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Cover and faculty and Grizzly sports profile photos were provided by J.P. Gabriel and Yarrow Kramer of CHISEL Industries. Images were taken from UM’s regional and national award-winning television commercial campaign created under the direction of Executive Vice President James P. Foley.

This report was produced by Rita Munzenrider, Alex Strickland, Brianne Burrowes, Erik Leithe, Cary Shimek, Patia Stephens and photographer Todd Goodrich of University Relations, and graphic designer Neal Wiegert of UM Printing and Graphic Services. Freelance photographers Laurie Schendel Lane and Steve Hocking and writer Holly Fox also contributed to the publication. Printing by UM Printing & Graphic Services.
Dear Friends,

Another year and new challenges. A friend observed some years ago, “Thank goodness for challenges! They keep us busy.” I have found, as I believe my colleagues on the campus have, this preoccupation continues to make life very interesting. More importantly, because the campus community works well together, The University of Montana has made very good progress toward the goal of maintaining a “University for the 21st Century.”

The comprehensive campaign noted in my report last year has gone well, with more than $90 million in hand and counting. We will complete the campaign – successfully, I trust – on Dec. 31, 2007. However, we still have a number of critical projects included within the campaign that I commend to those who have yet to participate. Titled “Invest in Discovery: Connecting People, Programs, and Place,” the campaign priorities once realized will assure supporting linkages among those critical components that comprise The University of Montana. I urge everyone to review the priorities and identify a role to play. Success in this effort guarantees the fulfillment of founding President Oscar J. Craig’s challenge: “The University, It Shall Prosper.”

To provide alumni, friends, and the larger public with a better sense of the University and its people and programs, we have launched a new outreach effort. This report provides a preview of that effort, introducing some of the faculty and students who have made the programs so successful. The people and programs featured have brought national acclaim to The University of Montana, enhancing our reputation for academic excellence and research prominence.

As you peruse the report, please give consideration to your involvement in this final push to completion for the campaign. As I mentioned earlier, the University has done well and can do more as our alumni and friends provide the benefit of their guidance and support.

Sincerely,

George M. Dennison
President
“I WANT TO GET KIDS EXCITED ABOUT CAREERS IN SCIENCE AGAIN. I BECAME A SCIENTIST BECAUSE I WANTED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN MY LIFE, AND I WANT TO TEACH STUDENTS HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIRS.”

- G A R O N  S M I T H -
Professor, chemistry
Garon Smith can’t seem to make up his mind about which character from a fantasy novel he would like to be.

Smith, a UM chemistry professor and sometimes wizard, is known to chomp down on a liquid-nitrogen-cooled Cheetos-Puff™ that’s 321 degrees below zero while enough dragon-like steam pours from his nostrils to momentarily cover his graying beard.

Smith, better known around campus as G. Wiz, uses simple chemical tricks like this to draw students into the world of chemistry and keep them there.

“Students will come up and say, ‘Are you sure this is a chemistry course? This is good stuff,’” Smith says.

Students in a range of majors from medical sciences to forestry to wildlife biology must take Smith’s CHEM 151 course. He tries to reach out to show them all that chemistry matters – regardless of their projected field.

“I know which examples to pick to make it relate,” he says.

When not teaching, Smith often becomes G. Wiz, complete with wizard’s cape and hat, touring schools around the state to teach short lessons and get kids interested in science.

During the summer at UM, he even teaches a course for high school students called “Potions 101.”

“It’s a form of job insurance,” he jokes, “To make high school students want to take my class.

“Besides,” he says with a wry smile, “I teach this to my second-year class when I substitute at Hogwarts.”
“I was Oxford-educated. I came from England to The University of Montana, another world-class institution. I am as inspired by my students as they are by me.”

- David Firth -
Assistant Professor, Information Systems & Technology
The accent is a dead giveaway: **David Firth** is not from around here.

The English-born, Oxford-educated information systems professor doesn’t sound like his colleagues, but he has folded seamlessly into their shared mission at UM’s School of Business Administration.

Firth, who’s worked in the weapons sector of the Ministry of Defense in Great Britain as a physicist, at an accounting firm in Dallas, Texas, and the information systems consulting branch of a huge firm in San Francisco, arrived ready to teach at UM in 2003.

In his introduction to Managing Information Systems class, a required class in the business school, Firth looks at information systems from a global perspective. He focuses on works like Thomas L. Friedman’s “The World is Flat,” a book that touts the importance of information systems in today’s world.

