at low rates, but would pay higher rates for any more.

And he said more emphasis is needed on conservation "to minimize construction of incredibly expensive thermal (coal and nuclear) plants."

"Conservation was once perceived as a flaky idea of the granola set," Swift said. "Not so. The kilowatt you save is going to be the cheapest kilowatt you'll ever see."

Two Northwest congressmen, Reps. Mike Lowry, D-Wash., and Jim Weaver, D-Wash., have opposed the bill on grounds it doesn't do enough for conservation.

Lowry also worries that public utilities would be giving up rights to cheap federal power.

UN considers sanctions

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Security Council will meet today to vote on a U.S. request for economic sanctions against Iran. Western diplomatic sources reported.

The request, a response to the continued holding of American hostages in the occupied U.S. Embassy in Tehran, seeks a number of measures including cancellation of civilian airline flights, cessation of exports to Iran except for food and medicine, and banking restrictions.

In earlier action, the council agreed to consider sanctions if the hostages, held by Moslem militants since Nov. 4, were not freed by last Monday.

The Soviet Union has announced it will veto any request for sanctions as an interference in Iran's internal affairs.

Soviet U.N. Ambassador Oleg Troyanovsky told reporters the Soviet Union still insists that Iran release the hostages, but feels imposition of sanctions is not the proper way to proceed.

Grizzlies win

John Stroeder scored 19 points and added 12 rebounds to lead the University of Montana to a 77-54 win over Idaho State University last night. The Grizzlies won their first conference game of the season against two defeats. ISU is now 2-1 in conference play.

Dating costs soar

(CPS) — Twenty-five years ago you could take a date to a movie, an inexpensive dinner, and then out for a drink or two and a little dancing for about $9.50. But Ray Device, a New York investment strategist, warns that the same date today could cost as much as $43.

According to Zodiac News Service, Device has examined the skyrocketing price of dining out, movie theater tickets, intimate lunches at Italian restaurants, and cocktails in fancy restaurants, and compared his findings with the cost of the same activities 25 years ago.

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UM awarded grant to research cancer

The American Cancer Society has awarded a two-year, $90,000 grant to the University of Montana to research one possible cause of cancer.

Kenneth Watson, associate professor of chemistry, will direct a research project to investigate the role of certain enzymes in creating cancer cells.

"We are interested in how normal cells are converted to tumor cells," he said. "We believe that some protein modification by protein phosphorylation is involved."

Watson explained that protein phosphorylation is adding or removing a phosphate molecule from a protein molecule. Phosphorylation alters the chemical properties of the cell and may cause a normal cell to become cancerous, he said.

Phosphorylation is regulated by enzymes—a "battery of enzymes," Watson said. These enzymes have been isolated in the same form of virus that has been shown to cause leukemia in chickens, he said.

Watson said the research also will study how phosphorylation affects the life cycle of the leukemia virus.

"If phosphorylation is important to completing the virus, essential functions, it's possible it could be disrupted," and a potential cure for cancer discovered, he said.

John Olsen and John Ong, both doctorate candidates, and Mary Joanne Ross, research assistant, will work with Watson on the project.

Winter ...

* Cont. from p. 1.

side the city limits, he added, will be subject to approval by the county surveyor and possibly the State Department of Highways.

"We should have few problems except maybe downtown," he said. "The designated stops won't do any good anyway, it helped to know the bus will stop there."

Mike Ragan, a bus driver for Greyhound, said yesterday. Greyhound said they'll sure go a long way toward helping regulate the system, it'll give people a place where they know the bus will stop for them.

Mike Ragan, a bus driver for the Missoula transit system "really has a lot of potential, but it really needs the designated stops."

"Stopping all the time really slows you down," he said. "It can get pretty wild and at times you're really working your fanny off."

Another driver, Gary Johnson, said the designated stop areas would help stabilize the system especially around the university and along South Avenue.

Weather or not ...

* Cont. from p. 1.

You heard me. He's some old rust who lives up in the Bitterroths. The last investigator we had said he was giving the AWS all their weather dope."

"Last investigator?" I said.

