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Montana Kaimin, January 9, 1981

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montana kaimin

Friday, Jan. 9, 1981

Missoula, Mont.

Vol. 83, No. 40

Aid programs may be reduced

C. L. GILBERT and JIM MARKS
Montana Kaimin Reporters

The current trend toward cutting back on government excess may reduce student financial aid received from Social Security and other aid programs, Rep. Pat Williams, D-Mont., said yesterday.

granted by Social Security is not necessary. There are avenues other than Social Security open to needy students, he said.

There is no sense in paying people who can "make it on their own," Williams said.

The Social Security program, which is facing serious financial

where they are most needed, he said.

Williams also commented on the general state of the American economy. He said that the country's balance of payments is "running in our favor, and that is excellent news for America."

Another piece of good news in the American economy, Williams said, is that American productivity is the highest in the world, "even counting Japan," and that Americans are consuming one million barrels of oil a day less than they did in 1979.

On the bad side, Williams said, inflation is "out of hand," interest rates are too high, the housing and auto industries are in serious trouble and the cost of oil is "staggering."

"What this all means," Williams said, "is that the House, Senate and the president have to work together. We have to avoid quick-fix solutions, set aside the demagoguery and go after the problems."

Williams also commented on the Republicans' control of the government. Williams said that it is exactly 50 years since the Senate and executive branch have been in Republican hands. Williams said that the last time it happened, Herbert Hoover was president.

Williams was re-elected this fall, unlike many of his Democratic colleagues, when he defeated Republican Jack McDonald. "It's good to be a Democrat left standing in the landscape," Williams said. "As Winston Churchill said, 'There's nothing more exhilarating than to be shot and to survive.'"



STROLLING ALONG the Oval walkway, one of many students enjoys the mild weather. (Staff photo by Mick Benson.)



PAT WILLIAMS

"All aid programs are in some jeopardy," Williams said.

Speaking at the Elks Lodge, he said that the first target will be Social Security student aid and that he supports cutting back on this program.

Williams said that although he was concerned about aid cuts, aid

difficulties, gives up to \$450 per month to students whose parents or guardians are disabled, retired or deceased. Williams said that this money should be used for retired or disabled people instead of students.

There is a need to "get back" to using Social Security benefits

Enrollment woes at UM

Too many students for too few classes plagued the business school and interpersonal communications department during this quarter's registration.

Registrar Phil Bain said these areas had "incredible problems and have for several years."

The departments of accounting and business management in the business school had 80 sections of classes, Bain said, and "by the end of the two days of registration, 77 were filled."

Maureen Ullrich, an associate professor in the management department at the School of Business, said they were closing sections when they reached a 24:1

student-faculty ratio. However, she said, this ratio went up to 27:1 because of students with serious scheduling problems.

"We are convinced we would have reached 30:1 if we hadn't closed classes," Ullrich said.

She added that 15 to 20 students have been outside her office door every day to request classes they could not get into at registration.

Students are "not receiving a quality education in these huge classes," Ullrich said, adding "we have people hanging out the windows."

Cont. on p. 8

Amount of supplemental funds to be decided tomorrow

By CATHY KRADOLFER
Montana Kaimin Legislative Reporter

HELENA — Overcrowding of and cancellations in business, interpersonal communications, computer science and freshman English classes may be alleviated as early as Spring Quarter.

If a legislative subcommittee decides tomorrow to grant the University of Montana's request for \$854,403 to cover the costs of increased enrollment, UM may hire additional part-time teachers for classes in those departments.

After the first day of registration this quarter, students were barred from most of those classes unless they were seniors and needed the class to graduate, President Richard Bowers told the appropriations subcommittee on education yesterday morning. And most students were forced to either delay taking the classes, postpone graduation or to drop out for a quarter.

"We seriously need the money now to avoid further situations like this one," Bowers told the committee.

But the legislative, fiscal analyst's office and the governor's budget office have recommended

that the subcommittee grant only half of the total \$4.4 million request by UM and the other schools of the university system to cover enrollment increases.

If UM gets only half the request it will mean borrowing money from "strained" library and maintenance accounts, in addition to creating problems for students in class scheduling, Bowers said.

UM's request is part of a \$6.7 million supplemental appropriation for the university system to make up for deficits in this year's budget resulting from enrollment increases, higher utility bills and lower-than-expected revenues from the six-mill levy. The system is asking for \$1,879,582 for utilities and \$565,700 for the shortfall in the six-mill levy account.

The two budget officers recommended approval of the supplementals for utility costs and the mill levy. And the committee members were in general agreement that the utility and mill levy requests were justified.

Committee members had questions, however, about the money requested for increased enrollment.

Rep. Esther Bengston, D-Shepherd, said she thinks the

schools should get more than the 50 percent the budget offices recommended, but she said she and the other committee members will try to decide just how much of the enrollment costs the university system should be able to absorb by borrowing from other accounts.

"We want to give them what they need, but we just don't know if they need all of it," Bengston said.

The problem with asking the schools to absorb the costs, according to the presidents, is that the schools have already borrowed heavily from equipment, library and operations accounts to pay for faculty salaries and other costs brought about by increased enrollment.

At UM, for example, \$150,000 has been taken from the operating budget and another \$250,000 will be borrowed from the same budget to pay for faculty and staff salaries and building repairs, Bowers said. "Ultimately that catches up with us and makes us less than a quality institution," Bob Thomas, the president of Western Montana College, told the subcommittee.

The commissioner of higher education's office presented examples of the enrollment increases to the subcommittee.

The commissioner's figures show that UM was funded by the 1979 Legislature for 7,842 students in 1980-81. Based on Fall Quarter enrollment figures, enrollment is expected to average 8,330 — resulting in an increase of 488 students and a need for 25.5 more faculty positions.

The entire university system was appropriated money for 23,061 students. The revised enrollment is expected to be 25,497 — an increase of 2,436 students and a need for 136 additional faculty positions.

The deficit in faculty does not necessarily mean that more faculty would be hired. In some cases, faculty would be given raises for increased class load. Part-time faculty or graduate students might also be hired. And some of the money would replace what was borrowed from the other areas.

Committee chairman, Rep. Gene Donaldson, R-Helena, said the committee will try to get the supplemental request through the Legislature within 10 days so that the money would be available this quarter.

Legislators get lesson

The four new members of the Legislature's Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education had a formal — and lengthy — first lesson in the university system budget process yesterday.

At a 3½-hour meeting to discuss a \$6.7 million supplemental appropriation for the university system, the presidents of the six schools

took the opportunity to tell the subcommittee about the funding problems they are facing — problems the six-member subcommittee will hear more about when they begin putting together a budget for the system.

The presidents were almost redundant in their descriptions of deficits and

Cont. on p. 8

Montanans should maintain wariness of nuclear industry

Montana's progressive stands on nuclear issues are fast losing ground in face of recent challenges, which would have the state slipping back into general conformity with the rest of a complacent nation.

Montanans — and Missoula residents in particular — have in the past few years initiated and supported innovative laws regarding nuclear development and nuclear wastes. In 1978, Montana passed the first law in the country that requires voter approval for the construction of nuclear power plants and places strict safety and liability requirements on their construction and operations.

