7-17-1981

Montana Kaimin, July 17, 1981

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Missoula Filmmakers

Missoula experiences a cinematic renaissance

The shoot-em-up western hero may be part of a dead mythology, but that's not stopping filmmaking in Montana from becoming valuable to the state as both an industry and an art form. Swans Wolf of Bitterroot Films, has produced "Energy and Morality," and is now working on "Idea and Identity," which he called a "culturalanthropological film." Wolf was so busy this week on "Idea and Identity" that he did not have time to further explain the movie. Lex Hames of Westerns Unlimited has produced "The Economics and the Myth." Hames said that "it was about the myth of the West being at odds with economic factors." He said that he wrote and directed the film sponsored by the Montana Committee for the Humanities, and that historian K. Ross Toole was the narrator.

Hames said that Westerns Unlimited is now developing a feature film called "The Real American Cowboy." Hames wrote the script for the movie, which he said "will include documentary footage with a smidgeon of fiction." Hames said that he has already filmed scenes for the movie at the Miles City bucking horse sale. "The Real American Cowboy" is a romantic story with an authentic look at the West. He explained that the plot concerns an eastern photographer who comes west to shoot pictures for a magazine story and ends up having her opinion of cowboys changed by the hard realities of Montana life.

There are hard, dismal elements and economic reality," Hames said. "But a noble romantic does come out of a real experience." Hames and his father, Lee, set up Westerns Unlimited to become a full production company with a Hollywood-style back lot. Their ranch south of Lolo is a museum of wagons, sleighs, saddles, chaps and branding irons. "We're trying to make it more economical for producers to film here," Hames said.

Producers like Hames believe that Missoula has a lot of conditions that make it ideal for filmmakers, and that the movie industry would be good for the area. He said that most of the money for filmmaking is in Los Angeles, but that the city is becoming such a violent and unpleasant place to work that the industry will soon be looking for other locations.

"And it doesn't have to be just western movies," he said. "Within 125 miles of Missoula you have small-town settings, railroads, mountains, and Deer Lodge has the old prison. I think I think that Missoula has a lot of conditions that make it ideal for filmmakers, and that the movie industry would be good for the area. He said that most of the money for filmmaking is in Los Angeles, but that the city is becoming such a violent and unpleasant place to work that the industry will soon be looking for other locations.

"And it doesn't have to be just western movies," he said. "Within 125 miles of Missoula you have small-town settings, railroads, mountains, and Deer Lodge has the old prison. I think
Opinions

The Southgate Mall is eating Missoula

Walk downtown and what do you see?
If you cross the river, you will see the beginnings of a magnificent park; if you stroll from another direction, you will traverse shaded boulevards. Once there, by the bicycle racks and flower boxes, you will see people walking among stores and business that come in all sizes, shapes and prices.

The downtown is where a hash-slinging cafe operates within yards of the city government; where bars hug paperback book stores and natural food restaurants; where the throbbing heart of Missoula should be, and is not.
Now, drive out to the Southgate Mall and what do you see?
After locking your car door and breathing the fumes that permeate the air, you will see acres and acres of parking space. And then, if you gaze across the broad expanse of pavement, you will see more than 20 years ago to teach us the wonders of botany and the sciences of nature. But think also on the activist who spent so many of his years for the wilderness, and for just a moment, think of Clancy Gordon, the man who helped save so much of it.

Think on the man who came here against his will, and is not.
Think on the man who came here against his will, and is not.

To Clancy Gordon, teacher and activist, we bid a sad adieu.

It’s time folks get off John McEnroe’s back. This time the media has gone too far call it overkill, if you want. But surely McEnroe performed superbly at Wimbledon, taking the crown from five-time winner Bjorn Borg on the Fourth of July. McEnroe obviously knows the financial game of Wimbledon, which prides itself on orderly conduct, tradition and arrogant attitudes. But Wimbledon has come out the loser this time; its image is tarnished, and British tennis is suffering. Recent probes into the finances of the All England Club, which sponsors Wimbledon, and its parent, the British Lawn Tennis Association, reveal that the rich are getting richer at the expense of aspiring young tennis players.

For example, some of the $3.5 million in proceeds from the tournament are supposed to go for developing British tennis talent; in 1980, a mere $62,000 went for that purpose.

