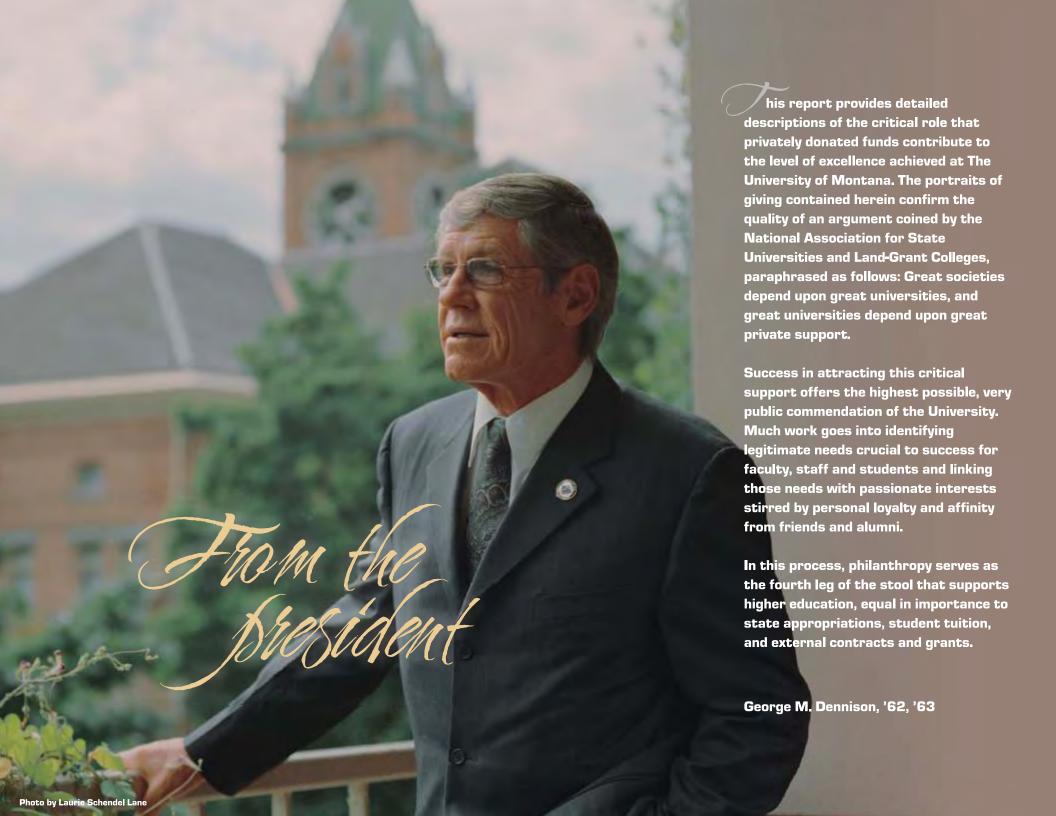




THIS REPORT EXAMINES THE WAYS IN WHICH PRIVATE GIVING ENRICHES THE OPPORTUNITIES AND LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS AND HOW IT HAS HELPED UM STRENGTHEN ITS NATIONAL REPUTATION FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE.



In 1921 Jesse Bierman was a student studying at The University of Montana's Flathead Lake Biological Station. She fondly recalled when the station's founder, biologist Morton Elrod, demanded, "Bierman, get out there and figure out what killed that old pine tree!"

Jack Stanford, the station's current director, says Bierman learned the tree was killed by beetles and other factors. He says that summer of learning on the shores of Flathead Lake changed the trajectory of her life.

The Flathead Valley native became interested in ecology – the study of nature and human responses to natural phenomenon. This led to an important career as a pediatrician, teacher and administrator in which Bierman became a pioneer in the field of maternal and child health care, as well as a world-class researcher.

# A LASTING GIFT FOR SCIENCE

Bierman never forgot UM's unique biological station, however, and in the waning years of her life she used her estate to create an endowed professorship, ensuring the station would always be directed by a world-renowned scientist.

Stanford, who became the first Bierman Professor of Ecology in 1986, says of his benefactor: "She exemplifies how a person can return to her roots philanthropically and make a big difference."

Stanford has led the world in unraveling the complex biological food webs tied to river systems, especially the areas beneath waterways where stoneflies, salamanders and other unique creatures live. He also is the chief watchdog for beautiful Flathead Lake, and his station's research projects now encircle the Pacific Rim from California to the Russian Far East and Korea.

He says Bierman's gift was the catalyst that sparked an influx of research funding to the station in recent decades. "When she made the gift, we might have had a few hundred thousand dollars per year in extramural research," he says. "Today it's almost \$4 million. She has left a permanent mark. The Jesse M. Bierman professorship will always be here."



er interest? Biological science. His: business.

When it came time for lan and Nancy Davidson to leave their most lasting mark on their alma mater, The University of Montana, there was the potential for disagreement on which program ought to benefit from their generosity.

Instead, every program on campus does. The Davidson Honors College serves the best and brightest students from all areas of study.

# DONORS ENHANCE EDUCATION FOR **UM**'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST

"It's such a good fit," Nancy Davidson says. "We're both strong personalities and it's such a wonderful meld. It serves the entire University instead of just one segment, and that's what we feel so good about.

