UM journalist not deterred by shuttle explosion

By Christopher Ransick
Kaimin Reporter

Virginia Braun, UM news and publications editor for University of Montana News and Publications, said the explosion of space shuttle Challenger yesterday "hasn't changed my mind about wanting to go" on a shuttle mission as the nation's first journalist in space. Challenger exploded about 75 seconds after liftoff, killing all seven crew members.

Braun received notification yesterday morning, prior to the disaster, that her application to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's program to send a journalist on a shuttle mission had been received.

That program is similar to the one that selected Christa McAuliffe, a teacher from Concord, N.H., to participate in yesterday's ill-fated mission.

Yesterday's tragedy comes one day after the 19th anniversary of the United States' only other fatal space mission. On Jan. 27, 1967, three Apollo 3 astronauts were killed in a launch pad fire that ignited during a rehearsal of liftoff procedures.

See 'Braun,' page 8.

Space shuttle Challenger explodes; all on board are killed

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A catastrophic explosion blew apart the space shuttle Challenger 75 seconds after liftoff Tuesday, sending schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe and six NASA astronauts to a fiery death in the sky eight miles out from Kennedy Space Center.

President Reagan said, "We mourn seven heroes."

The accident defied quick explanation, though a slow-motion replay seemed to show an initial explosion in one of two peel-away rocket boosters igniting the shuttle's huge external fuel tank. The tank burst into a fireball that destroyed Challenger high above the Atlantic while crew families and NASA officials watched in despair from the Cape.

Other observers noted that the boosters continued to fly crazily through the sky after the explosion, apparently under full power, indicating that the total explosion might have originated in the giant tank itself.

"We will not speculate as to the specific cause of the explosion based on that footage," Jesse Moore, NASA's top shuttle administrator, said Tuesday.

McAuliffe, a teacher from Concord, N.H., was to be the nation's first teacher in space.

The explosion followed an apparently flawless launch, delayed two hours as officials analyzed the danger from icing that formed in the frosty Florida morning along the shuttle's new launch pad.

"There were no signs of abnormality on the screens," flight controllers monitored Challenger's liftoff and ascent, a source said.

The source, at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, said the blast occurred yesterday afternoon.

See Shuttle, page 3.

Budget cuts hit UM athletic department; sports programs may be cut

By Ken Pekoc
Kaimin Sports Reporter

Two men's and women's sports programs will "probably" be dropped at the University of Montana for the 1986-87 academic year, Athletic Director Harley Lewis said yesterday.

He would not elaborate on which programs might be dropped, but said no changes will be made until Sept. 1.

Lewis said the athletic department does "envison a reduction in the number of sports offered at UM next year to accommodate savings."

When asked how definitive the plan is, Lewis said, "We'd better stick with the 'probably' right now.

Lewis said criteria on which programs in keep or cut will be considered after deciding which sports programs are the overall strengths in the Pacific Northwest, specifically in Montana high schools, and involvement of fans, student body and athletes at UM.

Studies will be made in these areas by the University Athletic Committee and the Big Sky and Mountain West Athletic conferences.

Lewis said dropping a sport must be handled with caution because of the possible impact both conferences. For example, wrestling will be dropped at Idaho State after this season, leaving just four wrestling programs in the Big Sky.

NCAA rules say five schools must participate in the sport to keep conference.


Budget cuts will hit five sports programs

By Ken Pekoc
Kaimin Sports Reporter

A $20,000 reduction in the remaining 1985-86 budget for the University of Montana's athletic department will be felt by the five sports not yet under way this school year, according to Athletic Director Harley Lewis.

"We're not going unscathed," Lewis said yesterday, referring to the tightening of budgets in the state's university system. "We have (football) figures coming at us from several directions — personnel figures, the governor's 2 percent cuts."

The five sports affected will be golf and men's and women's tennis and track.

"We have about a $20,000 problem now," Lewis said, adding "Much of that can be overcome" between now and July 1 — the end of the fiscal year.

Lewis said this is the toughest time of the year for athletic cuts, because the highest budgeted sports are already over or in progress.

The current budgets of the five programs total $198,100 and the breakdown is as follows: Women's track, $76,000; women's tennis, $19,500; men's track, $60,000; men's tennis, $13,500; and golf, $5,100.

These figures allow for such expenses as travel money, equipment costs and scholarships. Of these costs, travel is the only area not yet expanded, according to Lewis.

See 'Lewis' page 8.
Mercer: Have you read the Constitution's First Amendment?

First we had North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms campaigning for a takeover of CBS. Now we have ASUM President Bill Mercer trying to control news content of the Kaimin.