"He had an accident," "In the Bitterroots?" I asked. Temperate's face delivered the answer. The weather biz was beginning to look a lot stormier than I'd suspected.

Down on the farm (CPS) — In what might be interpreted as a continuing "back to the farm" movement, a recent study revealed that a bare majority of agricultural students come from cities, not farms.

From State's College of Agriculture found that 14 percent of its first-and-second-year students come from cities with populations over 50,000, while 12 percent come from farms. A full 51 percent come from cities and towns.
As the vice president launched his Iowa tour, Kennedy flew to Illinois and Republican candidate Ronald Reagan made a pitch for the farm vote in Iowa.

At a news conference in Springfield, Ill., Kennedy was asked about Mondale’s remarks.

“I would certainly reject the suggestion,” said the senator, who continued hammering away at Carter’s grain embargo.

Kennedy said that during his 17 years in the Senate, he has never supported the use of food as a weapon in foreign policy.

“I do not favor that at the present time, nor would I favor it in the future,” he said.

Kennedy repeated his contention that the impact of the embargo will be much more serious in the United States than in the Soviet Union. He said the move poses a “real danger of lost markets in the future.”

There were these other political developments Thursday:


Linda Peal, a spokeswoman at the Carter-Mondale Presidential Committee in Washington, said the request was under study, but that Carter’s participation would be subject to the same foreign policy considerations that led to his withdrawal from the Iowa debate.

• Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne, who has endorsed Kennedy, accused Carter of being “deceitful” by canceling political appearances because of the Iranian crisis.

She charged that while Carter shows public concern for the hostages being held in Iran, he continues behind-the-scenes maneuvering for the support of Illinois Democrats.

• Rep. Philip Crane of Illinois became the third Republican candidate on the ballot for Alabama’s presidential preference primary on March 11, joining former CIA Director George Bush and former Minnesota Gov. Harold Stassen.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Carter-Mondale campaign is heating up, but the topless-bottomless go-go girls who dance in a bar on the first floor of the president’s national re-election headquarters say they’re being frozen out.

In an effort to force them to move, the building management asked whether to heat the bar, say the gitter-gartered ladies at “Sabina’s Safari.”

Sabina Stiles, the black-haired, snappy-eyed owner of the topless-bottomless bar, says the building’s manager offered her $25,000 to close the business, but she rejected it.

“I make good money here,” she said, gesturing grandly at her dimly lit palace on downtown 14th Street, a neon-lit stretch of porno flics and “adult” book stores several blocks from the White House.

Several employees, wearing see-through sequined body stockings while waiting to perform, nodded in agreement. But each time a customer opened the door, they shivered as a cold draft swept down the stairway.

An electric heater glowed on stage next to the plastic Christmas tree and the tinsel “Happy New Year” stretched across the mirror behind the performers. And customers kept on their winter coats while watching the dancers strip down to their high heels.

The Carter campaign moved into the building last summer.

Ms. Stiles, a Turkish-born divorcée who has enraged Kennedy accused Carter of being “deceitful” by canceling political appearances because of the Iranian crisis.

She charged that while Carter shows public concern for the hostages being held in Iran, he continues behind-the-scenes maneuvering for the support of Illinois Democrats.

• Rep. Philip Crane of Illinois became the third Republican candidate on the ballot for Alabama’s presidential preference primary on March 11, joining former CIA Director George Bush and former Minnesota Gov. Harold Stassen.
**Sports**

**Grizzlies to test home win streak**

By JIM O’DAY
Montana Kaimin Sports Editor

The University of Montana women’s basketball team returns to the friendly confines of the Harry Adams Field House this week for two contests against the Idaho State University Bengals and the nationally ranked Weber State College Wildcats. UM played the Bengals last night while WSC arrives tomorrow.

The Grizzlies are coming off a difficult road trip in which they were defeated by conference foes Northern Arizona University, 65-53, and the University of Nevada-Reno, 59-53. The losses were the fourth and fifth against one win on the road for UM this year.

Both Idaho State and Weber State come to Missoula with 2-0 conference records. Last week, the Bengals defeated both the University of Idaho, 65-57, and Boise State University, 85-53, at home. Meanwhile, Weber edged the same two opponents by one point at Ogden, Utah in overtime.