That’s just one show of Wimbledon hypocrisy. There’s also the shabby officiating done by amateurs — yes, amateurs — who ultimately decide winners by split-second decision making. Yet when a player questions a call, the officials reply, “Go back and play.”
It is hard to take the pomp of Wimbledon seriously when they ask Jimmy Connors to keep his grunting to a minimum when he takes a swing.
Remember the man who was not afraid to take on the arrogant factory owners and polluting industrialists. Remember the man who championed the earth’s cause.
Remember him, and be sad for a moment. For Clancy will no longer fight. July 12, cancer claimed him after the one battle he could not win.
So turn your eyes to the wilds for just a moment, to the rivers, the mountains and sky.
And bid Clancy a fond good-bye.

Jim Bruggers

Bad times for the Superbrat

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Jim Bruggers

Jim Bruggestories, photo essay, poems, variety, and more

Friday, July 17, 1981

DOONESBURY by Garry Trudeau

by Garry Trudeau
Rec center closed until fall

Remember that spot on campus with the bowling alley? The pool tables? The pinball machines? You don't? No wonder. It's the University Center's Recreation Center. And it's not open this summer.

According to UC Director Ray Chapman, it isn't economically feasible to keep the rec center open for the few summer students he claims would use it.

Chapman said the rec center has been open in previous summers, but since bowling and billiards are indoor sports, it has been open in previous summers, but since bowling and billiards are indoor sports, it received little use.

"If just attracted neighborhood kids," he said.

And because opening the rec center during the summer would cause a financial drain, students attending school during other quarters would have to make up for the loss through ASUM subsidies.

Chapman said that no figures were immediately available on the day-to-day cost of running the rec center.

Groups, however, can get into the rec center, but Chapman said they have to pay a $70 rental fee for a two-hour minimum plus time charges for bowling and other activities.

He said in that way, the UC can guarantee a minimum number of people and can control the amount of time it has to be open.

—Tom Alton

Janis Ian plays UM Aug. 17

When singer-songwriter Janis Ian performs at the University of Montana August 17, Missoulians will get a chance to hear a performer one could call truly introspective, and often, truly bitter.

The concert, sponsored by ASUM Programming, will be at 8 p.m. in the University Theatre. Tickets will cost $6 for students, $8 for non-students.

Ian's career began during the mid-1960s, when her first hit, "Society's Child," climbed the charts. Hardly a light or humorous song, it decried the prejudice a rich girl and her poor lover face from the girl's parents.

Ian hit the charts again a decade later, with another song about a bitter adolescence: "At 17."

The concert is the first major show scheduled this summer by ASUM Programming. According to manager-consultant Victor Gotesman, Programming will produce the show itself.

Gotesman said it cost Programming $5,000 to hire Ian for the single show.

But Ian, he said, may put on a little different performance here from what she has done in the past. Primarily an acoustic musician, Gotesman said Ian's show will include a back-up band relying more on electric instruments.

—Greg Gadberry

Briefs

Bucklew to visit UM

Incoming University of Montana President Neil Bucklew will visit Missoula next week in an attempt to get oriented.

Bucklew, who will arrive late July 22 and stay through July 26, will meet with acting President Donald Habbe, former President Richard Bowers, Commissioner of Higher Education John Richardson and others who will be on his staff this fall. Bucklew will also meet with ECOS (the executive committee of the Faculty Senate) on July 25.

"I'm not coming as president or to hold business meetings," Bucklew said. "It's a chance to get oriented." He added that his schedule will be "very loose."

Bucklew said that he and his family are still planning to move to Missoula by the end of August and are "looking forward" to it.

"When you find your mind and heart are somewhere," he said, "you want to get your body there."

—Doug O'Harras

KEEPING UM GREEN, irrigation spigots spew water on to UM's mammary park. Each summer, millions of gallons of water are pumped on to UM lawns. It takes at least three days to cover the campus once. Photo by John Carson.

Campus Drive will be closed

Campus Drive, the street running along the base of Mt. Sentinel, will be closed between East Beckwith Avenue and Van Haren Street from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, July 31.

The University of Montana Physical Plant is going to paint and clean the street.

There imagination dwell the most
Upon a woman won or a woman lost?

William Butler Yeats

BUYING

I will match or exceed any legitimate advertised buy price on coins, sterling, scrap gold, (class rings, wedding bands) etc.

DAVID HAKES

HOLIDAY VILLAGE

Next to Skaggs

Sorry, no phone quotes
The LILY Restaurant
515 South Higgins Upstairs 542-0002
Now Serving the Finest Food Available in Missoula.