That same year, Missoula County banned the construction of any nuclear power plants in the county.

But another Missoula law and a state law, both recently passed, now face a tough fight for survival.

Using arguments that the laws are discriminatory and unreasonably restrictive, opponents are getting ready to either repeal them or weaken them to the point of ineffectiveness.

Unfortunately, these opponents are eager to alter the laws without closely examining the implications — a tactic they often accuse the proponents of such measures of using when initiating the measures.

The two laws now under attack are Missoula's ban on the transport of nuclear wastes through the city and the recently passed initiative that bans the disposal of radioactive wastes in the state.

Missoula's transport ban was amended last month by the City Council, in order to eliminate a possibly discriminatory portion and to make the ban more defensible in court. The amendments, while probably necessary, now allow basically all wastes to be shipped through town.

But the ordinance was rendered

ineffective long before it was amended. A court injunction has prevented the ordinance from being put into effect because of a suit filed against it almost immediately by a company that ships nuclear wastes.

The company's arguments? The ban is discriminatory and places an undue burden on interstate commerce.

And when the state's ban on radioactive waste disposal (Initiative 84) passed in November, opponents almost immediately began a campaign to have it replaced or amended in the Legislature.

On Wednesday, Rep. Thomas Conroy, D-Hardin, introduced a measure to repeal the initiative.

The major argument against the bill throughout the election campaign was that it would make uranium mining in Montana almost economically impossible, since wastes would have to be shipped out of state. Opponents contended that federal regulations are good enough.

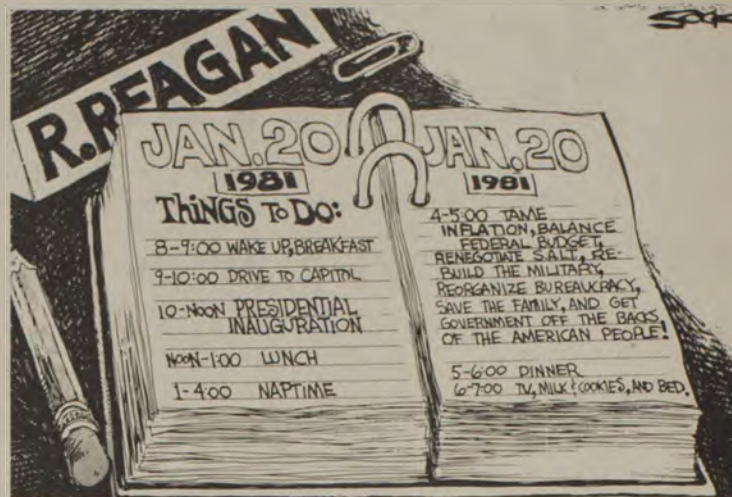
But in contending that these laws are unfair and unnecessary, opponents neglect the other side — whether the shipping and disposing of nuclear wastes is fair to the people of Montana.

Too many questions remain about nuclear development and nuclear wastes — the safe levels of exposure to them, the length of time they remain potentially harmful, the long-term effects of exposure — to wholeheartedly support their presence in Montana just for the sake of industry and economic development.

Montanans have shown extreme foresight in protecting themselves from these uncertainties.

And until the nuclear industry can prove its product and wastes to be safe, Montanans should not allow their precautions to be amended or ignored.

Sue O'Connell



letters

Perspective needed

Editor: I sincerely hope that this is the last letter concerning David Duke because I personally am sick and tired of the whole issue, but I'm afraid that I'm going to have to throw in my two cents worth.

Many students are complaining that David Duke should not be allowed to speak here at the U of M. That argument is countered with the freedom of speech contention. Now other students agree with having freedom of speech but they don't want to have their student activity money spent on something they won't use or don't agree with. My argument here is that much of my student activity money is spent on things that I don't agree with and I certainly won't use. The Women's Resource Center is a perfect example. I have never used it, nor do I ever plan to, and I don't agree with their method of getting their point across, but that's a whole other kettle of fish that I don't want to get involved with. Don't get me wrong, I have never used the Student Walk-In, but I am happy to see my money go to something worthwhile, such as that.

I am planning to go and listen to what David Duke has to say since my academic curiosity draws me and I would like to enrich my background hearing other points of view on current social issues.

I have one request though, University of Montana students, don't make fools out of yourselves as you have so many times in the past. Put the asinine antics such as boycotts, petitions, and protests away. Let's act like adults and maybe our image in the public eye will improve somewhat.

Mark Althen
senior, business administration

Bureaucracy

Editor: I am a second-quarter freshman at the University of Montana. At the end of last quarter, I received a note from the Admissions Office, stating that they did not have my transcripts from high school.

I thought this odd because I was accepted at the university with my transcripts. Anyway, I sent for them.

When I came back from Christmas break, they said I could not register because of no transcripts. Well, yesterday I got my transcripts and took them over to the Admissions Office.

The lady there went and got my files, and when she opened it up, there were my high school transcripts.

Ian Price
freshman, general studies

montana kaimin

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About the Montana Kaimin

The Montana Kaimin, a student-run newspaper, derives its name from the Kootenai-Salish word for "written message." Published four times a week, the Kaimin attempts to bring students, faculty and staff of the University of Montana important messages about campus news and events.

We'll do our best to cover all the news, but with nine reporters to cover a campus community of more than 9,000, we're bound to leave someone out. So if you've got a suggestion for a

story or know of something we're missing, or if you just want to talk, call us at 243-6541 or drop by the Kaimin office, Room 206 in the Journalism Building.

Our editorial page is open to everyone, and we welcome all questions, complaints and suggestions. If you feel like bitching or want to plug your favorite cause, write us a letter and drop it off in the office. Letters should be signed, preferably double-spaced and under 200 words.

Adams, SAC environmentalist, asks what will Watt energy cost country?

By MARK GROVE
Montana Kaimin Reporter

For many environmentalists, Watt means energy — energy development in the nation's wildlands.

Secretary of Interior designate James Watt may open public land to development, according to Barry Adams, environmental consultant to the Student Action Center. Adams said yesterday that Watt has supported private exploitation of the land that he may be managing.

Watt's appointment is "totally off the wall and ridiculous," Adams said, claiming that Watt is more concerned with economic growth than the environment.

Adams was at a SAC-sponsored table in the UC urging people to tell their senators to oppose the confirmation of Watt and other Reagan cabinet appointees. The

Senate began confirmation hearings for Watt on Wednesday.

Adams said that Watt's participation in the Mountain States Legal Foundation indicates that he is for unrestrained development.

Since 1977 Watt has been president of Mountain States, an organization financed by Western development interests, that brings suit in cases its directors believe will promote the private-enterprise system. Several of the cases brought by Mountain States challenge the authority of the Interior Department to restrict energy development on public lands.

Adams quoted from a Baltimore Sun article that appeared in yesterday's Missoulian, in which Watt said, "To achieve the objective of denying economic freedom and growth, they (environmentalists) have attacked the Achilles tendon of America's strength — energy."