Idaho State returns two starters from last year’s 14-13 (8-6 in conference) squad — forward Bryan Banks and center Joe FaZeeka. Guard Scott Goold and forward Dale Wilkinson have also been key players for the Bengals this season. Last week, the six-foot-ten-inch Wilkinson, starting for the first time in his college career, scored 29 points along with 14 rebounds in the Idaho State win. For his efforts, he was named co-Big Sky Conference player of the week.

The Grizzlies defeated both the Idaho State and Weber State teams this week, with the exception of the 78-77 overtime setback to Utah State University in WSC’s first game of the year.

Weber State is coached by Neil Mack, who has a 128-90 record in four years for the Wildcats, including two conference championships.

The Grizzlies need the two home victories to even their conference record and move UM within one game of a Big Sky Conference title. The record is now held by Weber State with 20. The Grizzlies had won 17 consecutive home games prior to last night’s contest.

**Defense, turnovers key to lady cagers’ games**

Strong defensive play and few turnovers are the University of Montana women’s basketball team’s game plan as it faces Eastern Washington University tonight in conference games.

The Grizzlies turned the ball over 28 times and committed 24 fouls in last week’s 68-45 win over Eastern Montana College.

"We’ve got to play a little smarter and learn to adjust to the referees," Coach Robin Selvig said. He added that the team concentrated on ball control and the fast break in practice this week.

Strong defensive play has been a characteristic of the cagers this year, while the Grizzlies have been inconsistent offensively, Selvig said.

"We’re not a great scoring team," Selvig said, adding that he is counting on defensive play to pull the team through the conference games.

UM, WSU and EWU are in the Mountain Division of the Northwest Women’s Basketball League. WSU won the division title last year with an 8-3 mark; the Grizzlies were second with a 5-6 record. EWU, however, moved up to Division I competition this year, after going 28-7 in Division II play last year.

"These will be tough games for us," Selvig said. "We have to at least split the games in order to stay in the running for our division.”

WSU’s leading scorer and rebounder, Judy Speciestra, did not play in last night’s game because of suspension.

The score of the Grizzly-Cougars game, played in Pullman, Wash., was not available at press time.

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**WEEKEND SPECIALS**

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Tumblers travel to Pullman

By LYNN PENICK
Montana Kaimin Sports Editor

Coach Terry Hamilton expects a strong performance from the University of Montana gymnastics team when it faces Washington State University and the University of Idaho Saturday in Pullman, Wash.

Hamilton predicted this week that UM's tumblers will out score Idaho and "come close" to WSU. At the Dec. 15 WSU open, in which all Northwest Collegiate Women Sports Association members competed, the Grizzlies came close to upsetting WSU. UM tallied 116 points while WSU scored 127.

Freshman Wendy Horchell had an "excellent" performance at the WSU meet, Hamilton said. Horchell scored 30.31 points in all-around competition and placed ninth out of 40 on the balance beam.

For the team, however, the open "wasn't a very good meet," he said.

Despite the problem the team has had this week finding a place to practice, the gymnasts have progressed faster than he expected and will be "able to close down on WSU," Hamilton said.

The team was unable to practice in the university's gymnasium room much of this week and last week because of registration.

Hamilton said the Grizzlies are not as strong now as they will be later in the season.

"Right now we're not real healthy," Hamilton said, adding that Kari Shepherd will be competing on only the vault and balance beam because of a sprained ankle and Cathy Sowl and Shawn Leary will be competing with injuries.

Hamilton commented that the team's biggest problem at Saturday's meet will be staying on the balance beam.

However, because seven of the nine team members are freshmen, Hamilton said this year will be a building year.

"We'll be competitive in our region but we won't surprise or scare anybody," he said.

Strong events for UM's gymnasts should be the vault and the uneven bars, Hamilton said.

COACH TERRY HAMILTON assists one of UM's vaulters as the gymnasium team keys up for Saturday's meet. (Photo by Gene Maye.)

Grapplers to host ISU

The University of Montana wrestling team hosts its last home match of the season today against Idaho State University in a Big Sky Conference meet beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the Dalgliesh Arena in Harry Adams Field House.