“It’s easy to get a bunch of IS guys to say IS is important,” Firth says. “But guys like Friedman, a three-time Pulitzer Prize winner and foreign correspondent for the New York Times, are saying it’s one of the most important things.”

Information systems people make sure that people extract value from the technology at their disposal.

“We make sure businesses can do business,” Firth says.

And students who study under him do that before they leave with their degrees in hand.

Information systems majors work with local nonprofits, such as the Boys and Girls Club, Missoula Flagship Program and United Way, to advise and assist them with databases, networks or their Web presence.

With more than 500 nonprofits registered in Missoula, Firth sees the supply of opportunities for students here much like the opportunities in the wider world.

“There are always problems that need solving.”
“What we discover from our research has the potential to impact aerodynamic engineering, leading to more efficient transportation. We are spreading our wings to reach new heights.”

- Ken Dial -
Professor, Biology
Really, it was only a matter of time until Ken Dial got jealous. Dial, an internationally respected biologist who specializes in bird evolution and the mechanics of flight, is also, not surprisingly, a pilot.

“Every time I get in the cockpit I think, ‘What does a bird see and how does it negotiate this?’”

Dial has been the keynote speaker at NASA conferences and meetings of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots in large part because of his studies on how birds change the shape of their wings in flight and the differences between small and large bird flight behavior.

“It turns out little animals are more powerful,” he says. It’s like comparing the aerial abilities of a 747 to a fighter jet.

“I study the engines of birds,” he says. The other part of Dial’s research, focusing on the evolution of flight, has thrust him into the national spotlight and has forced a reevaluation of the topic in textbooks.

In studying the locomotor development of chukars, small ground-dwelling partridges, Dial, along with his son and another young man, discovered that small, flightless birds use their wings for additional traction, like a spoiler on the back of a car.

“It’s a fresh outlook, it breaks the chains,” Dial says of their discovery, which goes against the two traditional theories that surmise animals discovered flight from gliding or that they ran along the ground flapping feathered limbs and eventually took off.
"When the curtain goes up, it’s electric. Music helps us convey thoughts and feelings that we can’t express with words. The orchestra is an elaborate machine...each individual working together to create one voice."

- Luis Millán -
Assistant Professor, Music
When Luis Millán brought the UM symphony orchestra back from a trip to the Seattle area last fall, something felt different.

“It felt like a landmark to bring this group out there,” Millán says. “People from the big city sometimes think Montanans don’t know anything about classical music.”

But Millán, and the 65 musicians who make up the University’s symphony, turned heads in the Emerald City and at nearby universities with their talent and ability.

“The group is mostly Montana kids,” he says. “It comes with being the flagship arts school in the state.”

Those 65 musicians meet with Millán to rehearse three times each week for credit, just like any other college course.

The difference, he says, is that no one plays hooky from this class, because a symphony without a first violin player isn’t a symphony.

“When one is missing, everyone suffers.”

As director of the UM symphony, Millán’s job is part teacher, part motivational speaker and part public relations specialist.

One of his duties is to choose the music that the symphony plays throughout the year.

“These aren’t seasoned professionals,” he says. “I have to challenge them but still make sure we sound good.”

And after hours of rehearsal and countless lessons taught to budding musicians on their varying instruments, it is Millán’s turn to play.

Only his instrument is them.

“They’re the ones making the sound, reading lines,” he says. “I’m the one helping to give it artistic shape.”
We have renowned researchers who interact, mentor and teach our students, translating knowledge from the laboratories into the classroom. The landscape of medicine is ever-changing and the opportunities in pharmacy are endless.

- Donna Beall -
Associate Professor, Pharmacy Practice
Screening patients for bone density at a Condon, Mont., tavern is just another
day for Donna Beall.
She doesn’t bat an eye at the prospect of taking blood pressures in a church or
testing for diabetes in a firehouse.
“In small towns we sometimes just set-up wherever we can,” she says.
As director of the IPHARM (ImProving Health Among Rural Montanans)
program, Beall, her students, other faculty members and a clinical pharmacy
specialist travel to every corner of Montana to screen for markers of heart
disease, diabetes and osteoporosis.
“Many of these screening services are not widely available in rural areas,” Beall
says. “The program also provides a great learning experience for students.”
When she’s not on the road logging some of the 38,000 miles the program
has covered in the last two and a half
years, Beall is teaching third- and fourth-
year pharmacy students in a College of
Health Professions and Biomedical
Sciences classroom and in her office at
Curry Health Center.
Students assist Beall in consulting with
student-patients on proper use of
medications and what the effects and
side effects of those medicines might be,
as well as on the importance of actually
taking what is prescribed.
“We improve how student-patients
take their medication,” she says.