The Davidsons both graduated from UM, lan in 1953 and Nancy in 1959. Ian went on to earn a master's from the University of California, Berkeley, and taught business at UM before joining D.A. Davidson, his father's investment firm in Great Falls. He was one of three employees when he started.

Today D.A. Davidson Co. is one of the top 100 investment firms in the nation, with 855 employees at 45 locations in 14 states. The company manages \$14 billion in assets for 123,000 accounts. That success has made it possible for the Davidsons to aid causes important to them. They are supporters of the Charles M. Russell Museum and the McLaughlin Research Institute in Great Falls.

And they have long been active at UM, where both have served as president of the UM Foundation board of trustees, of which lan has been a member for 25 years.

Their \$1 million gift helped give the honors college a home.

"It's been a win-win in so many ways,"Nancy says. "We've gained so much from the University."

"The honors college was the best thing we've ever done," lan says.









t's been awhile since UM student Hilary Martens took the type of class where "how I spent my summer vacation" might be assigned.

But what a tale the junior could tell. Martens spent 10 weeks over the summer working at the Mullard Space Science Laboratory in England, as the youngest person assigned to the international Cassini Mission to Saturn. Her team worked with the Cassini plasma spectrometer, which determines the density and composition of matter on Saturn.

Like her younger sister Emily, Hilary is a Presidential Scholar at UM. The Presidential Scholarships, funded by private donations, are UM's premier academic scholarships. Good for four years, they cover tuition, offer a stipend that pays for room, board, books and fees, and carry automatic admission into the Davidson Honors College.

"It basically takes care of everything," says Hilary, a physics major who minors in both math and music composition.

Emily, a freshman, is studying pre-pharmacy.

The sisters, both Missoula natives and graduates of Sentinel High School, say their success is due to parents who got them involved in a wide variety of activities when they were younger.

Their father, Roger, is the U.S. Postmaster at Clinton, Mont. Mom Barbara is special projects coordinator for Missoula County.

# SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN DOORS FOR SMART SISTERS

Hilary and Emily had academic résumés that would have gained them admission to any number of colleges. Indeed, coming out of high school Hilary believed her best option was to pursue her studies elsewhere.

"Then I realized all the same opportunities are here," she says. "You just have to take advantage of them."

There was never any doubt in Emily's mind.

"I've always loved the campus, and it's a great school," she says. "It has lots of pluses, more than any other school I looked at."

For both, the prestigious Presidential Scholarships UM was able to offer them made the decision all the easier.



hey lived outside Missoula in a cabin with no running water, made her \$300-a-month teaching salary stretch to cover the bills — which included \$2,500 in student loans — while he took out a \$30,000 loan to buy a bulldozer and grader and start his own construction company.

Dennis and Phyllis Washington's lives have changed dramatically since they married in 1964, but they've never forgotten their humble beginnings — especially when the businessman and his wife give to The University of Montana, where Phyllis graduated from the School of Education.

"Obviously, Montana means a lot to us," Phyllis says. "It's where we grew up, and it's where we raised our children. It's important to Dennis to give back to where he got his start, and we feel we can make more of a difference there than we could donating to a lot of national things."

# WASHINGTONS' HUMBLE BEGINNINGS INSPIRE THEM TO GIVE

The impact of their generosity on UM is almost incalculable. And no dollar figure can be attached to the hundreds of hours Phyllis has volunteered to help her alma mater raise money from other donors. She chaired UM's last capital campaign which raised almost \$72 million.

The Washingtons' first major gift — \$1 million in 1985 — enabled UM to build Washington-Grizzly Stadium, and since moving in, the Grizzly football team has had 20 consecutive winning seasons, made an unprecedented 13 straight trips to the playoffs and brought home two national championships.

But imagine the affect they've had with the Horatio Alger Scholarships. The Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation and the University annually fund a hundred \$5,000 scholarships given to needy students who graduate from Montana high schools and want to pursue a degree at UM or one of the campuses under the UM umbrella.

"That stems from Dennis's rags-to-riches story," Phyllis says of their support. "The students selected often have a major adversity to overcome, and that's why Dennis feels strongly about that."

Phyllis, the former school teacher, is excited about their latest gift to UM's current capital campaign — a \$6 million donation, half of which will help fund construction of an education technology center for the School of Education.

The other \$3 million is for scholarships and graduate fellowships.

"We have been fortunate," Phyllis says, "but if things hadn't turned out this way, I'd still be in the classroom. Education is very important to both of us, and we're thrilled to be able to help the School of Education."

For the Washingtons, says School of Education Dean Paul Rowland, it's not about the money they give.

It's about the people they help.

Dennis Washington addresses guests at the UM Foundation's Capital Campaign Kickoff Dinner as his wife Phyllis and UM President George Dennison look on.







# WEB SITE OFFERS OUTLET FOR AMERICAN INDIAN JOURNALISTS

hen Hurricane Katrina smashed into the Gulf Coast, television and newspapers kept us informed. But Reznet was the place to turn to learn about a young Mississippi couple that wound up relocating to a small Oklahoma town in Cherokee country, and how Montana's Fort Belknap Indian Reservation was donating 5,000 pounds of buffalo meat to victims.

Reznet? Whazzat?

It's the brainchild of UM journalism Associate Professor Denny McAuliffe, a former editor at the Washington Post. He's also a member of the Osage Tribe, one of just a handful of American Indians who work in the business.