Editorial

Mercer's latest ploy is to have the ASUM Publications Board, a student group that oversees ASUM publications, "specify areas of news concentration for any ASUM publication." Mercer demands that these specifications "be adhered to and enforced," or the "irresponsible" editor would be fired.

In the same breath, Mercer insists the board "rigorously defend and uphold First Amendment rights." It's obvious that Mercer has no idea what First Amendment rights are.

All through history, powerful leaders have tried to squash opposition. The Roman Catholic Church tried to silence heretics and the King of England created the Star Chamber court to judge and sentence anyone found publishing criticisms of his authority.

Now we have Bill Mercer trying to censor information that offends his administration and punish those who are responsible for the publication. It seems logical that someone who majors in political science and accepts the position of student government president would take seriously the words of our Constitution.

But it appears that Bill Mercer learned neither the meaning of those words nor why our founding fathers included freedom of the press in the First Amendment.

It was Thomas Jefferson who said that the basis of government is the opinion of the people and that the first objective is to protect that right. He said, "were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without (the press) or (the press) without government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter." We need a student government without Mercer.

Mercer's attempt to control the content of the Kaimin is not only a misuse of power; it is also a direct threat to freedom of the press. Mercer believes that ASUM's power of the purse justifies tighter control of the Kaimin's news content. He said that because the Kaimin receives ASUM funds, the Kaimin is a student government newspaper. But his words are those of a despot. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit ruled in Joyner vs. Whiting that college administrators do not have the power to exercise control over a student publication because the publication is funded and sponsored by that administration.

The court in Milliner vs. Turner ruled that the First Amendment barred anything but advisory control over student newspapers, because any restriction would impede the free flow and expression of ideas.

Freedom of expression, including freedom of the press, is what the First Amendment is all about. Any control of news content only undermines our right to a free press and ultimately to all our freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution.

Maybe Mercer slept through that class. But if he ever bothered to read the Constitution, he would have learned all about it.

Faith Conroy

BLOOM COUNTY
by Berke Breathed

1, Gramm-Rudman

Greetings, humana. My name is the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Deficit Reduction Amendment Personally, I prefer to be called the Terminator, but if you insist on calling me Gramm-Rudman, I'll overlook it for now. You'll come around.

I was born with a stroke of Ronald Reagan's pen on December 13, 1985. My mission is to seek out and destroy the $200 billion yearly budget deficits that my predecessors, Gramm-Latta and Kemp-Roth, created earlier this decade—although the conservative overlords claimed, back then, that 1986 would bring a $25.5 billion surplus.

If I survive, I will destroy American higher education, especially at public schools like yours.

Let me explain. I am designed to reduce the federal budget deficit by about $36 billion a year for the next five years. A target deficit is set for each of these years. In 1991, according to my instructions, the target deficit must be zero.

Every August, the General Accounting Office (GAO) will receive estimates of the deficit for the fiscal year beginning October 1 from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)—the administration's number crunchers—and the Congressional Budget Office (CBO)—Congress' green eyeshade boys. If the estimated deficit is more than $36 billion over the target deficit, the GAO will draw up a plan for across-the-board cuts. On September 1, the president will issue an order making these mandatory cuts effective on October 15.

However, the 1986 fiscal year, which began last October 1, is treated as a special case. This year's target deficit is $172 billion but because the fiscal year will be half over when the cuts take effect in March, this year's deficit is projected to be $168.3 billion, a cut of $11.7 billion.

Which brings me back to college students. OMB and CBO submitted their deficit figures to the GAO two weeks ago, and it looks like I'll slash $244 million in student financial aid. The president will issue his order for across-the-board 4.3 percent cuts this week. The cuts will take effect on March 1.

Six of your student aid programs are on my chopping block:

• Pell Grants, a $3.58 billion program which offers direct aid to students from low- and middle-income families, will be cut $154 million. Sixty-eight thousand students will be dropped from the program nationwide.

• Supplemental Opportunity Grants, a $412.5 million program designed to help the neediest students, will be cut $18 million.

• College Work-Study, a $592.5 million program which helps students work their way through school, will be cut $25 million.

• State Student Incentive Grants, a $76 million program which provides matching federal funds for state student aid programs, will be cut $3.2 million.

• Federal Direct Student Loans, a $218 million loan program administered by the federal government, will be cut $9.3 million.

• Guaranteed Student Loans, a $3.3 billion program providing security for private banks making student loans, will be cut $34 million.

The cuts in student aid for 1986 are just an appetizer compared to the coming main course. The target deficit for 1987 is $144 billion, making a $60-billion budget cut. I can take the built-in $10 billion fudge factor—necessary for next year.