Two students work with Beall in Curry
on eight-week rotations, and fourth-year
students are on a revolving list to
crisscross Montana with IPAHRM.
“All these experiences are bridges
between what students learn in class or
lab and the real world,” she says.
Griz Nation came out in force in 2006, giving UM the highest attendance in the Division I Football Championship Subdivision for the second consecutive year. More than 200,000 Griz fans showed up over nine home games at an average of 22,600 fans per game.
The University of Montana Grizzlies continued their success in 2006, advancing to the playoffs for a record 14th consecutive year and posting their 21st consecutive winning season in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA).

The Grizzlies finished the season 12-2, reeling off 12 consecutive wins to capture their ninth straight Big Sky Conference title after a season-opening loss to the Division I powerhouse Iowa Hawkeyes. More than 70,000 fans watched the match at Iowa’s Kinnick Stadium, the most to ever see the Griz in action.

Rallying around senior transfer quarterback Josh Swogger, the Griz had a balanced offensive attack despite losing star running back Lex Hilliard to an injury before the season started. The defense was anchored by senior All-American Mike Murphy and was the key to many of the season’s victories, including a hard-fought 13-7 win over rival Montana State to end the regular season.

The year ended with a semifinal playoff loss to the University of Massachusetts Minutemen at a rare night game in Washington-Grizzly Stadium. EPSN2, which nationally televised the match, had portable stadium lights trucked in from California to illuminate the field. It was only the second time a night game has been played at the stadium in its 20-year history.

“It was a special season,” says UM Director of Athletics Jim O’Day. “Our coaches and student-athletes did a marvelous job getting ready to play each weekend. It was truly a remarkable effort by everyone associated with Grizzly Athletics.”

The Griz also performed well in the classroom, compiling a team cumulative-grade-point-average of 2.90.
**Legal Eagles** • The University of Montana School of Law gained national exposure as student teams went on to the final rounds in the American Bar Association Negotiation Team competition and the National Moot Court Competition. This year marks the ninth time a UM team has competed in the final rounds of the National Moot Court Competition and also is the fourth consecutive trip to the finals for a UM negotiation team.

**Under New Management** • UM’s Office of the Vice President for Research and Development took over the administration of the Montana Natural Heritage Program, the state’s source for information on the status and distribution of native animals and plants. Previously managed by The Nature Conservancy, the program was established by the Montana Legislature in 1983 and is based at the Montana State Library in Helena. The Montana Natural Heritage Program is part of a network of more than 70 similar programs spanning all 50 U.S. states, as well as Canada and Latin America. Montana’s program is widely considered to be one of the best.

**Celebrating Differences** • Diversity and tolerance were highlighted topics during UM’s first “Day of Dialogue,” a day of events aimed at facilitating conversations about the importance of diversity. Events included workshops, exhibits, lectures, films, panels and roundtable discussions led by faculty, staff and students from varied campus departments. Event organizers stressed that diversity is about more than race, and seminars included “How Poverty Divides Us” and “Fasting Ramadan and Hiking the M.” The keynote speaker for the event was Manning Marable, founder of the Institute for African American Studies at Columbia University.
**More the Merrier** • The University set another enrollment record with a total of 13,961 students on campus for fall semester 2006, an increase of 359 over the fall 2005 headcount. In addition, the entering freshman class boasted increased diversity, with more American Indian, Black, Hispanic and Asian-American students, as well as a slightly better academic profile than the class of 2005. Students enrolling in fall 2006 had an average high school GPA of 3.3 and an ACT score of 23. The class includes 10 National Merit Finalists, 32 Presidential Scholars and 123 valedictorians.

**Spiritual Ceremony** • Preparations began for the University’s future Native American Center when spiritual leaders from each of Montana’s 12 tribes gathered together for the first time in 100 years to bless and heal the building site in October. The ceremony to consecrate the site took place on the Oval and included raising a lodge (teepee) used by UM American Indian students. The Native American Center will house the University’s Native American Studies program and American Indian Student Services office, as well as provide gathering space for cultural events and other related campus programming.