Reznet — an online news service written and photographed by American Indian college students from across the nation — is helping to change that.

"Reznet is the school paper many of them don't have, or wouldn't be caught dead working for," McAuliffe says. "It gives them clips, so they can get internships, so they can get jobs."

Tetona Dunlap, an Eastern Shoshone from the Wind River Reservation of Wyoming, is a perfect example. Her photographs published on Reznet helped her land an internship at the Washington Post — making her the first American Indian to win an internship there — and that led to a full-time job at the Kansas City Star.

Reznet has 40 students from 31 tribes in 15 states who attend 25 different colleges, some of which do not offer journalism majors.

Funded largely by grants from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and the Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation, the four-year-old Reznet has helped 58 of the 70 American Indians who have worked for it obtain internships. All students are provided digital cameras and paid \$50 per story or photo assignment, and former editors at papers such as the Los Angeles Times pore over their work before it is published.

"Reznet also has podcasts and daily blogs," McAuliffe says. "It's very cutting-edge."

Eight of the writers and photographers, like Adam Sings In The Timber, a Crow and Chippewa Cree from Billings, are students at UM's School of Journalism.

"Reznet gives me a voice," Sings In The Timber says. "People listen and hear us. It gives us confidence."

And the clips they'll need to land jobs. Reznet can be found at http://www.reznetnews.org.



ne look at UM's permanent collection of art, and Barbara Koostra knew she wanted to become the director of the Montana Museum of Art and Culture.

Now she and the University want the public to see it, too.

The collection is vast, with 9,000 pieces — most of it donated by UM alumni and friends — and valued at \$14 million. The oldest, "Spanish Altar Panel" by the Master of Saint Gregory, dates back to the 15th century. UM also has been entrusted with the Henry Meloy and Fra Dana collections and Edgar Paxson's priceless "Sacajawea," to name a few.

## **UM** HOPES TO SHARE PERMANENT COLLECTION

"Getting a glimpse of the treasures accumulated over the last 111 years was the single most powerful motivator for my taking this job," Koostra says.

And it's not that you can't enjoy some of it. UM displays about 400 pieces from the collection inside and out of buildings all across campus.

"In a sense, we are a museum without walls," Koostra says. "We have art in a variety of places. But too much of the collection is currently in the dark."

UM's two exhibit spaces — the Meloy and Paxson galleries in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center — can display just one-half of 1 percent of the permanent collection at a time.

But UM is moving forward with a plan to raise \$6 million in private funds to build a museum for the permanent collection, where "it can be highlighted like never before," Koostra says.

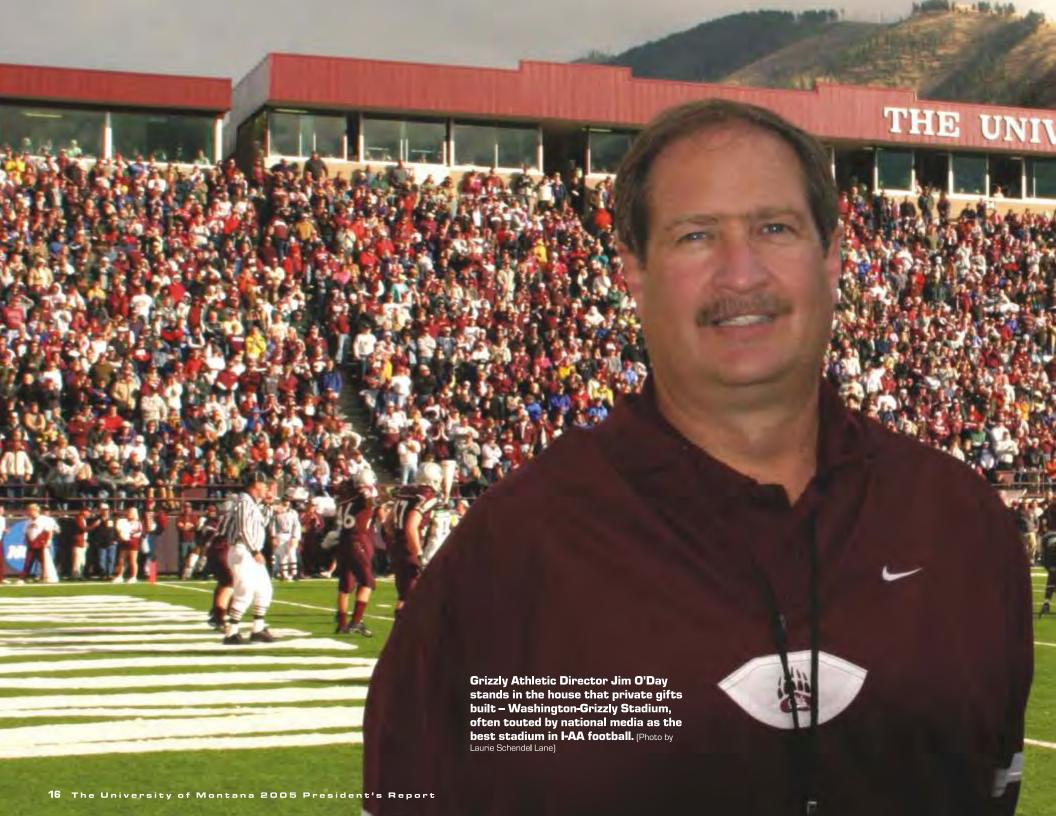
The museum will include galleries dedicated to the presentation of the permanent collection, as well as ones for visiting exhibits, plus a lecture hall and museum-quality preparation, research and study areas.