The Secretary of the Interior should act as a mediator between environmentalists and developers, Adams said. He said that all indications show that Watt emphasizes the heavy industrialization of the land and has "alienated people who cherish the earth."

Adams said that Watt and Reagan both want to open up wilderness and extract resources. "Those two are only interested in a multiple-use policy, which means more mining, logging and drilling," Adams said. "After they're through, what kind of environment will we be looking at?"

He quoted an article in yesterday's Missoulian, in which Sen. John Melcher, D-Mont., said that Watt was "supportive of Montana's right to impose a coal tax." Adams said that this shows that Watt supports states' rights, but added that he feels Watt takes that support to extremes. Adams said Watt wants private enterprise to have its way in federal lands.

"Do we want a sagebrush rebel as the Interior Secretary?" he asked.

The man who prefers his country before any other duty shows the same spirit as the man who surrenders every right to the state. They both deny that right is superior to authority.

—Lord Acton

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weekend

Miscellaneous
Fencing Club demonstration, 1 p.m., UC Mall.
Men's basketball pre-game meal, 3 p.m., UC Montana Rooms.
International students get-together party, 7 p.m., 1010 Arthur.
Coffeehouse, Neil Lewing, 8 p.m., UC Lounge.
Coffeehouse, Dusty Collings, 9 p.m., Narnia basement, 538 University.

SATURDAY
Miscellaneous
Basketball pre-game meals, 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., UC Montana Rooms.
Delta Kappa Gamma luncheon, noon, UC Montana Rooms.
Coffeehouse, Dusty Collings, 9 p.m., Narnia basement, 538 University.

SUNDAY
Meetings
Defend Montana's Initiative Process, 2 p.m., 604 Toole.
Gallery
Bronze and woodcarvings by John L. Clarke, 604 Toole, 11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

through Jan. 23, UC Gallery.
Films
"On the Town" and "The Gay Divorcee," 7 p.m., UC Ballroom.
Miscellaneous
A Missoula Folklore Society sponsored benefit, 8 p.m., The Dance Works, 506 Toole, tickets \$2.50 at the door.

MONDAY
Meetings
Montana Repertory Theater, 12:30 p.m., UC Montana Rooms.
Time management workshop, 1 p.m., UC Montana Rooms.
Federal Job Opportunities workshop, 3 p.m., UC Montana Rooms.
Bookstore Finance Committee, 3 p.m., UC Montana Rooms.
Miscellaneous
Center course registration, through Jan. 23, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., UC ticket office.
Theta mothers' luncheon, 1 p.m., UC Montana Rooms.
Forester's Convocation, 8 p.m., UC Ballroom.

The Grizzly Pool Hours Were Incorrectly Listed in the Last University Center Ad

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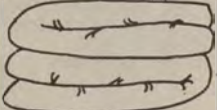


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SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES

FROM RASTAR

PG

Moosenappers demand 7-ticket ransom

By JIM BRUGGERS
Montana Kaimin Reporter

Bertha, the prized mascot moose of the UM Forestry Club, is still missing. Her captors have asked a ransom of seven tickets to the Foresters' Ball, on Jan. 16 and 17.

She was moosenapped in October.

Mike DeGrosky, president of the Forestry Club, said, "the whole thing is getting out of hand."

He said Bertha's abductors have made little contact with the Forestry Club until recently when

the ransom demands were spelled out in a telephone call.

According to DeGrosky, seven tickets — priced at \$9.50 per couple — were to be left somewhere in the University Center bookstore. After the moosenappers receive the ransom they will release their hostage, DeGrosky said.

A grim-faced DeGrosky said he could not believe that "they want us to give them the ransom without us seeing her first."

The Forestry Club has no way of knowing if Bertha's recently refurbished \$600 fur coat and nose are

still intact, he added.

DeGrosky said it has been a tradition that Bertha is taken each year, shortly before the Foresters' Ball. But it is not tradition that she is taken "months" before the ball, he said.

He added that he will not mind paying a ransom.

"Ransom is paid every year," he said.


The Forestry Club has intimate attachments to the furry moose. Each year, new Forestry Club members are required to kiss her mooselips before becoming a member of the club.

"I've kissed uglier guys," Mindi Federman, publicity chairwoman for the Foresters' Ball, said recently. She added that the captors "totally ruined" this year's initiation by taking Bertha just before initiation ceremonies in October.

"We want to stress that we don't mind her being kidnapped," Federman said. "It's tradition that she is taken before each Foresters' Ball."

But she said lately Bertha is out of the Forestry Building more than she is in it.

Bertha is the second moose to hang on the wall of the Forestry Building's Room 206. The first moose was a bull moose whose fur was destroyed in a fire about 30 years ago.



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Downed line douses lights

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A massive power failure struck the entire state of Utah and parts of Idaho, Wyoming and Nevada yesterday, knocking out electrical service to more than 1.5 million people, cutting off radio and television stations and disrupting phone service.

Ski lifts, elevators and traffic signals also lost power during the blackout, which occurred at 11:38 a.m. MST.

By 6:30 p.m., 95 percent of Utah Power & Light Co.'s 450,000 customers had their electricity back, said David Mead, a spokesman for the company. By that time, five of the company's 12 operating coal-powered generating units also were back on line, he said.

One man was injured in Provo when he pried open the door of a stuck elevator and fell four floors, dislocating both knees.

Temperatures in the region were cold, with the afternoon reading at Salt Lake City in the 30s. Many people use natural gas for heat, but the electrical failure meant furnace fans were out of service.

The Western Area Power Administration blamed the blackout on a downed 230,000-volt power line extending from Glen Canyon Dam to Sigurd, Utah. But Mead said the downed line, near Antimony, Utah, couldn't be solely responsible.

"It may have been a contributing factor, but I can't believe it would cause all this," he said.

Another UP&L spokesman, Grant Pendleton, said that after the system is fully restored, engineers will be able "to do the detective work" necessary to find the cause of the outage. That could take a day or more, Pendleton said.

Center provides resources for all

By MIKE DENNISON
Montana Kaimin Reporter

Educational workshops, a library of toys, orientation tapes for Asian refugee children, textbooks on loan — these are only a few of the resources available at the Western Montana Teacher Center.

But, you do not have to be a teacher to use it.

Located in the basement of an office building at 818 Burlington Ave., the center's primary service is to provide "in-service education" for teachers. But Center Director Robert Lukes said anyone is invited to use it, from parents to education students to community members.

"We've never turned anyone away," he said.

"In-service education" is described by Lukes as on-the-job training for teachers, who wish to brush up on new teaching techniques, ideas, or learn how to confront new problems.

All teachers are involved in such training, Lukes said, be it by pursuing a master's or doctorate degree or using facilities such as the center.

One resource the center developed was a tape for Asian refugee children, spoken in their language, explaining idiosyncrasies of American schools, such as moving to different classes or the bells ending classes.

Also included in the center's program are its workshops — about 75 were held last year, and just as many are planned for 1981, Lukes said.

The workshops, open to teachers and "laymen" alike, are on subjects such as how to figure one's income tax, stained-glass window making, leather tanning or parental involvement in teaching children how to read.