**A Good Read** • Students had the chance to meet best-selling author, igloo-builder, hunter, trapper and Alaskan Seth Kantner when he paid a visit to his alma mater to discuss his debut novel, “Ordinary Wolves.” The book, which received rave reviews in the New York Times Book Review and Outside magazine, was chosen for UM’s first-year reading experience. The program encourages all first-year students to read the same book so they have one more thing in common as they begin college. “Ordinary Wolves” is a story loosely based on Kantner’s life as a young white boy coming of age as a minority in a remote part of the Alaskan tundra. Kantner is a 1991 graduate of UM’s School of Journalism.
Legendary Lecture • UM’s Entertainment Management Program in the School of Business Administration is known for connecting big-name executives and artists from the entertainment world with students training for careers in the industry. Rock star Huey Lewis, leader of the popular band Huey Lewis and the News, paid a visit to a class in September to talk with students. Lewis spent more than an hour discussing his decades of experience in the music and film business, answering questions and keeping his audience laughing with stories and advice. A part-time resident of the Bitterroot Valley, Lewis occasionally guest lectures in UM classrooms. In 2005 he lent his considerable knowledge to music Associate Professor Robert LedBeter’s class to give students an insider’s view of the history of rock music.

Best Biography • UM’s Broadcast Media Center and Montana PBS joined the company of Steven Spielberg and Ron Howard as winners of a CINE Golden Eagle Award, which honors the highest production standards in filmmaking and videography. The Montana PBS historical documentary “Evelyn Cameron: Pictures from a Worthy Life” was judged in the biography category along with biographies of B.B. King, Bob Dylan, Ernest Hemingway and Willa Cather. Evelyn Cameron photographed Eastern Montana in the late-19th and early-20th centuries and wrote extensive diaries about pioneer life in the state.

Commendable Conservationist • For the first time, a UM student was awarded a prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Scholarship. Dawson Dunning, a 2005 UM graduate in wildlife biology, took the award, worth up to $50,000 per year. He intends to use the scholarship for a master’s degree in science and natural history filmmaking at Montana State University in Bozeman. The award offers the possibility of continued foundation support in a doctoral program elsewhere. In his application, Dunning said he wants to “explore a career as a conservation biologist using science and natural history filmmaking to promote our planet’s most important conservation messages.”
Teaching Abroad • Two UM law school adjunct professors traveled to China to teach classes during the inaugural semester of the Xiamen University Law School Zheng He-Marco Polo Academy. David Aronofsky, legal counsel for UM, and Kristen Juras, author of “Law of the Sea in a Nutshell,” were among the first to present courses created to bring students to Xiamen from different parts of the world to study pertinent policy issues in an international summer school setting. Aronofsky, who helped design the academy’s programs, taught “The U.S. Legal System,” a course involving the study of key Supreme Court cases that collectively illustrate how the system is supposed to function. Juras taught “International Law of the Sea and Oceanic Legal Policy” with Xiamen University Professor Kuen-chen Fu, a world-renowned scholar in international oceanic law.

Security Summit • UM President George Dennison was in attendance when President George Bush launched the National Security Language Initiative in January. Dennison participated in the U.S. University Presidents Summit, which focused on the plan to create more opportunities for students studying critical-need languages, such as Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Korean, as well as science and technology. The initiative aims to provide scholarships, expedite visa requests for students and develop more exchange relationships between American and international universities. UM already is involved in myriad projects to recruit foreign students and encourage current students to spend a semester abroad.

Athletic Ambassadors • Two UM football coaches and a group of recently graduated Griz football players brought American-style football to the Land of the Rising Sun when they traveled to Japan in the summer to participate in the New Era Bowl. Defensive coordinator Kraig Paulson and offensive coordinator Rob Phenicie, along with six recent Griz football greats, participated in the cultural exchange. U.S. coaches and players spent a week in Japan preparing a team of Japanese coaches and college athletes for the big game. UM helped coach the White Stars to victory over the Blue Star squad, coached by a group from the University of Washington.
Expedition Images • Ever wonder what Lewis and Clark may have seen as they headed west? Billings artist Charles Fritz did and then traveled to many of the actual sites visited by the famous Corps of Discovery, painting studies of the landscapes and important discoveries encountered by the explorers. The Montana Museum of Art & Culture at UM coordinated a national traveling expedition of the more than 88 paintings, titled “Charles Fritz, an Artist with the Corps of Discovery.” A full-color exhibition catalog, published by The University of Montana Press and Farcountry Press, with text by Stephen and Stephanie Ambrose and UM history Professor Harry Fritz, accompanied the exhibition.

