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Emergence of Montana State University Foundation as strong factor in future development forecast

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Emergence of the Montana State University Foundation as a strong factor in future development of the University was forecast here today by Dr. Robert Johns, MSU president, at the opening of a three-day meeting of the foundation's board of trustees.

Dr. Johns called on the trustees to help the University organize its assets to the dual end of providing top notch education for Montana youth and contributing materially to the state's economic growth. He listed as assets MSU's size and location and the quality of its administrative staff, faculty and students.

He stressed that the development of the University as a source of brain power and of scientific knowledge deriving from research is closely tied to Montana's economic future. Every state that has improved its economy since World War II has put a disproportionately large share of its resources into higher education, he pointed out.

The president told the trustees that their meeting to help chart a course for the University to follow for the next decade would mark "the most important three days in the history of MSU."

"We have the team, we know our target and how much money we will need to hit it," Dr. Johns told the board. "It is your mission to help us attain our goals."

At the close of the Friday morning session on campus, presided over by Glenn H. Larson of Thompson Falls, foundation president, the group drove to the University's installation at Lubrecht Forest for a weekend of further meetings on foundation business.

Foundation officers in attendance besides Larson are Oakley Coffee, Missoula, secretary, and Robert T. Pantzer, Missoula, treasurer.

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Other trustees participating in the sessions are Ian B. Davidson, Great Falls broker; D. Gordon Rognlien, Kalispell lawyer, and Robert E. Sheridan, Missoula businessman.