And next year in this case means the next federal year beginning in 9 months on October 1, 1986. Where I got a 4.3 percent bite in 1986, I get a 30 percent bite in 1987. We won't even get into 88, 89 and 90 yet. You're dead meat, Maynard.

Now who is going to fight for you when much of the rest of the government—for much larger stakes—is receiving the same treatment? Certainly not Education Secretary William Bennett. He seems so busy pursuing his own little right-wing agenda that he appears to have little time left over to look after—or even notice, really—the needs of anyone other than a fewing Eagle Forum crowd.

So, don't write your senators and representative. Don't get involved in the next election. Don't keep informed on the issues. Don't even vote in the ASUM elections coming up. Go ahead, human, make my day.

Bill Thomas is a graduate in public administration.
Media's shuttle tragedy coverage gets mixed reviews

Mike Dawson

Grief was as much a part of the space shuttle news coverage yesterday as the smoke and flames.

The nation watched the families and supporters of a New Hampshire schoolteacher as they witnessed the flames engulf Challenger and Christa McAuliffe.

The three major networks showed footage of McAuliffe's parents at the launch sight and of her high school students in Concord, N.H. shortly after the explosion yesterday.

When questioned by the Kamin, University of Montana Radio-TV staff and faculty members disagreed on whether the pictures of grief were in good editorial judgment.

Radio-TV Visiting Lecturer Bill Knowles agreed with the network judgement. Knowles worked 20 years at ABC News, most recently as west coast bureau chief in Los Angeles.

The country shares the grief with the family and you have to see them to share it," he said.

The footage added a human side to the event. Knowles said, which is important because the country is in love with the space program.

Knowles agreed that decisions to publish should be discussed and thought out. "Buying the competition is a subconscious element of the process," he said. "You shouldn't really be competing by the competitive factor, but you are."

However, Greg MacDonald, KUOM production director, disagreed. "I don't think it added anything to the story," MacDonald said. "Broadcasting footage a few days later would have been in better taste, he said." KJUL producer/director William Marcus agreed with MacDonald adding that he felt "disturbed" by the footage. It was an intensely private moment that you thought you shouldn't be watching," Marcus said.

Radio-TV Chairman Joe Durso concurred with Knowles' opinion. Durso was a news director of an all news radio station before coming to UM.

"Any time you're faced with a decision like this, it's important that you talk about it in the news room," Durso said. "We have our own judgement, not programming judgement." Durso has made similar judgments throughout his career. "There are no right answers, he said, but only case by case decisions.

I guess we always knew there would be a day like this," said Glenn A congressional investigation was immediately announced, but many lawmakers were quick to express support for the nation's manned space effort.

Today, our shock turns to sadness," said House speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. "We salute those who risked and gave their lives to serve our country at the last great frontiers. We salute those who died performing exploits that the people of my age grew up reading about in comic books or in fiction."

Lost along with the $1.2 billion space shuttle were a $100-million satellite that was to become an important part of NASA's space-based shuttle communications network and a smaller $10 million payload that was to have studied Halley's comet.

It was the second disaster to strike NASA's pioneering space program. In January 1986 astronauts Von Braun, Grissom, Edward White and Roger Chaffee burned to death while preparing for an Apollo flight when a fire destroyed the capsule during a training drill.

Four Soviet cosmonauts have died in space accidents since 1971 — in 1967 and three in 1971. Today's tragedy reminds us that danger awaits all who push back the frontier of space," Bush said after his arrival at Kennedy Space Center. "It reminds us that the great adventure of space travel requires men and women of spirit and bravery.

Challenger's final seconds went like this: "Go at throttle up," flight director Mike Smith told Challenger's crew, noting the ship had achieved full engine power. "Roger, go at throttle up," Mike Smith, the pilot, said. Seconds later, an explosion followed by the devastating space age fireball.

At Mission Control, there was silence.

Not a word was heard from the five men and two women aboard the ship.
Two students enter the ASUM presidential race

By Kevin McRae

Two University of Montana students have entered the ASUM presidential race. Paul Tuts, a junior in political science, and Mike Craig, a senior also in political science, delivered the required candidate petitions to the ASUM office Friday.

ASUM bylaws require candidates to obtain signatures of 1 percent of the student body before they are considered official candidates.

Candidate petitions be available Jan. 20 and must be completed and delivered to the ASUM office by Feb. 3. Tuts running mate is Mary McLeod, a senior in political science and business administration, Howard Crawford, a junior in communications and pre-law, is Craig's running mate.

ASUM general elections will be held on March 5 and 6.