The center also has just started its longest workshop, "Disruptive Influences on Education," to run

10 weeks, meeting each Wednesday night. Disruptive influences to be discussed include drug abuse, alcoholism in the family and too much television.

Workshops are much like college classes, Lukes said, and are taught by teachers, university professors or anyone who has expertise in a certain field.

Workshop instructors have come from as far as Auburn University in Alabama, but most are from Montana.

"One of the basic philosophies (of the center) is to use local expertise, because the talent exists here," Lukes said.

Another important characteristic of the center is its independence from local government, school boards and teachers' unions. It provides "neutral ground," where teachers and education students can meet, Lukes said.

Jim Polsin, University of Montana interpersonal communications associate professor and occasional participant at the center, called it a "clearinghouse of ideas."

"It's the only place in town that I know of to go and get ideas for the ideas themselves," he said. "It's one of the unique resources for teachers in western Montana. The problem is, few university students are aware of it."

According to Lukes, one thing the center can offer education students, that UM cannot, is association with practicing elementary and high school teachers. Also, it has education textbooks for loan, and its "idea file" with how-to books and education periodicals is open for all to use.

Plans for the center began in 1978 and it opened in 1979, one of 61 original teacher centers to be set up around the nation. It is funded by a federal grant from the Department of Education, and its 1980-81 budget is \$83,000. It

receives no money from local government.

Lukes, a former high school teacher and principal, helped found the center. The center's establishment was a mutual effort by community members, teachers and UM, Luke said.

A 21-member policy board governs the center, and includes professionals ranging from librarian to county commissioner to UM professor.

Lukes expects federal funding to dry up after three more years, but he said funding from other sources, such as private grants, cost-sharing or charging fees, will be used to support the center.

"We have support, usage, and it's growing," he said. "We're meeting a need, a demand, so we won't close."

Scheduled for Feb. 20 and 21 are two of the center's major annual conferences. They will be on English/social studies instruction and Asian refugee children.

Lukes said he expects 150 to 300 people to attend the conferences.

The center is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday.

Advertising is a valuable economic factor because it is the cheapest way of selling goods, especially if the goods are worthless.

—Sinclair Lewis

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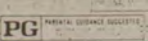
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sports

Griz varsity hosts Nevada, NAU

Montana Grizzlies' senior guard Blaine Taylor, who has been out with a knee injury since Dec. 15, will be back in action tonight.

The Grizzlies take on the Nevada-Reno Wolfpack at 8 p.m. in Dahlberg arena to open their Big Sky Conference season.

Saturday night, the Grizzlies will play host to Northern Arizona University. The games both nights will feature preliminary games. Tonight the junior varsity Cubs will put their 2-0 record on the line against Idaho Junior College, and Saturday the Lady Griz host Alaska-Anchorage. Both preliminary games begin at 5:45.

Taylor will not be starting tonight, but Coach Mike Montgomery said he will see plenty of action behind freshman starter Marc Glass.

Team defense to be key for Lady Griz vs. Alaska

Defense. The Montana Lady Griz thrive on it and excel in it.

The Lady Griz lead the Northwest Women's Basketball League in team defense, yielding only 50.8 points a game. And they are hoping to continue that success when they host the high-scoring University of Alaska-Anchorage this weekend.

The two teams will play a preliminary game before the men's game on Saturday night. It will start at 5:45. Sunday's game will start at 2:30 p.m. Both games will be in the Dahlberg Arena.

Alaska-Anchorage is averaging 79 points a game, much of them coming from guard Eva Robinson, who averages 27 points a contest.

Lady Griz Coach Robin Selvig is not particularly worried about his team's ability to stop Alaska though. He has a lot of confidence in the system that has led the Lady Griz to a 9-3 record this year.

"We place a great deal of emphasis on defense," he said. "We have pride in it, and the girls believe in it. What makes us good is our team defense."

But Selvig is worried about his offense, which has been in a slump. He said his team has shot from 35 to 38 percent from the floor in its last five games.

Although the Lady Griz have won three of those five games, Selvig said, "We've got to get a little more consistent offensively."

In their three losses, the ladies have shot 35, 33 and 36 percent respectively.

Jill Greenfield is the top scorer for the Lady Griz, averaging 15 points a game, and she is also the team's top rebounder, pulling down 10.5 a game.

This week, the Lady Griz hosted the first Insurance Classic. They

After losing three of the five games they played over the Christmas break, the Grizzlies now have a 7-5 record, and Montgomery said he feels his team has improved.

"We feel we've made some good progress in the pre-season," he said, "and now with the start of conference games, it's a whole new season."

New season or not, the Grizzlies are going to have to generate some offense against Nevada. The team is currently seventh in scoring in the Big Sky while the Wolfpack is third and NAU is fifth.

The Griz is averaging 64.5 points a game, NAU is netting 71.1, and Nevada is averaging 73.9.

Defense, however, has always been the Grizzlies' forte. They lead the Big Sky in scoring defense, allowing their opponents only 59.1 points a game. Nevada-Reno is last

in scoring defense, surrendering 76.7 points a game. Northern Arizona is fourth, giving up 70.2 points a game.

The match-up looks to be strength against strength — Grizzly defense against the opposing offenses.

Montgomery said that the key to stopping the Nevada offense is stopping their speedy point guard B. B. Fontenet, who has been averaging nearly 15 points a game.

"We're going to try to control their early (fast-breaking) offense. We're going to try to control the tempo of the game. Offensively, we're going to have to be patient and take high percentage shots."

Against Northern Arizona, Montgomery said, the Grizzlies will have to stop the conference's leading scorer Dinkey Jones, who is averaging almost 18 points a game.

"We have to keep the ball away from Jones," he said. "On offense, we can play more our own game than against Nevada. Arizona isn't as quick, and we'll be able to get more breaks."

Over Christmas break, the Grizzlies defeated Maine-Orono 59-58 and lost to Gonzaga 59-57 in the Champion Holiday Classic, they lost to Nebraska 69-46, and then beat Eastern Montana 58-44 before losing to the University of California at Irvine 65-63 in overtime in the KOA Classic.

UC Bookstore



REFUND POLICY

- (1) Full refunds on textbooks will be allowed during the first two weeks of the current quarter, under the following conditions:

SAVE YOUR RECEIPT You must present a cash register receipt with the current dollar amount of the books.

Do not write in or soil your book if you think you will change your class. A marked book is a used book and 70% will be refunded. We reserve the right to pass judgement on condition of returned items.

- (2) Charged items require original sales slip for return.

(3) For one additional week you may return books if you present verification of withdrawal from the registrar's office when you change or drop a class for which you have purchased a book. Books returned must be in original purchased condition — a new book that has been written in will NOT be returnable.

NEW POLICY

- (4) After the refund period is over you will be requested to keep books until the buy-back scheduled during finals.