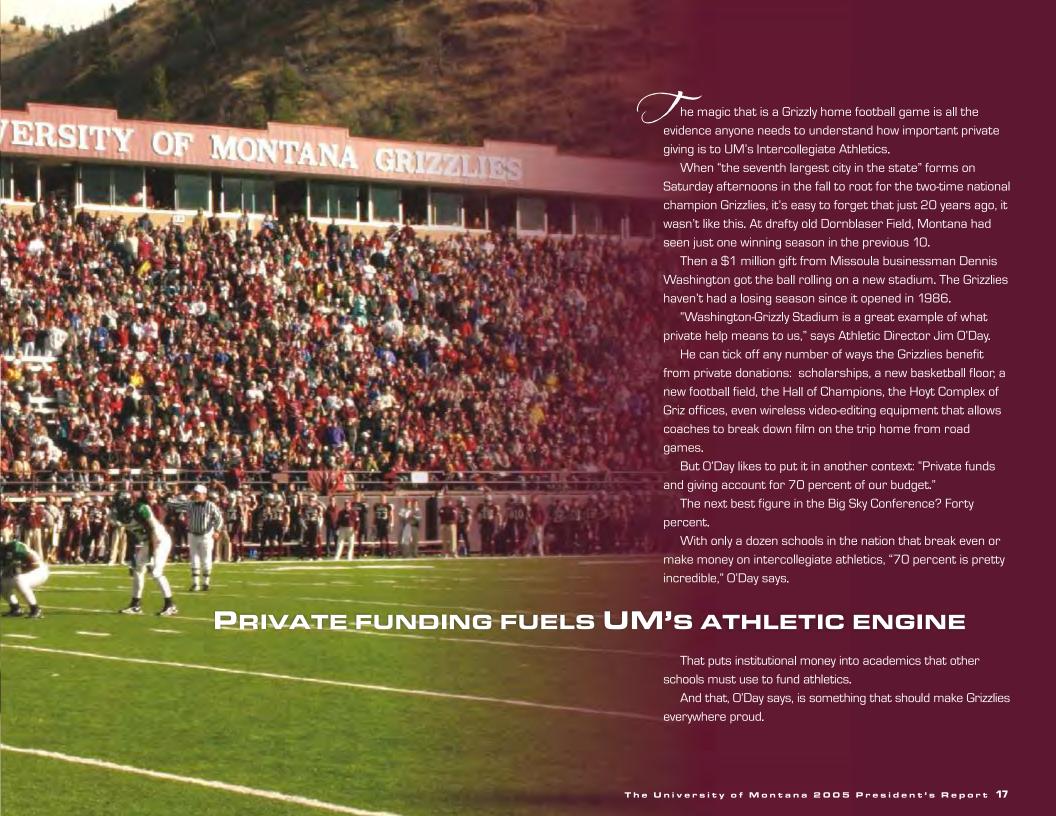
And, one last bonus.

"People donate art because they know it can then be enjoyed by generations to come," Koostra says.

With an art museum to showcase it, the permanent collection will grow.

Barbara Koostra, director of the Montana Museum of Art and Culture, stands next to "The King of the Beasts," a painting by Jean Léon Gérôme. The painting, donated by Bernice H. Kolodny, is just one of the many artworks in the museum's permanent collection that Koostra hopes to bring to the attention of the viewing public.





rivate giving comes in many forms at The University of Montana. While some give with their wallets, others donate their time and considerable expertise.

Such is the case with the School of Law's Advanced Trial Advocacy Program, a sort of new-lawyer boot camp taught each spring since 1986 by experienced judges and lawyers who volunteer. When the hourly rate of most of these folks is considered, it's a sizeable donation indeed.

Up to 36 law students and new practicing attorneys enroll in the program and then conduct a weeklong mock trial from opening statements to closing arguments. During each long, intense day, students are critiqued and even videotaped as they perform before their esteemed instructors.

The case for the 2005 class involved a wrongful death action arising from an automobile accident in which a 4-year-old passenger was killed by a police car. The patrol car was responding to a 911 emergency call. The officer, police chief and city were sued for wrongful death. The students alternated between representing the defendants and the plaintiff.

Karen Townsend, chief criminal deputy attorney for Missoula County, has directed the program in recent years.

U.S. District Court Judge Sam Haddon gives students the benefit of his experience.



## VOLUNTEERS HELP MOLD FRESH LEGAL MINDS

"I volunteer because I learn from these students each year, as well as my fellow faculty members," Townsend says. "Because of the dedication of Montana lawyers and judges, the students who come to this program get priceless guidance and start out as better trial lawyers. We see the payoff when students who have benefited from this program appear as skillful litigators."

The idea for creating the program came from Sam Haddon, now a U.S. District Court judge in Great Falls. Among the volunteer faculty members this year were judges Gary Day, Ted Lympus and Diane Barz; John Connor, chief criminal counsel at the state Attorney General's Office; and prominent lawyers Dana Christensen, Cliff Edwards and Steve Harman.