UM housing director takes leave

By Adina Lindgren

University of Montana Director of Housing Tom Hayes has unofficially taken leave of his regular responsibilities to work on a report for the housing office.

Hayes said the leave will be officially announced Jan. 31 after it has been discussed at the Board of Regents meeting in Dillon this week.

Ron Brunell, residence halls director, John Piquette, food service director, and Keith Larson, family housing director, previously reported to Hayes but now will be under the jurisdiction of Auxiliary Services Director George Mitchell, who suggested Hayes work on the report.

In the report, Hayes will make recommendations for changes to be made in UM housing during the next five years.

Although the majority of his work will be conducted at UM, Hayes said he will travel to at least seven northwestern universities to compare staffing patterns in the residence halls and family housing.

Hayes said he will work on the report until July 1, after which he may resign from his position.

Environmentalists plan preservation rally

Petitions and a rally are part of a group's plan to tell Montana's congressional delegation that a roadless area between Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness should be off-limits to development.

An environmental group, the Badger Chapter of the Glacier/Two Medicine Alliance, collected signatures that will be presented to Sen. Max Baucus' Missoula office today.

The group will gather in the park between the library and the University Center at 12:30 p.m. before marching to Bau cus' office. Baucus is in Washington, D.C., but his staff will accept the petition.

Chapter President, Mike Bader, a UM sophomore in recreation management, said the 103,000-acre area known as the Badger/Two Medicine is crucial to the grizzly and wolf populations.

He said the area could be preserved as wilderness if Montana's senators and representatives see that it's wanted by enough people.

Companies are interested in developing the area. Bader said, because preliminary seismic testing shows a high probability that gas and oil deposits are there.

He added that if the area is not protected, oil wells could be drilled within two miles of Glacier Park.

The state congressional delegation will recommend to the Congress what areas to designate as wilderness. Bader said, adding that the recommendation is usually approved.

CB will discuss food service

University of Montana Food Service Director John Piquette will discuss current food service issues at the Central Board meeting at 7 p.m. in the University Center Mt. Sentinel Room.

Also during the meeting, CB will debate and vote on a resolution calling for Auxiliary Services Director George Mitchell to submit a budget history of his department for the last three fiscal years and to form a student advisory committee to oversee Auxiliary Services.

Speaker Monumental: Representative Pat Williams will speak to UM students today at 10:30 a.m. in the Theatre in the UM Fine Arts Building.

Meetings All members of the Senate and the Faculty Senate will meet at 12:30 today between the UC and Library to receive the UC Senate Report. A reading of the report will be presented to members in an open meeting for the Rocky Mountain Front Grazing Association.

Coffee, tea, and donuts will be available after the meeting. Senator Ralph Brown will be in the East Union, Feb. 9, today at 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the UC lobby.

Intervisors Mark and Fred will interview interested students on Monday, Feb. 5 and Wednesday, Feb. 7. Sign up for the interviews at the Counter in Room 148 of the Lodge.

Racal Disp will interview students today in Room 410 of the lodge.

Workshops "Interviewing Techniques" will be today's workshop from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in UC 420.

Disertation An M.S. defense will be held Thursday, January 30, 1986 from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Clinical Psychology Center.

The titles of the dissertation is "Proctor of Sex Offenders: Forensic and Treatment Implications".

Entertainment THE LADY'S NOT FOR BURNING will run Jan. 29-31 and Feb. 1 in the Reecer Theatre at 8 p.m. Tickets are $2. For ticket information, call the Box Office in the Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center, 243-2890.

U of M French Club presents French T.A. Marion Assan Pour, who will offer a slide show tonight at 8 p.m. in Richey Hall 202.

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String Orchestra of the Rockies plans concert

By John Kappes

The String Orchestra of the Rockies, which is made up of university faculty and professional musicians from around the Rocky Mountain region, will present its annual Winter Concert Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall.

Roger McDonald, an instructor at the University of Montana, is the featured soloist for Handel's Oboe Concerto in G Minor. The program also includes pieces by Mozart, Bartok and Respighi ("Ancient Airs and Dances").

The String Orchestra, which performs without a conductor, is the state's only professional chamber ensemble. Tickets for the concert are $5 for students, $7 general. Call 721-0331 for more information.

