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### Equipment demonstration, Montana Speech, Hearing and Language Clinic

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# University of Montana

Office of University Relations • Missoula, Montana 59812 • (406) 243-2522

DATE: November 17, 1982

TO: Editors and News Directors

FROM: Maribeth Dwyer, News Editor

RE: Equipment demonstration, Friday, November 19, 2 p.m., University of Montana Speech, Hearing & Language Clinic, basement of Student Health Service, 634 Eddy

About \$15,000 worth of varied and sophisticated nonvocal equipment will be demonstrated. You will be welcome to try it yourself. This equipment is designed to help people who have lost their capacity for speech or who will never develop the ability to communicate effectively by speech alone.

Some of the devices use synthesized speech to actually produce speech sounds, words and sentences. Others write or print out messages. Still others drive a computer, monitoring and printing this communication information.

Specialized switches allow even the most severely handicapped to take advantage of this hardware.

The equipment will be used to train students in the UM Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and to help individuals ranging from children with birth defects to people suffering from progressive neurological disease or the effects of injuries or strokes.

The equipment is made available to the University by Lions Clubs International, District 37D.

The program Friday will last about an hour and includes official reception of the equipment and comments by UM President Neil Bucklew. Charles Parker, chairman of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, will explain the equipment and the educational program in which it will be used.

Representing Lions Clubs International, District 37D, will be Dan Sturdevant, Helena, district governor; E. Dale Pelton, Kalispell, chairman, Nonvocal Committee; and Don Aadsen, Ronan, liaison officer, Nonvocal Committee and past district governor.

Equivalent facilities and personnel are located in Seattle, Denver and Minneapolis. Now those who need this kind of help can get it in Missoula.

I hope you can come Friday.