Jan. 20—Last refunds without drop/ad

Jan. 27—Last refunds with drop/ad

March 16-20—Buy Back

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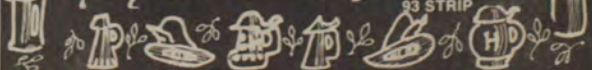
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93 STRIP



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Presentation by Jack Burton on Federal jobs including the P.A.C.E. exam

Monday, January 12th — 3:00 p.m.
at UC Room 361.

For more information contact
Center for Student Development — ext. 4711.

classifieds

lost and found

LOST: FROM University area — black female kitten, 5 mos. old w/red collar. If found, call 728-5868, 243-6644, or return to 725 Keith. 40-4

LOST: BROWN wallet in Science Complex area. Keep money, if you must, but return the wallet. 721-1488. Ask for Brian. 40-4

FOUND: ON campus, blue-spotted Siamese cat. Male. About one year old. Call 243-2137. 40-4

FOUND: ANN Sharon's ID card. Pick up in Kaimin Business Office. 40-4

FOUND: MITTEN with wool liner at Gerald and Connell. Call 543-4079. 40-4

LOST: GREEN Travel Bag containing shoes, shirts, pants, etc. Lost in Men's Gym parking lot, Thurs., Dec. 11. If found, return to Kaimin Business Office. 40-4

personals

STUDY SKILLS class starts Monday at C.S.D. Call 243-4711 for more info. 40-2

RUGBY PRACTICE Sun., 8:00, Men's Gym. 40-1

SENIORS in ACCOUNTING: There will be a meeting Jan. 12 at 11 a.m. in Room 109, Main Hall, to open another section in Accounting Theory 412. The more people, the better the chances. 40-1

RUGBY GAME Sat. 12:00 at Ft. Msls. Meet at 11:30 by Miller Hall. 40-1

ASUM PROGRAMMING presents the Famous Teams Film Festival. On the Town and the Gay Divorcee, Sunday, January 11, 8 p.m., Ballroom. Students 50¢, general \$1.00. 40-1

DUSTY COLLINGS plays dulcimer Friday, Saturday, 9-12 p.m. Narnia Coffeehouse, basement of the Ark, 538 University. 40-1

WOULD YOU like to contribute your time to meet campus and community women's needs? We need women who want to learn and grow through volunteer experience. Come to the Women's Resource Center for more info. 40-5

CLUB MEDITERRANEAN SAILING EXPEDITIONS! Needed: Sports Instructors, Office Personnel, Counselors, Europe, Caribbean, Worldwide! Summer, Career. Send \$5.95 + \$1 handling for APPLICATION, OPENINGS, GUIDE to CRUISEWORLD 60129, Sacramento, Calif. 95860. 40-1

TONIGHT THE TIME, Missoula's contemporary rock band, also free sandwiches Friday and Saturday — See Wylie do his impression of a meatball sandwich — The Forum, beneath the Acapulco. 40-1

SINGLE PARENT group will be offered by CSD-Lodge to give support and help to those going to school and raising kids alone. Meets Thursdays, 4-5 p.m., starting Jan. 22. Phone 243-4711. 39-6

JOIN FAT Liberation, lose weight and keep it off. Meets Tuesdays, 3-5 p.m. and Thursdays, 3-4 p.m. for the quarter at CSD-Lodge. Starts Jan. 20. Free but enrollment limited. Phone 243-4711. 39-6

JOIN THE Stress Management group and learn how to relax and become more efficient. Starts Wednesday, Jan. 21 for six weeks. Sign up at the CSD-Lodge, 243-4711. Free but enrollment limited. 39-6

PSYCHIC SELF Awareness class now being offered through the YWCA. Call Carole Rosenbloom (former teacher at Spiritual Light Center) for info 549-3853 or the Y. 39-3

ASUM IS now accepting applications for CB Positions, UC 105. 38-3

THE TIME RETURNS — The Forum — Tuesday — Saturday. 38-3

ASUM IS now accepting applications for CB positions, UC 105. 38-3

ASUM IS now accepting applications for CB positions, UC 105. 38-3

help wanted

WORK STUDY students to serve as Teacher's Aides in Day Care Center near campus, all hours. \$3.35/hr. Call 542-0552 days, 549-7476 evenings and weekends. 40-5

OFFICE PERSON to show slide presentation to local businesses. No fees. Acme Personnel, 110 E. Broadway, 542-0323. 38-3

TYPIST TO work part-time. No fees. Acme Personnel, 110 E. Broadway, 542-0323. 38-3

WANTED: LECTURE note taker for Econ. 212. Must have taken class. \$6.50/hr. Call 6661. 38-3

SECRETARY: GOOD typing skills essential. \$3.80/hr. 15 hrs. per week, start Winter Quarter. Must have work study funding. Call 721-5433 after 5 p.m. 38-3

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS. Interview kids, collect and code data. Previous experience desirable, but not essential. \$3.80-\$4.30 hr. 10-15 hrs. per week. Must have work study funding. Call 721-5433 after 5:00. 38-3

TELEPHONE SOLICITORS on commission basis. Must have phone. 549-8591. 38-3

typing

THESIS TYPING service. 549-7958. 40-34

IBM RUSH typing. Lynn, 549-8074. Professional editor and thesis specialist. 38-36

for sale

1966 OLDS F-85 deluxe, 102,000 miles, 2nd owner, \$200. 418 Madison. 40-2

ELECTRIC SMITH Corona typewriter, model 2200, 3 yrs. old. \$212. 549-0441. 39-5

wanted to buy

WANTED TO buy used Econ. 211 text. Phone 243-4315. 40-2

USED BOOK for Econ. 211. 542-0006. 40-2

TEXT BOOKS needed. Do you have a copy of Human Land Emerging (Bernard Campbell), 2nd edition, that you want to sell? Leave book, name and phone number and asking price at Anthro office. 40-2

CALCULUS TEXT by Grossman, first edition, used Fall Quarter. 721-1349. 39-2

for rent

LARGE 2-BDRM. basement apartment, \$190/month, \$125 deposit. 543-6519 for appointment. 40-4

LARGE ONE bedroom basement apt., unfur., lower flatlands, 10 min. from campus. Carpeted, garage, washer/dryer. \$175/m. \$100 deposit, 6-month lease. Single person only. 543-4874 after five. 39-2

NICE LARGE 2 bdrm. apt., carpeted, kitchen appliances and laundry hook-ups. Pet, kids okay, \$225 month, \$125 deposit. Discount for 6-month lease. 549-8391 days. 728-3745 or 543-4235 evenings. 38-5

Lucky Guthrie

HELENA (AP)—Novelist A. B. Guthrie Jr., who will observe his 80th birthday next week, counts himself as "one of the lucky" newspapermen.

That's because he was able to make a living writing fiction and could afford to abandon the grind of a newspaper editor.

Guthrie won a Pulitzer prize in 1950 for his novel, "The Way West."