Other events this week:
- Christopher Fry's verse-comedy, "The Lady's Not For Burning," completes its run Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Masquer Theater. All seats are $5.
- The Star Wars trilogy will be screened Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the Oasis Theater (the Undergraduate Lecture Hall). Each of the three films begins twice nightly, at 7 and 9:30 p.m. A series ticket is $5 for students, $7.50 general, at the door.
- "B/One at a Time," eight Flathead Valley photographers, through Feb. 8 at the Missoula Museum of the Arts, 335 N. Pattee.

\[[Snowy Mountains image\]

Entertainment

"The Makioka Sisters": Watching as a privileged world recedes

By Ross Best

Kammer Reiniger

When the annual stereophonic series are announced, the United States is always a cowboy. (Just ask Moammar Khadafy.) Russia drinks vodka, France turns up its nose, Italy pinches, and Montana is cold. Japan is Number One, but still a samurai.

\[['The Makioka Sisters'] image

Review

King Arthur and his associates could have been samurai. Their broadswords wouldn't have cut it, but with the help of translators their code of honor would have been honored at thousands of locations nationwide.

Heroes save damsels from boorish dragons. The damsels, though, are often as imaginary as the dragons themselves. They are seldom women and never just folks. They rarely get their own movies.

The Makioka Sisters. Japanese release made in 1983 and set in 1938, hangs out with four damsels during a dragon shortage. The sisters are the remnants of the moneyed Makioka family. Tsuruko and Sachiko married men who took the Makioka name so the family would die out. The younger sisters, Yukiko and Teako, are single-mindedly single dragons wanted.

The rules allow friends, employers, and even strangers to nominate candidates, but the confirmation hearings are grueling. Yukiko goes first, because she's the older. She is demure and picky and breaks many a marriage broker. Teako rebels and flirts beneath her station. The family flares up. Tears Hemingway said courage was grace under pressure. He might have said the same of beauty. The Makioka sisters are beautiful even in their squabbling, even as their privileged world recedes. World War II, still unforeseen, imposes an ironic beauty on the proceedings. And the camera glides, beautifully, around the houses as if it lives there. The cherry blossoms are bindingly beautiful. Kon Ichikawa (age 70) directed this, the third film version of Junichiro Tanizaki's novel of the same title. The film is long and the first half takes its time, but patrons of the arts are patient. Grade: A

ASUM PROGRAMMING PRESENTS THE

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Braun
Continued from page 1.

The $1.2 billion shuttle, one of four, was on the 25th shuttle mission when it exploded. The Challenger had completed 10 of those missions.

Though the first report of the disaster was a shock, Braun said "I still want to go."

"I couldn't believe it. It seemed unreal," Braun said of the shuttle's explosion, adding that because of her involvement with the program, she feels somehow closer to the tragedy. "I feel just terrible for the people involved and their families," she said.

Braun, a licensed pilot since she was in college, said all people in the aeronautical industry are aware of the risks of their profession. When she decided to apply for the Journalist in Space program, she understood the possibility of an accident like the one that occurred yesterday.

"You have to fly a little scared to be a good pilot and a safe pilot," she said.

Braun said she applied to the program because she believes her background in aviation and 12 years in journalism are good credentials for someone who would report on a shuttle mission.

Braun said the 12-page application she completed required her to include a brief autobiography, medical and professional history, and two essays.

In one essay, she was required to explain in detail what approach she would take in reporting a shuttle mission. In the other essay, she described what role journalists might play in reporting from space 15 to 26 years from now.

Braun said she would report the mission from a "human interest angle," trying to communicate the experience to a broad range of people from many nations.

That will be the key to "space journalism" in the future, she said, adding that some major precedents, such as freedom of the press while reporting from space will be established in the coming years

Those guidelines may be difficult to establish because of the international implications of space missions, she said, adding that reporters may send their reports back to "Earth" and not to a single nation's media center.

Braun said she will know by March 1 whether she has been chosen as one of 40 regional nominees. The number of nominees will be narrowed to five by April 4. Those five will then be narrowed to two and the final selection will be made in late April.

Lewis
Continued from page 1.

When asked if any of the five would lose travel funds to participate in events away from Missoula, Lewis said, "They all will!"

He added that a hiring freeze has been established on two football coaching positions vacated by the firing of Larry Donovan and seven members of his staff. One of the positions was full-time and the other part-time.

Sports
Continued from page 1.

The possibility of adding Eastern Washington as an affiliate Big Sky member for wrestling would solve the issue, and "is a very real possibility," said Big Sky Commissioner Ron Stephenson in a Kaimin interview. He added that a proposal to admit an affiliate must first be approved by the NCAA Wrestling Committee and then the NCAA Executive Committee.

Another NCAA standard the conferences must work around is being recognized at the Division I level.

Lewis said the Big Sky Conference must crown champions in six different sports to allow the conference to remain in Division I.

Currently, seven men's programs fit the Division I requirement.

Pop Quiz
Continued from page 5

ANSWERS
1. Lewis Carroll
2. No, it is an autonomous region of China
3. Six
4. The University of North Carolina
5. Kugelstreiher

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