"When I have called to ask busy, talented lawyers and judges to volunteer for this program," Townsend says, "they almost always say 'yes' and tell me that they, too, are honored to have been asked."



A student pleads his case as part of the trial advocacy course.



bout the only thing obsolete at UM is the campus map.

UM continues to grow, constructing new buildings and adding to others as the University keeps pace with the world around it.

The face of the campus is changing — from the \$4.5 million **Gilkey Center for Executive Education**, to a \$14 million addition to the **Skaggs Building** that is home to the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences, to the \$12 million **Anderson Hall** that will house the School of Journalism.

## **BUILDING PROJECTS KEEP PACE WITH GROWTH**

"It's going to put all our programs under one roof for the first time," says Jerry Brown, dean of the School of Journalism. "We'll be able to deal with any changes that come in the future of news delivery systems, while keeping the traditional values of reporting and accuracy that have made our school nationally recognized."

The 59,000 square-foot addition to the Skaggs Building will make UM a premiere biomedical research center. Dean Dave Forbes said a 1998 addition to the building provided needed space, but didn't offer additional lab space, which is more expensive.

The new expansion will change that and could double the number of graduate students enrolled in the doctoral program.

And the School of Business Administration, which already enjoys a marvelous facility in the Gallagher Business Building, will step to the next level with the Gilkey Center.

"What the Gilkey Center will do is give us a much higher profile," says Dean Larry Gianchetta. "As an example, one of the things surfacing is the need for executives for nonprofits. We can provide training for that. It will also house our executive lecture series that Harold and Priscilla Gilkey started and create the opportunity to bring high-level executives to campus."

When NASDAQ president and CEO Robert Greifield visited as the first speaker in the series earlier this year, hundreds were turned away from the 250-seat auditorium in the Gallagher Building during his public talk. The Gilkey Center will fit them in.

Likewise, the Skaggs Building addition will attract Nobel Prize-winning speakers with its state-of-the-art auditorium, as well as accommodate more cutting-edge research.

Anderson Hall will provide much-needed lab space, allow the school to become all-digital in photography and up-to-date in video editing equipment, and house the Native American Journalism Center and UM's landmark programs, the Native News Project and Reznet.

Most remarkable — the financing of all this growth.

UM may have to pay to change its campus maps, but the buildings are being paid for almost exclusively by private donations.



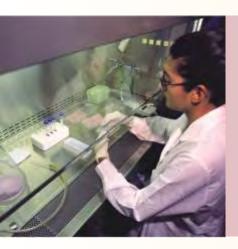


# Highlights of the year Students and faculty brought The University of Montana national acclaim throughout the year, strengthening the institution's reputation for academic excellence and research advances. Students excelled in competitions and claimed prestigious scholarships, while faculty won top honors for teaching and research.



The state Board of Regents gave the nod for a new UM Paleontology Center that includes an associated Fort Peck Field Station amid the fossil-rich Cretaceous formations surrounding Fort Peck and Glasgow. Organized under UM's Department of Geology, the new center will promote paleontology education and research and serve as a repository for important fossil discoveries. It also will boost public outreach in paleontology. To create the center, UM created a partnership with Fort Peck Paleontology Inc., a nonprofit formed by eastern Montana residents to promote study and research of the area's spectacular fossils, including dinosaurs, plants and invertebrate remains. "It's a paleontology wonderland out there, filled with fossil vertebrates and plants, as well as invertebrate life," says **George Stanley**, UM geology professor and the new center's director.

A School of Law Moot Court team won the right to compete in the national finals for the eighth consecutive year, giving UM the longest such winning streak in the nation. The team earned a finals berth during the Northwest Regional Moot Court competition in November after beating a University of Washington team in the final round. Members of the first-place team are law students **Jill Peterson** of Great Falls and **Jonathan McDonald** and **Paul Shae**, both of Helena. Another UM law school moot court team comprising **Joe Gillis**, a student from Connecticut, **Becky Rutz** of Kalispell and **Maggie Weamer** of Billings won the Best Brief Award. UM most recently won the National Moot Court Finals in 2000.



The UM pharmacy school, located within the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences, changed its name in 2005 to honor its most important benefactor. The school is now the **Skaggs School of Pharmacy** in recognition of L.S. Skaggs, whose many contributions have helped propel the school to its current No. 5 ranking in the nation for earning pharmacy research funding. The change created the first named school in UM history. His name already graced the building that houses the pharmacy school. Through his ALSAM Foundation, Skaggs recently committed \$3.5 million to construct a biomedical research addition to the Skaggs Building. The gift helped meet the requirements of a \$3 million challenge grant from the National Institutes of Health to add a 59,000-square-foot addition to house new interdisciplinary labs, offices and more. "It is entirely appropriate that we name our school for Mr. Skaggs," said Dean David Forbes. "The investment he and his family have made at The University of Montana has been instrumental in moving our program into its current position as one of the nation's top pharmacy programs." The school was on the brink of losing its accreditation when Forbes arrived at UM more than 15 years ago. Forbes rapidly began steering it in the right direction, attracting world-class faculty who receive top research grants.