FURN. CARPETED basement apt. All utilities furnished, washer/dryer, close to Univ. 2 people. 549-2253. 322 Burlington. 38-3

roommates needed

FEMALE ROOMMATES wanted. Two basement rooms. \$90 each with kitchen privileges; \$60 ea. without. Utilities included. 549-3135 or 728-7471. 40-3

MALE NON-SMOKER, \$90/mth., utilities included. Really nice place. 721-4937 — 728-1155 evenings. 40-5

NICE 3-bedroom house, close to school, \$108/month plus utilities. 549-0640. 40-1

FEMALE NON-SMOKER veggie welcome, fully furnished apartment near U. Utilities paid. \$102.50. Call 728-7786. 39-4

MALE OR female, \$95 month. 728-7668 evenings. 39-4

ROOMMATE WANTED to share 4-bdrm. house. \$78/month. Large fenced yard, near busline. Call 251-2463. 39-2

MALE OR female, rent \$140/split utilities. Luxury apt. Located at 3811 S. Stephens, No. 8 (Century Apts.). Call Jim, 721-2625. 38-3

NEEDED: MATURE female roommate to share nice house with garden. Bev. 721-5299. 38-3

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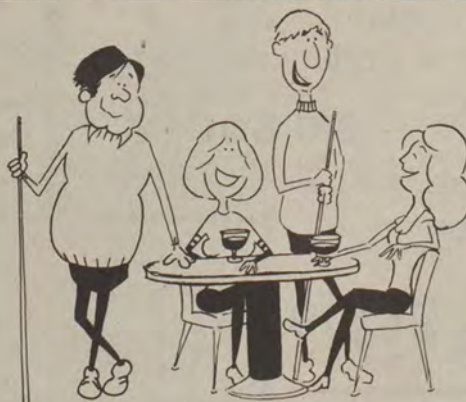
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2100 South Ave. W., is offering two, 4-week **BICYCLE MAINTENANCE WORKSHOPS** beginning January 13th and February 17th on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7-10 P.M.

The workshop, conducted at **BRAXTON BIKE SHOP**, will consist of 12 hours of lecture and 12 hours of Lab (all tools will be provided.)

INSTRUCTOR: Bart R. Braxton, professional bicycle mechanic for 11 years and 4 years experience bicycle mechanics at the U of M.

FEE: \$50 payable in advance at the first lecture.

For a complete course description and further information please call 549-2513 or 543-6817.

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Legislators

Cont. from p. 1

overcrowded classes caused by unforeseen increases in enrollment not funded by the 1979 Legislature.

Each talked of cuts that had to be made in operations and library budgets just to pay faculty salaries and utility bills.

Each of the presidents also stressed the need for more money during the coming biennium if they are to make up for what has been borrowed from operations and the library accounts.

In general, the committee members and presidents both seemed pleased with their first face-to-face meeting.

Freshman Sen. Judy Jacobson, D-Butte, said the presidents' testimony was "straightforward and complete" but added, "I expect it will get a lot more confusing as we go along."

The presidents and several student lobbyists said they were pleased with the committee members' willingness to listen to their requests.

"It's sure a different setup from two years ago," Montana State University President Bill Tietz said following the meeting. "These new

folks are asking more questions and listening to the answers."

The committee members and the university system representatives will meet again when the committee begins hearings Feb. 10 on the 1981-83 budget requests, which have not yet been released.

The four new committee members are: Rep. Gene Donaldson, R-Helena, committee chairman; Rep. Bob Thoft, R-Stevensville; Sen. Jack Haffey, D-Anaconda and Jacobson. Rep. Esther Bengston, D-Shepherd, and Sen. Harold Nelson, R-Cut Bank, served on the subcommittee in 1979.

Iran nervous about Reagan presidency

WASHINGTON (AP) — Carter administration officials believe Iran wants to end the hostage stalemate before President-elect Ronald Reagan takes office but has been unable to do so because of internal political pressures.

"They're nervous about Reagan," one official said. "The problem is no one in Iran wants to take the responsibility for cutting a deal with 'the Great Satan,' " a term Iranian officials frequently use to describe the United States.

The official, who is familiar with all aspects of the hostage crisis, said anyone in Iran who undertook such a responsibility would face "incredible political risks." The official asked not to be named.

Despite the strong consensus in Iran that the nation's long-term interests would be served by ending the deadlock, the official said prospects for a breakthrough

before Reagan's inauguration Jan. 20 are "very small indeed."

The prospect of a Reagan presidency, he added, may be responsible for any existing possibility.

Reagan called the Iranians "barbarians," said Iran should not expect better settlement terms

under his administration, and hinted that after Jan. 20 all options would be open for ending the crisis.

Carter administration officials believe the uncertainties generated by Reagan's broadsides may be having an impact in Tehran.

Enrollment...

Cont. from p. 1

Overcrowding is a serious problem at the business school, she said, because it is being re-evaluated for accreditation.

Because of the standards which must be met, she said, seven new staff members must be hired or the school may not be reaccredited.

Bill Wilmot, a professor in the INCO department said "all of the 100 and 200 level (INCO) classes

were closed at 10 a.m. the first day" of registration.

Two sections were added, he said, and they were closed within an hour.

Wilmot said that by the end of registration all sections were filled.

Bain said the math department and forestry and journalism schools were also having problems with overcrowding.

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Crystal Theatre resists mainstream film fare

Last July, Missoula's Crystal Theatre hosted the world premiere theater run of "The Return of the Secaucus Seven," a low-budget, independently produced film about a weekend reunion of aging 1960s war protesters.

It ran for only a week, became one of the biggest financial successes in the history of the Crystal and ascended to national critical acclaim, ending up on almost everyone's "Best Ten Films of 1980" lists.

About four months later, while

paneled door leads into the skinny end of a funnel-shaped lobby serving as an entrance for all three businesses. Above the boutique's display window is the Crystal's ancient marquee, an old, blue-bordered rectangle of white glass with red lettering. Topping the marquee is the eight-foot high Crystal Theatre wooden logo, designed by Missoula poster artist Monte Dolack.

Once you've found your way into the lobby and paid \$3, you part heavy red curtains and navigate a

Bank and Shelby, then moved to Indiana and Ohio, where he attended high school.

After earning a degree in sociology at the University of Montana, he knocked around California's Bay area, enriching his knowledge of and appetite for old films and visiting the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley.

But Staats had no real job in films until coordinating a foreign film series at UM in 1973-74. Staats stepped down after a year, somewhat disappointed because the series never established any continuity — it simply existed, year to year, director to director.

Then, Staats had a chance to change things: the Crystal

American-made movies.

The Crystal has its faithful corps of fans who will make an effort to attend the Crystal before any other Missoula theater, but many of Staats' potential customers are what he calls, without malice, "cinematically illiterate."

Through no fault of their own, these cinematically illiterate have

Story by Mike Dennison Photos by Mick Benson

"Secaucus" opened to enthusiastic audiences in New York, Los Angeles and Seattle, Crystal owner Joe Staats brought it back to Missoula for another week. This time, it lost money.

Staats offers no concrete reasons for the second run's failure. For him, it is only an indicator of the unpredictability of his business: running an "art repertory" theater in culturally and physically isolated Montana. Nearly every film the Crystal shows is a financial gamble — a gamble it has been winning more than losing for most of its six-year history.