* BOURBON LACE CLASSIC FRENCH POMMELE SOUP with clams, shrimp, ool, red snapper, and crab.

* GATEAU de CREPES a LA FLORENTE—A layering of crepes filled with cream cheese, spinach, and mushrooms and topped with a Mornay sauce.

* INDONESIAN SATAY—Sliced beef served on the half shell and marinated in a satay and brandy cream sauce.

* SUPREMES DE VOLAILLE AUX CHAMPIGNONS—Boneless chicken breast sauteed in butter and covered with a mushroom and cream sauce.

* SOUS-PRÉMS DE VOLAILLE AUX CHAMPIGNONS—Boneless chicken breast sauteed in butter and covered with a mushroom and cream sauce.

* SZECHWANESE STIR-FRIED CHICKEN with cabbage and cashews.

* TRUITE EN CHEMISE—Montana grown trout wrapped in a crepe and served with a mushroom and Madiera wine sauce.

* TRADITIONAL AU POIVRE—Ticken breast sauteed in butter and covered with a mushroom and cream sauce.

* ROASTED RAINBOW TROUT from Northern Montana, poached in butter and wine with slivers of almonds with coffee or tea and Alice's famous salad of broil. Broil and butter.

WE HAVE IT ALL!
Fabulous Breakfasts
Excellent Sandwiches
Fresh Bake Goods
AND
WORLD FAMOUS T-SHIRTS
... WHERE
COFFEE IS STILL
A QUARTER
ACROSS FROM JESSE HALL AT THE CORNER OF DALLY AND ARTHUR ON THE WEST SIDE OF CAMPUS
MON.-FRI. 7 AM-10 PM
SAT.-SUN. 8 AM-10 PM

SO GOOD IN SO MANY WAYS
TRouT AlMONDINE
Rainbow Trout from Northern Montana, poached in butter and wine with slivers of almonds with coffee or tea and Alice's famous salad or broil. Broil and butter.

5.95

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THE MARX BROS.
Outings

Bicycling thrives in Missoula

Every summer at least 2,400 famished and weary, touring cyclists arrive in Missoula to take advantage of the Conference Center's financial boost by patronizing local restaurants, clubs, theaters, stores, and bike shops. Those who tour and bike ships upon cruising into Missoula, dubbed the "official bicycle capital of the United States" by a resident hotel owner.

These cyclists are serious about cycling, often covering thousands of miles of American roads. Most average a stay of two nights in Missoula. Then it's time to hit the road again.

Ennie Fransceschi, owner of the Birchwood Hotel, 609 S. Orange St., said one reason bikers peddle through Missoula is because it's part of the Trans-America Bicycle Trail, a well-known route that links the national parks from the United States and Canada.

Birchwood is a meeting place, a place to "rest and relaxation," mainly for touring cyclists, in Fransceschi's words. Fransceschi said more than 4,000 cyclists and hikers stayed at Birchwood last year, with independent travelers, others part of a group. Cyclists from all 50 states as well as more than 400 foreigners paid the $3.50 overnight fee at the hostel last summer.

Birchwood has one large bunkroom with a 23-person capacity plus a convenient kitchen, lounge, bike storage from the rooms and showers.

According to Fransceschi, hosts began in Europe, and soon other countries adopted the idea of resting places for people "traveling by their own steam."

He said there are more than 400 hostels in more than 100 countries.

A hostel near Ronan and two hostels near Glacier National Park (west and south sides) allow cyclists on the Great Park North trip from Missoula to Jasper, Alberta, to ease the pace of a long day's ride.

"They are nice gateways for entering into the park," Fransceschi said.

Not only is Missoula a temporary haven for cycling tourists, but it is also home for the national Bicentennial, Inc. (Bicycle Travel Association) headquarters and a magazine, Bicycle Forum. Both have offices at 430 N. Higgins Ave. A bicycle club has about eight bike shops and countless commuter, pedal- for- enjoyment, weekend cyclists also inhabit the city.

However, the commuters, peddlers and weekenders need laws to live and wheel by.

A new licensing system for bicycles used within the city limits, touring cyclists not included, has recently been implemented by the Missoula City Council's ad hoc committee and a citizen's bike advisory committee.