Photojournalism Assistant Professor **Teresa Tamura** was named a 2005 faculty fellow at National Geographic magazine. The only fellowship recipient this year, Tamura spent her summer at National Geographic headquarters in Washington, D.C., learning all facets of magazine production.



UM students have called marketing Professor **Jakki Mohr** "dynamic, demanding, innovative and inspiring." Now they can call her the best professor in Montana higher education. Mohr, a faculty member in the School of Business Administration since 1997, was named the 2005 Montana Professor of the Year. The award came as part of the U.S. Professors of the Year program, which salutes the most outstanding undergraduate instructors in the nation — those who excel as teachers and influence the lives and careers of their students. The program is sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Mohr's award marks the sixth consecutive year a UM professor has won the prestigious honor.



**Steve McCool**, a UM professor of wildland recreation management, received the U.S. Forest Service's Excellence in Wilderness Stewardship Research Award, given each year to an outstanding scientist who works closely with wilderness managers to apply research to real-world situations. McCool earned the award for his studies of wilderness visitors and using the Limits of Acceptable Change planning framework in Montana's Bob Marshall Wilderness Area. The LAC process uses citizen involvement to decide how much human-induced change is acceptable in wildland areas. McCool also helped facilitate a new planning process, which led to a new recreation management direction for "the Bob." His planning processes are now used in many areas within the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Officials at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, one of the oldest institutions of higher education in China, have included UM in a ranking of the top 500 universities in the world for academics and research. UM comes in at 378 on the list, ahead of U.S. counterparts such as the University of Nevada-Reno, the University of Wyoming, Utah State University, Auburn University, Boston College and Brigham Young University-Provo. The Shanghai list ranks universities by several indicators of academic or research importance. Among these are alumni and staff winning Nobel Prizes, highly cited researchers, articles published in the journals Nature and Science, and academic performance with respect to institution sizes.



Some of the genius-level math featured on the television program "Numb3rs" is being translated into exercises for kids by UM math Professor **Johnny Lott**. He leads a team that designs activities derived from the prime-time CBS program. The lessons for teachers, students and parents are then placed on the "We All Use Math Every Day" Web site. Lott receives a synopsis of the math used in each program before it airs. Then, under a tight deadline, he and his team boil the complex problems into exercises that can be understood by the average seventh-through 12th-grader. The Web site is a collaboration among CBS, Texas Instruments and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the world's largest mathematics education organization. Lott happens to be past president of NCTM.

It's worn by maroon-and-silver clad throngs at Griz sporting events and found on untold thousands of hats, T-shirts, sweaters, license plates, blankets and even cars across the nation and around the world. It's The University of Montana Grizzly bear logo, and it's everywhere. The increasing popularity of the bear and Griz merchandise have launched UM to the No. 46 spot on the Collegiate Licensing Company's list of 50 top-selling universities in the nation. That puts UM logo wear ahead of that sold by Division I-A schools Colorado State, Army Air Force and Boise State. UM licenses businesses to use its logos and image, and in return gets a royalty percentage with each licensee based on the wholesale price of individual items.



Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer has appointed UM history Chair and Professor **Harry Fritz** to represent the state on the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. The 15-member commission is charged with informing the public about Lincoln's impact on the development of the United States and finding ways to honor his accomplishments. Fritz, bearing an uncanny resemblance to the nation's 16th president, is a Lincoln impersonator who appears at schools throughout the state and even checks in on the Montana Legislature when it's in session. Besides personifying Lincoln through his vast knowledge of the past president, Fritz also is a nationally recognized expert on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He was the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching Montana Professor of the Year in 2004.



Denise Dowling, an assistant professor in the School of Journalism's Department of Radio-Television, was named the most promising new journalism professor in the country by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. The organization sponsors a contest each year to honor excellence in teaching by faculty members who have taught for fewer than five years. She was nominated by journalism school Dean Jerry Brown. Dowling came to UM in 2000 after a 20-year career in broadcast news. She has created several new courses and won numerous grants and research contracts. Her students also have won nearly every award given to college journalists.

UM opened its doors to a number of students displaced by Hurricane Katrina, including four from New Orleans' two law schools - Loyola and Tulane. The UM School of Law was among the first such schools to open its classrooms to hurricane evacuees. Law school staff contacted Missoula attorneys and businesses to collect donations to ensure the students felt welcomed and were sheltered. Faculty and students campuswide joined forces to raise money to donate to the Red Cross for distribution in hurricane-ravaged areas.



UM celebrated the new John J. Craighead Chair in Wildlife Biology during a fall reception. Friends, associates and former students of Craighead provided \$2.5 million to endow the position, which UM intends to fill in the 2007-08 academic year by hiring a scientist of Craighead's stature. Craighead led UM's Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit for 25 years and was named by National Geographic as one of this century's most eminent scientists. With his twin brother, Frank, Craighead accomplished groundbreaking work in wildlife biology and contributed to a growing environmental awareness for countless Americans through their National Geographic specials. Their pioneering research of grizzly bears in Yellowstone National Park led to the development of satellite imagery for mapping animal habitat and use of radio telemetry in research. The Craigheads also wrote much of the text for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts.

UM's Farm to College program grabbed ink in the New York Times and Time magazine during 2005. The program's purpose is twofold: to support Montana producers and to supply fresh products that aren't processed with added preservatives. The program now offers food from 35 Montana vendors, spending money locally to help boost the economy. Mark LoParco, director of University Dining Services, created the Farm to College program in response to the growing expectation of customers regarding the origins of the food they eat.



