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University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations, "UM Alumni phonathon nets \$10,132 - Kalispell" (1984). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 8657.
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University of Montana

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MEDIA RELEASE

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UM ALUMNI PHONATHON NETS \$10,132

MISSOULA--

The University of Montana phonathon to alumni living in the Kalispell area raised \$10,132, the highest amount raised in any city in the state.

The phonathon was conducted April 3 at First Interstate Bank Kalispell. Pledges were received from 130 alumni. The total included a \$5,000 pledge for a scholarship. The average gift in Kalispell was about \$40, which is \$11 higher than the average gift in the four other in-state phonathons.

"We really didn't know what to expect in Kalispell since the university had never held a phonathon here before," said David R. "Moose" Miller, chairman of the event. "We were all surprised beyond our wildest dreams."

Serving as callers were Nikki Sliter, Shirley Miller, Rex Boller, Jim Kelley, Susie Clark, Lindy and Doug James, Keith Radabah, Janet Peterson, Web Cory, Tami Smith, Doug Morton, Al Hims1, Harry Farrington, Ron Christman, Brian Cloutier, Mark Agather, Max Agather and Bob Newgard. Also helping were alumni representatives Donna Davis and Mary Lou Ratzburg, both of Polson, and Lori Smithwick of Kalispell.

The phonathons are conducted by the UM Foundation and the UM Alumni Association to raise money for the university's Excellence Fund. The money provides extra benefits to the university, such as scholarships, additional materials for the library and research grants to faculty.

The national goal for the Excellence Fund is \$200,000. Other phonathons and their totals are: Missoula, \$7,598; Great Falls, \$4,881; Billings, \$7,335; and Helena, \$5,565. A student phonathon to contact alumni nationwide will be conducted from the UM campus in early May and will complete the campaign.