The Bengals bring a relatively low team, however, with a 1-0 conference record, as they battle the Grizzlies today in a Big Sky match of the season.

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Mexican oil spill continues despite containment efforts

Despite containment efforts, the Mexican oil spill continues to pose a significant environmental and economic challenge. The leak from the Ixtoc I oil well in the Gulf of Mexico has been a source of concern for months. While efforts to stop the flow of oil have been made, the spill continues to spread, affecting marine life and coastal ecosystems.

The oil, which has a heavy, tar-like consistency, has already contaminated thousands of acres of coastal land, devastating local fishing and tourism industries. The oil slick, which is estimated to be several miles wide, has been a constant presence in the Gulf, with reports indicating that the flow has not been completely halted.

Efforts to contain the spill have involved multiple strategies, including the use of containment booms, controlled burns, and the deployment of absorbent material. However, the success of these efforts has been limited, and the spill has continued to expand.

In a recent development, Mexican officials have expressed optimism about the possibility of sealing the well within the next few months. This would be a significant step in reducing the flow of oil into the Gulf. However, the process of sealing the well is expected to be complex and may take several weeks.

Environmental groups and local communities continue to monitor the situation closely, calling for increased efforts to address the spill and mitigate its impact. The ongoing spill highlights the need for improved oil spill response and containment protocols to be put in place to prevent similar incidents in the future.

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GULIAD DEL CARMEN, Mexico (AP) — Directly over the blowout, the normally blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico burbled and boil, forced six feet into the air by the force of the escaping oil. A three-foot crown of flame tops the murky fountain.

Yesterday, Ixtoc I spewed 50,000 more gallons of rusty-colored crude oil into the Gulf, but Pemex, the Mexican oil monopoly, says the flow from the world's worst oil spill has slowed and the well may be sealed this month.

"The flow is now running about 1,000 to 1,500 barrels a day," said a top engineer from Pemex, which has lost more than 110 million gallons of oil since the well blew out last June. 3. A barrel contains 42 gallons of oil.

This is not the first time Pemex has expressed optimism about stopping the well. And the company's flow figures have been questioned by U.S. experts.

In October, when Pemex said the flow had been cut to 2,000 barrels a day, U.S. scientists testifying before a congressional panel in Washington said the real figure was closer to 50,000 barrels. But U.S. officials say there is no independent way to determine just how much oil is spilling.

"One of the two relief wells is complete and has reached the two-mile depth of Ixtoc's reservoir, and we are pumping in sea water. The other well should be completed within 20 days," said the engineer, who asked not to be identified.

Drillers hope that pumping sea water into the reservoir will equalize the pressure, forcing oil out of the well, slowing the flow enough so they can cap Ixtoc.

Pemex has spent millions of dollars trying to stop the oil, but Americans under contract to Pemex here say it is time — not effort — that has cut the flow.

"There is no doubt once both the relief wells are in, Ixtoc will be stopped, but the Mexican government can't claim victory," Ixtoc is just slowing down by itself," said one American, who requested anonymity.

Ixtoc obviously has slowed. Instead of surging in a turbulent 100-foot-wide circle, it has been reduced to a ring 40 feet in diameter. Instead of gushing more than 30 feet into the air, it rises about six feet above the surface, with flames burning perhaps three feet above that.

"I should have seen some dead fish there somewhere, but I didn't. I just can't figure it out," Park said.

The well is still feeding a two-mile slick — located 55 miles from this shrimping village in the Bay of Campeche — and the slick is slowly moving westward.

"Pemex doesn't want to talk too much about Ixtoc because it thinks it is bad publicity," said a Texan working in the area. He asked not to be identified. "They're right, it does, and I'll bet they'll be more careful on the next hole."

The blowout is a sour note in an otherwise sweet find — an estimated 7.5 billion barrels of oil and gas. The treaty, however, is in the heart of one of the world's most famous shrimping areas, and damage to the fishing industry was one of the big fears when Ixtoc blew.

Most American experts now say the ecological damage is less than was first feared, although Dr. John Robinson of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said last week that the spring shift in Gulf currents could bring more of Ixtoc's oil to Texas beaches.