Radio Reaches Out • The Montana Broadcasters Association named the Footbridge Forum, an experimental radio program at UM, “Outstanding Non-Commercial Radio Program of 2005.” The program also won first place in the student audio competition and “Best of Festival” at the Broadcast Education Association conference. Produced, promoted and hosted by students, the program brings together members of the campus and Missoula communities to discuss issues ranging from the development of South Campus to American Indians and higher education. The Footbridge Forum airs monthly and was developed by radio-TV Assistant Professor Denise Dowling. It has won numerous awards since its inception in 2003.

Noteworthy News • Projects by UM radio-television students and Associate Professor Ray Ekness were chosen as best in the nation at the Broadcast Education Association meeting held in April in Las Vegas. Ekness took top honors in the faculty television news competition for his work “Cowboy Poet,” a profile of Great Falls resident Paul Zarzyski that was produced as part of the Montana Arts Council’s Governor’s Arts Awards. Two radio-television students won the television sports reporting category with a story on the University’s lacrosse team. In addition, UM students also were finalists in several categories of the conference’s News Division.
Scientific Scholars • UM students fared well in two prestigious national scholarship competitions this year. Hilary Martens and Elizabeth Morton won Goldwater Scholarships, and Kelly Hopping and Michael O’Brien received Morris K. Udall Scholarships. There were 323 Goldwater scholars across the nation this year, and each received up to $7,500 per year for university expenses. The award recognizes outstanding academic performance and the potential to succeed in careers involving mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering. Hopping and O’Brien were two of 80 Udall scholars from 59 colleges and universities in 2006. The Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation awards merit-based scholarships to students who have demonstrated outstanding potential and a commitment to pursuing careers related to the environment. The students each received $5,000.

Revved Up • Griz marketing took a turn toward the vehicular this year as local businesses decorated corporate vehicles in UM themes. In addition to a beverage truck and a semitrailer, the growing Griz armada now includes a concrete-mixer truck. The $170,000 2007 Kenworth truck recently purchased by LS Jensen Construction & Ready Mix turns heads with UM logos and pictures of four outstanding University athletes. “We just wanted to be part of Griz Nation,” says Stan Dugdale, general manager of the LS Jensen branch in Missoula. The truck can haul 10 yards of concrete and poured its first load in June. The truck is used in parades and for special UM events. “If they want it at Grizzly events, we shine it up and bring it down,” he says.

Presidential Visit • Mary McAleese, the president of Ireland, visited UM in May. Her trip launched the University’s new Irish Studies Program and celebrated the strong historical, cultural and immigrant links between Montana and Ireland. The University recently formed a collaborative agreement with the University of Cork for faculty and student exchanges and research, in addition to the development of a minor in Irish studies. McAleese’s UM appearance was a part of a visit to the United States at the invitation of the governors of Colorado and Montana, as well as the University of Notre Dame.
Experimental Air Waves • Children in the KUFM public radio listening area can join UM Assistant Research Professor Katie George for “Science is Cool,” an interactive radio program that promotes scientific exploration using experiments that children can perform easily at home while adults are available for assistance and discussion. “Dr. Katie” and her lab assistants lead listeners in experiments every other Saturday morning during the two-hour “Children’s Corner” program aired from the studio at UM. A four-compact disc set of the first “Science is Cool” broadcasts also is available at Montana public libraries and elementary schools.

Corps Crop • The Peace Corps released its list of “Top-Producing College and Universities 2006” and UM retained its top-10 ranking for medium-sized institutions. With 39 alumni volunteers, UM ranked ninth nationally among colleges with undergraduate enrollments between 5,001 and 15,000. Last year UM was ranked 10th. This year’s ranking placed UM ahead of institutions such as Boston College and Brown, Harvard, Northwestern and Yale universities.

CSI Missoula • Area seventh-graders got the chance to learn forensic science techniques when the University hosted “CSI Missoula,” a Saturday Science Day event of the Health Careers Opportunity Program. Using bones, ashes and casts, students learned how to distinguish remains found at a crime scene as male or female, human or nonhuman, and also learned how to determine a victim’s age, height and physical abnormalities. The course was taught by adjunct instructor Garry Kerr of UM’s anthropology department. Kerr is a perennial favorite of UM students.