Like most repertory theaters, the Crystal features foreign films, film classics and independently released new films — movies that major studios won't distribute. The Crystal shows each month six to nine movies, ranging from Wertmüller's "Seven Beauties" to the original "Phantom of the Opera" to Robert Mitchum's sleeper-classic "The Friends of Eddie Coyle."

In providing this unusual variety of programming, Staats' aim is not only to entertain his customers but to give them a perspective of film history, both foreign and domestic.

Tucked into the rear of an old building on Higgins Avenue, just across the Clark Fork River from downtown, the Crystal shares the building with a boutique and a Lebanese restaurant. A glass-

short hallway leading to the Crystal's basement-like, cement-walled showroom, site of 142 aging, comfortable seats. The ceiling is high, the screen is small, and the sound from the old projector is, at best, adequate.

"I prefer to call it a slightly spartan atmosphere," quips Staats.

Behind the showroom at the top of a steep, rickety staircase is the tiny room where Staats runs the projector three nights a week.

He must duck under the butt-end of the projector to get from one side of the room to the other — but there's enough room to lean back, maybe watch the movies, or chew the rag about his favorite subjects: movies and his theater.

Staats, 31, acquired the theater in 1974 and had little problem outfitting the ex-warehouse for showing movies, as it had already been used for showing movies on a random basis. The son of a local chain-theater owner had been showing old movies for 99 cents a crack, having set up a projector on a platform behind rows of seats.

"But they lost \$14,000 real quick — they weren't businessmen, they were hippies," says Staats matter-of-factly. Staats acquired the Crystal as half of a partnership and later became the sole owner.

Staats, who considers himself a Montanan because "I've deliberately spent more time here than any other place," lived in Cut



JOE STAATS leaves the projection room long enough to share the limelight of traffic-clogged Higgins Avenue with his unique marquee.

"I prefer to call it a slightly spartan atmosphere."

—Joe Staats



THE "SLIGHTLY SPARTAN ATMOSPHERE" of the crystal underlines Staats chief concern: the film themselves. Kathleen Royland, projectionist, smilingly surveys the aging but comfortable seats.

Theatre.

"I decided I wanted to do something scholarly, so I chose to have the new and old films in juxtaposition — to entertain the audience and let them learn a great deal, to give them a basis for evaluating films. If the consumers are not informed, they will get just what the studios shovel up to them."

But Missoulians aren't exactly breaking down the doors of the theater at 515 S. Higgins Ave.

"Any theater like the Crystal would thrive in a metropolitan area," says Staats. "But this is the frontier."

Big-city repertory movie houses have millions of potential customers. The Crystal has the 50,000 residents of a college-based, but fairly conservative, northwestern Montana town. Besides those numerical odds, Staats also must battle the prejudices of the small-town filmgoer — prejudices developed from years of being weaned on

been exposed in their youth exclusively to American film fare. They grew up in single-theater or chain-theater towns, where movie theaters are run by local businessmen whose primary interest is profit. The medium itself matters little. Those emerging from small-town theaterdom can't help but become prejudiced against, say, a foreign film, or a silent movie, or a low-budget film devoid of big-name stars, crashing cars and splashy production-films that do not follow the action-oriented, anti-intellectual trend of current American movies.

Staats refuses to involve himself in bidding wars for first-run films released by American studio-conglomerates. Breaking even on such films requires a run of several weeks, incompatible with an art-repertory format and, says Staats: "I would become extremely bored very quickly and probably pack it in."

Convincing potential customers his movies are worth watching is only the beginning of Staats' obstacles. Because of the offbeat films he shows in a geographically isolated area, the usual theater-owner responsibilities of scheduling, advertising and shipping costs burgeon into a full-time assignment.

Staats limits movies at the Crystal to one-week runs — a total of 70 to 100 movies a year, all of which Staats selects. He pores



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arts

Cont. from p. 9

through film journals, books and catalogs, dips into his own memory, enriched by years of watching late-late shows while a teen-ager, and attends film festivals when he can afford to. Staats also keeps in contact with

Crystal, as many of the holding companies have local offices in the same large cities. Since no such companies exist in Missoula, Staats must pay freight charges ranging from \$25 to \$200, depending on how far and by what means the print travels.

"... the studios are making more money by making fewer movies—and advertising more heavily."

small independent filmmakers and distributors.

Through this latter method, Staats landed the premiere of "The Return of the Secaucus Seven."

Staats saw it at the Seattle International Film Festival last year, and at a private screening put on by Seattle theater-owner Randy Finley. Staats also introduced Finley to Dolack.

Finley, whose distributing firm, specialty films, was handling "Secaucus," offered the premiere to Staats if Dolack would design and draw a promotional poster for the film.

Staats accepted, put up \$2,000 to cover the costs, and took in about \$4,000 in one week's ticket receipts.

Yet choosing the films is the "easy part" of the job — getting them to Missoula on time is not.

Film prints must be acquired through holding companies like the National Film Service, Bogart United Artists Classics, or small private film distributors and collectors. Theater owners must either pick up the prints or have them delivered — c.o.d.

Most repertory houses in large cities have an advantage over the

In October, for example, the Crystal showed the first two movies of the classic Japanese trilogy "Samurai," owned by Japanese businessmen. Before showing at the Crystal, "Samurai" played in La Palma, Calif., from where it was shipped for \$200. Staats picked up the film at the airport, paid the freight fee, showed "Samurai" at the Crystal for four



days, then shipped it c.o.d. to a theater in Atlanta.

Staats can only hope the film is popular enough to reimburse him for the freight and make a profit. He must send a percentage of his ticket receipts to the owner of each film he shows.

"It's a gamble with any film, and I've gotta pray the film will get here on time."

Staats doesn't always win that gamble. Last May, Staats had scheduled the acclaimed German film, "The Marriage of Maria Braun" to run a week. That week, Mount St. Helens erupted, covering Missoula with ash and closing down the Crystal for several days. Staats was left holding the bag for expenses.

But Staats thinks theater owners have an obligation beyond making money — that of being a sympathetic middleman between the consumer and the "sheer mass" of available product. This obligation means providing access to all types of films, allowing the paying moviegoer to compare, contrast and develop a sense by which to judge the quality of movies. But this obligation isn't being fulfilled, says Staats.

"What's happening is that people are getting burned with higher ticket prices and with movies that aren't living up to their advertising. And the movie audience in general is getting very pissed off."

Staats also said that many theater owners and movie producers are driven by a single motive: reaping astronomical profits.

"The people in power are amazingly disengaged from any other aspects. Now, there are always some people who feel there's something more to it than that, and certainly the audience does."

Accountants rather than filmmakers are running the movie business, and their sole motivation of maximum return on any investment has led to a damaging "blockbuster mentality."

"As the accountants tighten the purse strings, the studios are making more money by making fewer movies — and advertising more heavily."

Advertising budgets for some Hollywood films are now equaling their already huge production budgets, and film releases are

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being transformed into carefully managed "media events" designed to lure the consumer to see the film during its first several weeks at the theater — weeks in which studio-backed films make most of their profits.

The most damaging aspect of this profit obsession is a virtual elimination of cultural diversity in current American films. The studios' requirements for big profits are limiting movie ideas to slick, marketable subjects, and

will become increasingly "banalized."