Len Losen, council and ad hoc committee member, said that the program will serve the purposes:

• bring money to support bike development within the city, and

• make it easier to identify with the license sticker.

Licenses, which are $5 for adults, $8 for families and $2 for children, are good for four years. They may be purchased at City Hall, 201 W. Spruce, at parks around town and from bike shop dealers.

Denise Sparrow, owner of New Era Bicycles, 101 Brooks, said that he has sold 65 licenses in almost two months. The idea of registration, Sparrow said, is to make it more difficult for people to sell a stolen bike. Those caught removing or destroying a bicycle sticker may receive a maximum fine of $50, according to the new city ordinance.

So if you're a restaurant owner or bike dealer, give thanks to the Big Wheel in the sky for that touring cyclist just passing through who craves a nice, hot meal or that weekend peddler who needs his brakes adjusted.

Remember, this summer, you are living in the "official bicycling capital of the nation."

—Renata Birkenshoel

Poets, artists come to UM July 20

Starting July 20, the University of Montana will host "A Conference on the Creative Person" — an 11-day series of presentations and discussions on creativity, art and artists.

The conference, feature presentations by Maxine Kumin, the winner of the 1973 Pulitzer Prize for poetry; James Welch, Montana poet and author; Karen Chesnut, Western Front poet and publisher; and others part of a group. Cyclists from all 50 states as well as more than 400 foreigners paid the $3.50 overnight fee at the hostel last summer.

"This is not designed to get a bunch of artists together to talk to each other," conference director Carol Ann Russell said.

Instead, she said, the stress will be to make all people aware of their own creative talents and their own need to be creative.

Russell, a Missoula poet and program manager for UM Continuing Education and Summer Programs, said hopes the conference will help the public better understand the role of art.

"There are, of course, for creative people today," she said. "People are saying that a liberal or creative person doesn't prepare a person well for society, especially a society pushing on entrepreneurs. Art is criticized for being elitist, cyclic and subjective."

The conference is being funded by a $4,965 grant from the Montana Arts Council Committee for the Humanities. Russell and others from UM are coordinating their time to help organize the events.

All events are free, and open to the public.

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The Keynote address

• Palistar Prize winning poet Maxine Kumin will give the presentation July 23, 8 p.m., in the Social Science Building Room 356.

Presentations and Performances

• James Welch, author of "Winter in the Blood" and "The Death of Jim Loney," will read from his works July 22, 8 p.m., at the Social Science Building, Room 356.

• A Montana Chautauqua, an evening of dance, film and discussion, will be held July 20, 8 p.m., at the Music Recital Hall.

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• A Vermont Chautauqua, an evening of dance, film and discussion, will be held July 20, 8 p.m., at the Music Recital Hall.

• "Amiotte," a documentary on Oglala Sioux artist and teacher Arthur Amiotte, will be presented July 20, 10:30 a.m., at the Women's Center 215.

• "Kickin' the Loose Grave Home," a film on the life and works of poet Richard Hugo, will be presented July 20, 8:30 p.m., at the Music Recital Hall.

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Filmmakers

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you could make a great horror movie at the Dillon campus.

The biggest problem facing Missoula filmmakers is the lack of local funding. Annick Smith called Missoula "a wonderful place to shoot films and do creative work, but a terrible place to raise money."

Smith said that she had attended the recent Sundance Institute convention for independent film­makers, and that actor-producer Robert Redford was there and expressed interest in inde­pendently produced western movies. She said that fund rais­ing requires a lot of traveling and letter writing, and that "It's very hard to complete."

Hames said that since the disaster of "Heaven's Gate," a multi-million dollar failure filmed partly in Montana, the cause of the western film has suffered in Hollywood. A production com­pany like Western Unlimited, he said, could have provided "Heaven's Gate" producers with the support and expertise that would have made the movie better and less expensive to film.

Bill Kittredge, a professor of English at the University of Montana, helped on the scripting of "Heartland" and is now interested in doing the script for a film on the role of women in the West. "That came out of the hubbub of oil exploration," he said. "It's very exciting." Krittedge said that he has much different views of a script than the writer did. "You just have to hope," he said, "that the changes are good."

The logical step for the script writer, according to Kittredge, is to become a producer so he can have more control over directors and cinematographers.

Kittredge said that he is interested in writing scripts that deal with community and political conflicts. "It doesn't necessarily provide answers," he said, "except that we had better be doing something about these problems."

—Tom Alton