Last summer, when the oil soiled miles of Texas coastline, the U.S. Coast Guard cleaned up. The United States asked Mexico to pay the $360 million tab, but Mexico refused.

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Shifts continuing may return
Mexican oil to Texas coast

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas (AP)—The currents in the Gulf of Mexico will not subside. They do every spring.

But this year, if the runaway oil well off the coast of Mexico continues to leak oil, the currents could wash up a second wave of thick brown crude, a prospect which frightens the merchants who depend on the rolling surf and white sand of South Padre Island to attract millions of tourist dollars.

On Wednesday, government scientists said the probability of a second wave of oil washing ashore increases dramatically if Ixtoc I is not capped by the first of March. They predicted an almost certain return of the ozone by June if the well remains out of control through May.

This resort community alone has lost an estimated $16 million to $20 million in tourist revenue since August, when oil began blackening 140 miles of southern Texas coastline. The state of Texas has sued Pemex, the Mexican oil company which owns the well, seeking $377 million for damages to the tourist and fishing industries.

Some businesses got through the bleak times with Small Business Administration loans, but many motels, restaurants, shops and fishing businesses could not survive another onslaught.

"I don't think there's any doubt it's going to happen again," said Bill Shur, owner of the White Sands Motel and Marina in Port Isabel. "If that happens, there'll be a number of small businesses who won't survive."

Dr. John Robinson of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, a member of the federal anti-spill task force, said in Corpus Christi Wednesday that Mexican crews have only seven weeks to stop the flow if a repeat of last summer is to be avoided.

"If we get beyond March 1 and the well is not capped, there's a reasonable possibility of oil hitting Texas," Robinson said. "By May or June with the well uncapped, it's almost certain to return."

That is because the Gulf's currents will shift to the north, probably in March. It was the autumn shift of those currents in October that helped keep much of the oil off the Texas coast over the winter. Back then, it seemed the crisis was over—no one thought the well would still be spewing oil four months later.

Pemex says the flow has slowed and the well likely will be plugged by the end of January. It is still pouring more than 1,000 barrels of oil a day.

Beaches are clean now, and the tourist industry spent $100,000 on an advertising campaign designed to lure vacationers to the area.

"The reports that oil may return adds to the frustration," says Ralph Thompson, director of the South Padre Island Tourist Bureau. "Part of the problem last August was speculation that the oil was coming when the beaches were clean. Here we are in January speculation on what might happen in March or April."

The shrimp fleet harbored in the Brownsville and Port Isabel areas could suffer terrible losses if the oil returns. If the oil happens to be out there during the shrimp hatch, there won't be a live shrimp left," said Walter Zimmerman, president of the Brownsville-Port Isabel Shrimp Association.

The one bright spot in the continuing crisis is that the Laguna Madre wetlands area behind Padre Island, along with other environmentally sensitive areas, apparently survived unscathed last summer.

The bays and estuaries are home to several species of wildlife, including the endangered whooping cranes who winter in the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge just north of Corpus Christi.

As a precaution, however, the Coast Guard is returning equipment used to mop up last summer's oil to four southern Texas locations.

"We want to be prepared as well as we can," said Coast Guard Capt. Gerald Hinson.

But the tourism bureau's Thompson summed up a general feeling of helplessness among area residents: "People ask me, 'What would you do differently? Well, we couldn't do anything differently because there was nothing we could do about it.'"

W. N. Guthrie, a spokesman for the agency in Helena, said federal mining regulations require that each mine have two or more separate escape routes from the lowest levels to the surface of the mine.

There is one escape route in the U.S. Grant mine, Guthrie said.

Campbell said that the rise in the price of gold to over $600 an ounce will mean that some mining areas that didn't look "commercially profitable a year ago, look good now."
Energy costs force colleges to try conservation

Paul Knapp, who heads the times for physical plant managers.

Energy costs force colleges and universities to try conservation programs. University energy managers have to try to conserve energy, and some schools are doing it even before energy prices go up.