Erick Greene, a UM professor, behavioral ecologist and acting associate dean of the Division of Biological Sciences, and former graduate student Chris Templeton have discovered a previously unknown level of sophistication in the calls of chickadees. Their work was notable enough to be featured in Science, one of the world's top research journals. The story subsequently made the New York Times and other national newspapers. The researchers found that common chickadees have a complex system of alarm calls that convey information about the size and danger of potential predators and tell the birds what sort of defense to mount in response. Basically, the more dangerous a predator is to a chickadee, the more "dee" sounds the birds tack onto the end of their trademark "chick-a-dee" call.



One of UM's newest faculty members is an explorer, boldly going where no man has gone before. Dan Reisenfeld, a NASA astrophysicist, recently joined the University's Department of Physics and Astronomy. Before that he taught at Harvard and the University of New Mexico. Reisenfeld loves teaching, but his ultimate passion is using space probes to expand our knowledge of the universe. He has worked on a number of NASA spacecraft with startling names, including Ulysses, Genesis, Cassini, Deep Space 1 and the Interstellar Boundary Explorer. Reisenfeld is still deeply involved with interpreting data for the space administration, and he intends to get UM students working on NASA projects in his new Montana Space Flight Prototype Facility, which will test designs for future probes.

UM climbed up on the Peace Corps' list of "Top-Producing Colleges and Universities." The University previously held the No. 10 position on the list of medium-sized institutions, but with 39 alumni volunteers, UM now ranks ninth among colleges with undergraduate enrollments between 5,001 and 15,000. The new rankings place UM ahead of institutions such as Boston College and the University of Notre Dame, and Brown, Yale, Harvard and Tulane universities.



NASA has extended the mission of its Terra environmental satellite for three years, and that's good news for UM's Numerical Terradynamic Simulation Group, which crafted software for Terra and its sister satellite, Aqua. The decision means continued funding for NTSG's director Steve Running, a longtime UM research professor, to continue work in monitoring the Earth's surface. The \$1.3 billion Terra satellite is an orbiting stethoscope that provides daily checkups on the Earth's health. It scans the entire planet every one to two days. Running, who has received more than \$20 million in NASA grants during his UM tenure, said the latest funding will extend the mission through 2009.

UM's magazine, the Montanan, won the 2005 Distinguished Achievement Award in the Most Improved Magazine category in the Association of Educational Publishers competition. Editor Joan Melcher led a year-long redesign effort that premiered with the fall 2004 issue of the magazine. The Montanan is mailed three times a year to more than 65,000 UM alumni and friends. In addition, the Montanan was named a finalist in two similar categories in competition sponsored by the Association of Western Publishers.



So how did the skunk cross the road? Or the weasel, marmot, vole or porcupine? A lot of times they didn't. These small animals get flattened on highways that fragment their habitat. But a new invention recently patented by UM aims to protect them from humanity's automotive hazards. It's called the "critter crawl," and it's the brainchild of Kerry Foresman, a UM biology professor and animal ecologist, and Cory Claussen, an employee of Roscoe Steel & Culvert Co. of Missoula. The critter crawl is basically a shelf suspended inside a culvert to allow animals to move easily and safely under a highway, even when the culvert contains water. The shelf floor is metal mesh with holes smaller than 1 inch to allow small animals to cross comfortably. The shelf also is removable so it doesn't impede water and debris movement during floods or high-water events. Four of the culvert shelves are now in use beneath U.S. Highway 93 in the Bitterroot Valley. Roscoe Steel, which made the shelves, has been licensed by UM to market and manufacture critter crawls.



Fans have always thought Lady Griz basketball is tops, but now the team has an official endorsement to back that up. Street & Smith's magazine, the bible of college hoops, named UM seventh on its list of all-time best women's basketball programs. Published in the "Greatest College Basketball Programs" issue, the list touted UM and head coach Robin Selvig for winning 20 or more games in 24 of the last 26 seasons. In addition, Montana's 16 regular-season conference championships and 15 tournament titles rank second in the nation, trailing only Old Dominion. Selvig's 614-179 record in his 27th season in 2004-05 ranked him sixth among active head coaches for winning percentage and 10<sup>th</sup> in victories. The Lady Griz further distinguished themselves nationally as one of only three female squads in the 2005 March Madness tournament to have a 100 percent graduation rate.

President George W. Bush nominated UM President George Dennison for a four-year position on the National Security Education Board, and in early 2005, the University's president received confirmation from the U.S. Senate. The board was created under President Clinton to educate U.S. citizens about foreign cultures, strengthen U.S. economic competitiveness and enhance international education and security. Aside from numerous years in higher education, Dennison throughout his career has maintained a strong interest in public diplomacy and international education and has spent a considerable amount of time in other countries forging student exchange opportunities for UM. Dennison believes strongly in the board's mission and says he will do all he can to assure that the United States succeeds in positioning itself for effective functioning in the increasingly global world of today