On a recent trip to the seventh annual Telluride Film Festival in Telluride, Colo., Staats drove about 2,400 miles:

"As I drove through town after town, seeing the same movie marquees at theater after theater, the same movies playing everywhere, I got this horrible sense of cultural banality... as depressingly banal as going from city to city and seeing a Mc-

Crystal, many of the films he was showing were so old no promotional poster for the movies existed, so Dolack and Staats created new posters. Dolack's fee? Free admission.

Then Dolack's "salary" inched slowly upward, to three, five and 10 dollars a poster, but as he became successful in other markets he no longer had the time.

Dolack still pens work for the Crystal — the graphic design on the theater's monthly 16-by-6-inch advertising sheets. Each sheet presents a schedule and Staats' provocative, informative summary of each movie.

As for the extended future of the Crystal Theatre, Staats is uncertain. He has no desire to shut it down, but as an artist/businessman, Staats knows he must confront the "Montana dilemma": that only a limited amount of commercial outlets for creativity exists here.

But until whatever and whenever Staats decides, Missoulians won't be too far from the showplace of the most diverse, carefully chosen and consistently first-rate selection of films shown in Montana, and probably one of the most cinematically sophisticated theaters this side of the Mississippi.

"What's happening is that people are getting burned... And the movie audience in general is getting very pissed off."

studios will rarely undertake production of a film that cannot fit into these marketable, categorical niches.

"We have this fascination with being 'current,' but the reality is that the conglomerate studio programming is getting duller and duller — sequels to sequels and remakes of remakes. It's not good for American movies."

Back in his home/office, Staats points to a promotional poster for "Heartland," a movie produced by Missoula-area women in 1979 and filmed in Montana with relatively unknown actors — a film the studios would not finance or distribute.

Then, "Heartland" was invited to the 1980 Berlin Film Festival. The producers did not even have a promotional poster for the film. But they got Monte Dolack to design one with ink he had left over from another poster, traveled the 6,000 miles to enter the festival — and won it.

The studios still refuse to distribute "Heartland."

The movie had a benefit showing in Missoula in December 1979. Four thousand customers attended three showings and in December 1980 the locally produced film ran for six weeks at Missoula's Wilma and Roxy theaters. Staats says the success of "Heartland" is undeniable proof that audiences are hungry for something different, for movie subjects not fitting the usual mold.

But if major studios continue to refuse to distribute or finance such films, their chances for success are slim. Staats fears that unless the studio conglomerates curb their avalanche-profit obsession, diversity in American films will continue to decline and moviegoers won't be able to tell the difference between a horrendous bomb and an artistic masterpiece. Their taste

Donald's hamburgers in every one.

"Monotony is a style encouraging the best public receptivity," says Staats, quoting a Boston film critic.

In maintaining the Crystal as a successful business, Staats has defied this tenet, as well as the heavy odds against a peddler of "art" in a remote area. Staats is also an art publisher, distributing the colorful, detailed poster work of Dolack.

When Staats opened the

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'Scary Monsters' an artistic statement

By W. C. McRAE
Montana Kaimin Reviewer

Because of the peculiarities surrounding rock music, no definitive form, nor even a recognized structure has evolved which can be used for artistic statement. First of all, modern album music is a comparatively young form of expression. Furthermore, because of the idiosyncracies of the industry, individuals rarely last long enough to establish themselves, let alone create a more generalized structure. And, perhaps most obvious of all, many purveyors of rock music are not of sufficient ability or intelligence to create anything so enduring.

But with David Bowie's recent album, "Scary Monsters," one can see the album as he conceives and engineers it emerging into what for him is a stable, flexible vehicle for musical statement. The rock album is no longer for Bowie merely a series of songs. It has become an extended intellectual, artistic statement. And finally it has taken on a form, a structure which he can use as a poet might a sonnet, but one which remains peculiar to modern music.

The form Bowie has used successfully in "Heroes" and "Low" and to a more obvious effect in "Scary Monsters" is that of a series of illuminations of a central intention or vision. Bowie surrounds his subject, examines it from all sides, from the points of view of several different characters, from his angle as creator of this world. He drifts around this center until it is illuminated, or traced as in a

'connect-the-dots' puzzle. Thus completed, it becomes a small world of its own, surrounded and suspended by the mind of its creator, a landscape self-inferred and self-defined. And the world in which he places his characters, one realizes, is the mental world in which Bowie lives.

The geography of "Scary Monsters" is much like the "Diamond Dogs" album, but more internal. The landscape is not of an eventual 1984 where mutants roam, but of the moment. The horror of this world exists right now for Bowie. But more to the

review

point of "Scary Monsters," it is not the bombs and predators of the earlier album which are to blame for the hopeless nihilism, it is partly Bowie himself. "Scary Monsters" is Bowie's self-indictment for the world and the creatures he has helped to create.

The album begins on a shrill note of protest, Bowie shrieking above the jarring, impassioned Japanese, "It's no game!" The song is of total alienation from the world and life, a refusal to understand, to become involved. It is Bowie the artist finding the world as he sees it — sordid.

In songs such as "Ashes to Ashes" and "Fashion," Bowie realizes that by his example, he has created the moral bankruptcy and emotional vacancy which horrify him in the world. He was instrumental in creating the mindless dancers who senselessly follow the dictates of "Fashion" made by men such as himself; he

helped to form the escapist drug takers of "Ashes to Ashes"; he views the disillusioned generation of "Because You're Young," which is willing to forget its scars and dance its life away — a generation he helped to create.

From the point of view of various characters he tells of fear and repression felt by individuals. In the title track, a despairing couple is hounded by fright of the scary monsters. In "Scream Like a Baby," sexual minorities are rounded up off the street and committed to institutions to learn "to live in society."

"Teenage Wildlife" is the central song of the album. It is an elaborate anthem to youth, but like "Ashes to Ashes," it is a parody both of earlier material and the early Bowie. In it, a youth is hunted down and destroyed by "midwives to history." To this young man, Bowie has no answers. He has provided the aesthetics and the example which have caused the youth to dream and to be struck down, but he can do no more. Bowie can only shrug his shoulders, a piper who is himself lost. In another sense, this song refers to the young lovers of the song "Heroes" (on which "Teenage Wildlife" is styled) having to renounce youth and ideals — for in the post-Reagan '80s, heroes of that sort cannot exist.

"Kingdom Come" by television's Tom Verlane becomes for Bowie an anthem not of hope but of despair, where the individual is watched constantly by guards, and who deludes himself to his eventual freedom.

The album ends with a reprisal of "It's No Game," wound down to an exhausted whimper.

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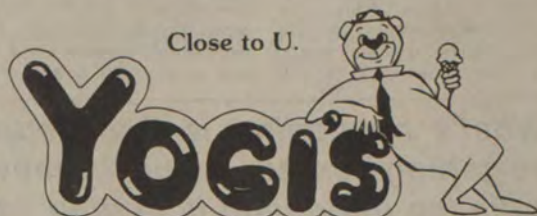
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