Studying Reconstruction • Sarah Halvorson, UM associate professor of geography, spent three months in Northern Pakistan assessing the impact of the recent South Asian earthquake after receiving the McColl Family Fellowship for 2006 from the American Geographical Society. The fellowship covers airfare to anywhere in the world to conduct research that results in an article suitable for publication in the AGS magazine FOCUS on Geography. Halverson made field visits to 10 mountain villages to explore challenges the large-scale destruction brought to local response and recovery efforts.
Environmental Enlightenment •
Four graduate students in UM’s Environmental Studies Program are among 24 in the nation to be named 2005-06 Doris Duke Conservation Fellows by the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation. The fellowships went to students enrolled in multidisciplinary master’s degree programs at UM, Yale and Duke universities, and the universities of Michigan and Wisconsin. The UM students study a wide range of topics, including grizzly bears, water quality, watershed restoration and environmental justice issues. The fellowships pay for a year of tuition up to $25,000 and provide $5,000 for a summer internship.

Saturn Science • UM researcher Dan Reisenfeld was among the group of scientists that came across an amazing discovery while analyzing data from NASA’s Cassini Spacecraft. Reisenfeld says Cassini researchers last year noticed an odd deflection of the magnetic field of Saturn around Enceladus, the planet’s icy sixth moon, so they reoriented the probe’s trajectory for a close flyby. The team discovered a plume of gas venting from Enceladus. The plume evidently explains the mysteriously high levels of water vapor found in Saturn’s magnetosphere. The group’s findings were published in Science magazine. Reisenfeld, an astronomy and physics professor, is an active player in several NASA space probe missions.

Wonderful Winds • UM’s Symphonic Wind Ensemble performed for the College Band Directors National Association’s Northwest/Western Conference at the University of Nevada, Reno. The ensemble was one of two that were selected from the Northwest to play at the conference. The group was selected by members of the College Band Directors National Association after submitting an audition tape.
Aftermath Assistance • Students and faculty members in UM’s Environmental Studies Program volunteered their time and expertise in the efforts to rebuild after Hurricane Katrina. Assistant Professor Robin Saha and Professor Tom Roy took students from their class “Katrina – The Making and ‘Unmaking’ of a Disaster” to help in the aftermath of the storm. The students studied the social and environmental aspects of recovery and reconstruction by visiting impacted areas in Louisiana and meeting with community leaders, scientists, engineers, recovery coordinators and grassroots environmental leaders. Environmental Studies Program Director Len Broberg provided a solar power system he constructed to help in rebuilding areas of the Lower Ninth Ward in New Orleans. The portable system provided power for tools and was used for various reconstruction and educational purposes. The Tulane City Center will manage future use of the system.

Pharmacy Fundraising • UM continues to be a national leader for earning pharmacy research dollars. In fact, UM’s Skaggs School of Pharmacy tallied $9.3 million from federal grants and other sources last year. According to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, UM now ranks No. 4 out of 92 pharmacy schools nationally for garnering research funding when number of faculty members is considered. The University moved up one place in this category in 2006 from the year before. When total research dollars are considered without regard to the number of faculty members, UM ranks No. 7 nationally. This ranking is particularly noteworthy because the Skaggs School of Pharmacy is the only top-ranked pharmacy school not attached to a medical school.

Department of English and author of the 2002 memoir “Breaking Clean,” won a coveted Guggenheim Fellowship Award. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of distinguished achievement in the past and exceptional promise for future accomplishment. Blunt is the first faculty member in UM’s Creative Writing Program to receive a Guggenheim Award since Richard Hugo in 1970. The award will allow Blunt to take a sabbatical during spring 2007. She will spend the time working on a book of essays about strength and storytelling among women in the West. “Breaking Clean” won the PEN/Jerard Fund Award and the Whiting Writers’ Award and was a New York Times Notable Book.
**Fresh Food** • University Dining Services celebrated an important milestone for the UM Farm to College Program in May 2006. The program surpassed the $1 million benchmark in purchases of local and regional foods. The UM Farm to College Program strives to be a model for institutional, local and regional food-purchasing by supporting local economies, preserving agricultural heritage and providing healthy, fresh and delicious food to the campus community. Since its inception in 2003, the program has garnered considerable local and regional media attention, as well as features in the New York Times and TIME magazine.

**Alumna Achiever** • Stefani Gray Hicswa, a 1991 UM graduate, became the third youngest president of a community college in the United States July 1. The 38-year-old mother of two is the first woman president of Miles Community College in Miles City. The first in her family to go to college, Hicswa graduated from UM with high honors in organizational communications before going on to earn master’s and doctoral degrees. At UM she was an Advocate coordinator, resident assistant, peer adviser and Watkins Scholar, as well as Homecoming queen. She’s married to Scott, a 1990 UM forestry graduate, and together the couple managed the Muddy Creek Ranch outside Wilsall before Hicswa turned to higher education administration. She’s already earmarked 2025 and 2027 as the years her two young sons will graduate from college. She believes that higher education is possible for anyone.