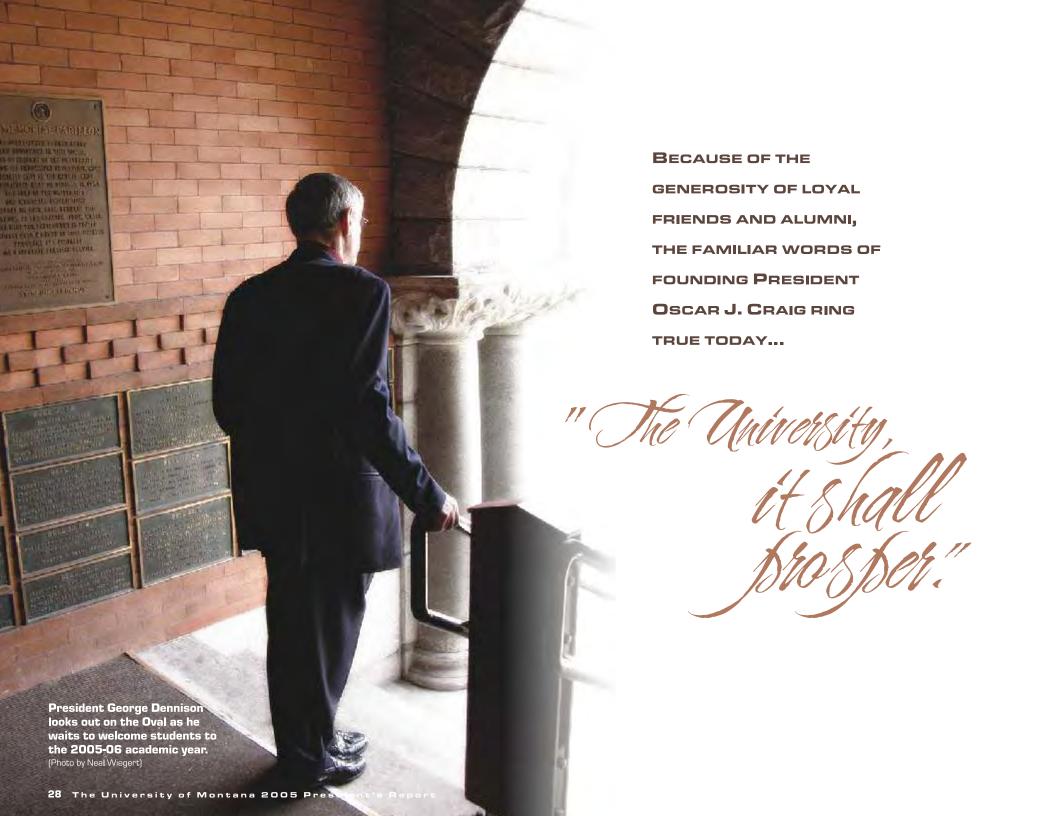


For the second time in three years, Monte, the lovable Grizzly bear mascot, was named National Mascot of the Year. He was crowned on national television during the Capital One Bowl on New Year's Day. The victory came with a \$10,000 award for the UM mascot program. Monte first won the title during the competition's inaugural year in 2003. A show-stealer at any event, Monte again clawed his way over the other 11 critter mascots named as finalists in the competition through online voting and video highlighting his crazy antics and interaction with fans.

After more students earned prestigious Morris K. Udall Scholarships this year, UM now has received more Udalls than any other institution in the nation since the scholarship program started in 1996. With four of this year's 80 Udalls coming to UM, the University broke a tie with Cornell for the No. 1 position. 2005 winners are Zachary Benson of Colstrip; Marcia St. Goddard of Browning; John Powell of Muncie, Ind.; and Jeffrey Ross of Rivers, Manitoba. The Udall Foundation awards merit-based scholarships of up to \$5,000 to college sophomores and juniors who have demonstrated outstanding potential and a commitment to pursuing careers related to the environment. UM is known for producing top scholars: It ranks fifth among public universities in producing Rhodes Scholars, with 28 so far.



UM Executive Chef Tom Siegel brought home a gold medal in the entrée division from the second annual Montana Chef Competition for the Culinary Excellence Award. Sponsored by the Montana Department of Agriculture to promote the use of Montana ingredients at fine-dining restaurants, the contest drew more than 100 entries in three categories of competition.



#### **UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA LEADERS**

George M. Dennison, President

Teresa Branch, Vice President for Student Affairs
Robert Duringer, Vice President for Administration and Finance
Daniel Dwyer, Vice President for Research and Development
James P. Foley, University Executive Vice President
Lois Muir, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
David Aronofsky, University Legal Counsel
Laura Brehm, University of Montana Foundation President and CEO

#### **Local Executive Board**

Arlene Breum Leonard Landa Col. Sam Roberts

### **Board of Regents**

Stephen M. Barrett Mike Foster, Vice Chair Kala French, Student Regent Lynn Morrison-Hamilton John Mercer, Chair Mark Semmens Lila Taylor

#### **Ex-officio Members**

Brian Schweitzer, Governor of Montana Linda McCulloch, Superintendent of Public Instruction Sheila M. Stearns, Commissioner of Higher Education, Montana University System

This report was produced by editors Rita Munzenrider, Cary Shimek and Patia Stephens and photographer Todd Goodrich of University Relations, and graphic designer Neal Wiegert of UM Printing and Graphic Services. Freelance photographer Laurie Schendel Lane and writer Vince Devlin also contributed to the publication.



The University of Montana