The University of Connecticut's energy costs for 1979-80 were $3.3 million per year, despite an energy cost increase of 50 percent. As of August when it shortened summer session weeks from five to four in the 1978 session and 90 days. Now the university is considering trying it again later in the school year.

President John Nattress warned why. "With declining enrollment, declining endowment, EPA standards, OSHA standards, handicapped standards, and maintenance, the institutions are going to have a tough time." 

Worse yet, Knapp was responding to a question about energy, which is the manager's most troublesome problem of the moment. Managers were already groaning over unanticipated energy cost increases even before the Iranian oil cutoff threatened to drive energy prices even higher.

Large administrators, for example, watched campus energy costs hit $11 million in 1978-79, a 500 percent increase over 1969. Though they responsibly budgeted another increase this year and patriotically appropriated $7.4 million to make campus buildings more energy efficient, they had to begin 1979-80 with an announcement that university energy costs for 1979-80 would be running a full $4 million over budget anyway.

"In the provinces aren't unique. The University of Connecticut's energy savings were $2.1 million this year, despite conservation measures that have saved it an estimated $3.4 million since 1973. But the University of California-Berkeley is trying to cut costs with an estimated 40 percent increase in energy costs. The University of Florida, which planned for a 50 percent increase, has gotten an increase of 12 percent. On the other hand, the University of California has had an increase of 12 percent.

"If we don't get special appropriations or convert unused faculty salaries, we could end up with a $500,000 year 10 percent increase over the campus. The University of California at Berkeley is trying to cut costs with an estimated 40 percent increase in energy costs. The University of Florida plans to cut costs with a 50 percent increase.

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Centuries-old life, work continue in the Holy Land

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — The Bible says God sent Paul wandering down the street called Straight after blinding the wayward apostle for his defense, if that happened today, Paul might be flattened by a car.

The traffic is fierce, but otherwise the sights, sounds and smells of the mile-long street have not changed much from the day the Romans laid it out on a city plan about 2,000 years ago.

And historians say a street called Straight likely existed here in the world's oldest continuously occupied city long before the Romans. In Roman times, the street called Straight was 75 feet wide and lined by marble colonnades. Over the centuries, the shops spilled onto the sidewalks and then beyond the colonnades to the streets.

Today's Straight Street is narrow as an alley in places and it's not really straight. It passes through the Sharia Mustakim, commercial hub of Damascus' Old City. The tourist trade is not so good these days and the old crafts are dying, so it is a marvel that the souks — the bustling clusters of specialist stores — remain sound and thriving businesses.

"Everybody knows that Damascus is the cheapest place in the Middle East to buy handicrafts," said a Palestinian who works at S.G. Nassan's silk and inlaid furniture factory.

At seven in the morning the sun beams through the souks tattered fringes. Men clad in white cotton robes lead donkeys laden with burlap sacks of spices, nuts, fruits and vegetables.

By nine the shutters are up and the souk is swarming.

The fresh odors of newly tanned leather and morning coffee waft over the crowd. Shoemakers tap at workbenches in stores hardly bigger than bathrooms. Shoes and sandals dangle at the entrance and from the walls and ceiling. On one of these streets is the spot where the Bible says Ananias cured a repentant Paul of his blindness. It's not far from the Bab Al-Sharki, the east gate, over which Paul was lowered in a basket to escape the wrath of the Jews.

The shabby wood and mud faces of Old City homes conceal tranquil courtyards with bubbling fountains and songbirds, marble floors covered by rich oriental carpets and gilded ceilings. Many of the merchants and shopkeepers of the Old City live in these houses. Many souks pass from father to son.

"That's my grandfather," said Khaled Baroody, 23, pointing to a photograph of a somber old man in the fragrant spice souk, which even nightshades would have no trouble finding.

Baroody is leaning on a marble counter in a shop just large enough for two people. The entrance is framed by gaping burlap bags of saffron, cloves, pepper, camomille, pistachios and walnuts. Herbs hang over the doorways. Shelves on all three walls are piled to the ceiling with jars of multi-colored spices and chemicals.

"My father runs the store and I help him," said Baroody. "I'm studying chemistry at the university so I'm going to work here when I graduate. It's a good business."
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