**Commendable Commuting** • The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has named UM one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters among the nation’s colleges and universities. Campuses on the list demonstrate their environmental leadership by offering outstanding commuter benefits, meeting the EPA’s National Standard of Excellence. The EPA noted UM’s excellent benefits, such as providing a 100 percent transit subsidy, purchasing bikes that employees can sign out and use on an as-needed basis, rideshare and carpool matching services, park-and-ride and vanpool staging areas, preferred parking, reduced parking costs for carpools and vanpools, secure bicycle parking, showers and lockers, employee commuting awards and a lunchtime shuttle service. Seventy-two institutions made the list, which was released for the first time in 2006.
**Undergraduate Update** • A proposal written by UM biology professors Bill Holben and Carol Brewer earned a $1.5 million grant for UM from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the nation’s largest private supporter of science education. The grant will be used to revamp the undergraduate curriculum in the Division of Biological Sciences. The revised curriculum will be injected with more math and computer science, as well as more hands-on experiential learning and components of communication studies and ethics. The grant also will provide opportunities for faculty members and allow undergraduates with little or no research experience to work in laboratories alongside doctoral students, post-docs and faculty members.

**Rowing Boats** • The discovery of a crew boat in storage inspired the rebirth of the UM Rowing Club. The club has 20 active participants, most of whom have no crew experience, and they practice frequently at Salmon Lake. In addition to the 40-foot, four-person University boat, the club uses a 60-foot, eight-person boat on loan from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash. After just weeks of practice, the men’s and women’s teams competed against teams from across the Northwest in the Head of the Spokane Regatta, a 5-kilometer race sponsored by Gonzaga University.

**‘Best Buy’ and More** • The University was recognized for its great educational opportunities and affordable tuition in publications by the Princeton Review and Barron’s. UM was included in the Princeton Review’s current edition of “The Best 361 Colleges,” as well its list of “Best Western Colleges,” “Colleges with a Conscience: 81 Great Schools with Outstanding Community Involvement” and, for the first time, its “America’s Best Value Colleges.” The University also was included in the 9th edition of Barron’s “Best Buys in College Education.”
Students Make a Difference with Pardon Project • During World War I, Herman Bausch was an outspoken German-born farmer living in Yellowstone County. On April 13, 1918, he told a county committee, “I won’t do anything voluntary to aid this war. I don’t care who wins this war. I would rather see Germany win than England or France. I am not prepared to say whether Germany is in the right. We should have never entered this war...”

Those words were enough to land Bausch in prison for four to 10 years.

The farmer was one of 78 people convicted of sedition during 1918-19, when Montana was ruled by perhaps the harshest anti-speech law ever passed by any state in the history of the United States. The punishments for these Montanans were prison sentences up to 20 years and maximum fines of $20,000.

In 2006 more than a dozen law and journalism students at UM prepared petitions for posthumous pardons from Gov. Brian Schweitzer for those found guilty under the old sedition law.

The students were inspired to take up the cause by UM journalism Professor Clem Work, who recently published “Darkest Before Dawn: Sedition and Free Speech in the American West,” a book detailing Montana’s draconian sedition law.

The law students participating in the Montana Sedition Project – also called the Pardon Project – are part of the law school’s criminal defense clinic taught by Adjunct Assistant Professor Jeff Renz.

The students spent a semester researching whether the pardons were legal, as well as whether those convicted of sedition had other criminal convictions that would interfere with a pardon.

In addition, the students tracked down descendants of the convicted and discovered that the convictions had serious repercussions for many of the families, some of whom are still recovering from the shame and secrecy two or three generations later. Many families were torn apart after a mother or father was sent to prison, and often the families didn’t know what crimes their loved ones were charged with.

On May 3 the students and the descendants of some of those imprisoned for sedition gathered with Gov. Brian Schweitzer in the rotunda of the Montana State Capitol in Helena for a pardoning ceremony.

Schweitzer greeted the descendants with an introduction about righting old wrongs. “To those of you who are here to honor your ancestors, I say to you: They were patriots. For those of you who have traveled a long distance to Montana, welcome” he said. “Welcome home.”

For law student Katie Olson, meeting the relatives and discovering that some of them hadn’t even known their family member had been in prison was revealing. “It really spoke of what a dark period it was,” she said. “The personal impact really drove home the importance of what we had done.”
If UM had an all-star team, this was it. The most charismatic deans, engaging professors and the best and brightest students were all seated in the gleaming silver train, ready to show Montana high school students why UM is the best thing going.

In September this auspicious group took to the rails in a renovated, luxury train – The Silver Cloud – and traveled to Helena, Livingston and Billings to bring a taste of UM to spots far removed from Missoula.

“I think it was a neat thing to do,” said UM Executive Vice President Jim Foley. “It got the focus on UM in a city-to-city campaign that was different.” The main difference between this and most recruiting trips was the mode of transportation, which proved to be a draw of its own. Prospective students and their parents “ooh-ed” and “ahh-ed” as they filed through the train, and then again as UM chemistry Professor Garon “G. Wiz” Smith put on a show complete with medium-sized fireballs.

At each stop, UM professors and administrators went to local high schools to teach classes and talk with teachers over lunch. And in the evening a reception was held at the train station, where prospective students met and chatted face to face with everyone from UM President George Dennison to deans of various schools and Andrea Helling, president of the Associated Students of UM.

The tour was featured prominently in a New York Times article and received a gold award in the Total Public Relations Programs category of the Admissions Marketing Report Advertising Awards Competition.
There was no shortage of satisfaction in Missoula under the October sky when UM hosted the Rolling Stones in the biggest concert in state history.

A six-story stage rose out of Washington-Grizzly Stadium and fireworks lit up the sky as Mick, Keith and the band took the stage in front of 21,000 screaming fans of all ages. Those without tickets circled the stadium or found a seat on Mount Sentinel, though the show could be heard throughout much of the east side of town.

The Stones arrived on campus with 70 tractor-trailers and plenty of hype, tickets for the show having sold out only hours after they went on sale. In a testament to the wide appeal of the aging rockers, some students attended the concert with their parents – or grandparents – in tow.

But as taken as fans in Missoula were by the band, the Stones, on their first trip to Montana, were thinking of another British Invasion.

“You’ve got beautiful country here,” Keith Richards growled into the microphone. “I’m thinking about moving in.”
The scholarships and fellowships are crucial in attracting the best students from Montana and across the nation to UM.

Another $8.4 million has been designated to support endowed positions such as the John J. Craighead Chair in Wildlife Biology, which is now a fully-funded position. The campaign calls for investing in endowed faculty positions in areas where UM’s leadership is well established. To that end, UM seeks funding for positions in cardiovascular sciences, neurological sciences, limnology, journalism, creative writing and ecology. In addition to work on these endowed positions, 11 other faculty support programs have been created or enhanced through the campaign to date.

“Invest in Discovery” provides for UM programs as well – more than $28.5 million is at work to create or enhance 419 funds for current use and 182 program endowments in a wide range of academic disciplines and services. The money designated for academic programs will help to meet technology needs, build library holdings, fund professional development and provide enhanced educational opportunities for students, as well as underwrite outreach efforts that enrich diversity and strengthen the University’s connection to the community and the state.

The telltale sign of the campaign’s success are the many building projects on campus. More than $25 million has been designated for renovated and new facilities. This money funds the Hall of Champions, where daily visitors can learn about the many Griz greats in men’s and women’s intercollegiate sports, as well as the Pharmacy Biomedical Research Addition to the Skaggs Building and Don Anderson Hall for the School of Journalism. The biomedical research addition and Don Anderson Hall will be dedicated in May 2007.
The campaign contributions also will be used to build a Native American Center. The ground upon which the center will be built was blessed at an intertribal ceremony at Homecoming this year.

In addition to those major projects, money also has been received for an alumni-development center, the School of Business Administration’s Gilkey Center for Executive Education, the health and human performance building renovation, the law school building renovation and addition, the media arts building renovation, the Montana Museum of Art and Culture, the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center and the Washington-Grizzly Stadium expansion.

The $91 million raised so far includes the establishment of nearly 120 planned gifts in the form of annuities, insurance policies, bequests and the like, in addition to outright gifts.

Nearly 24,000 people have contributed during the campaign period, and more than 7,500 of those contributors are first-time donors to the University.

The campaign is projected to end in December 2007 and will undoubtedly reach its goal of $100 million for the University.

Two very encouraging signs are emerging in this campaign effort. More than 21 percent of UM alumni have made a gift during the campaign period, and the UM Foundation is reaching out to many more. Also, many non-alumni who have chosen to support this campaign have provided more than 25 percent of the total dollars to date.

The campaign is projected to end in December 2007. With the continuing support of alumni and friends, says UM President George Dennison, the goal of $100 million is within reach.