Super Dave
Dickenson Enters National College Hall of Fame
Business College Hits 100
An Illustrated Life
Lynne Avril '75
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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY EILEEN CHONTOS AND TODD GOODRICH

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ONCE A GRIZ, ALWAYS A GRIZ!
NICE ROTC STORY
Thank you for the excellent article on the ROTC program at (UM). In an age when the military is sometimes denigrated, I deeply appreciate the positive coverage that you’ve given to this vital program, as well as the men and women who are training to serve and protect our country.

KEN SANDE J.D. ’81
Billings

I love the ROTC story! I grew up on Eddy Street across from the “Clover Bowl.” We watched the ROTC practice on Mondays. Lots of pleasant memories.

PEGGY HERBERT ’68, M.A. ’69
Spokane, Washington

AIR FORCE ROTC?
I read the article “A Century of Soldiers” in the spring 2018 issue of the Montanan with great interest. However, I was disappointed to find no reference to the Air Force ROTC Program. Yes, the University had an AFROTC for many years. I know, as I participated from 1966-70 and was commissioned in June 1970. As a result, I spent 28 years in the U.S. Air Force in one capacity or another – active duty or reserve – and retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1998. It would have been nice to have mentioned there had been such a program at UM … I don’t know when it started or exactly when it ended, although I believe it was closed out at UM … I don’t know when it started or exactly when it ended, although I believe it was closed out at UM … I don’t know when it started or exactly when it ended, although I believe it was closed out at UM … Again thanks for an excellent, informative article that brought back lots of memories.

LT. COL. LARRY DOBB ’70, USAF RET.
Great Falls

MORE TO THE STORY
I read with interest the recent article by Jacob Baynham on “A Century of Soldiers” in the spring 2018 issue of the Montanan. While quite detailed on the history of ROTC at (UM), it falls short in being a complete history in that it ignores and does not mention the opposition to ROTC and military training, which some regarded as having no place on a university campus. As a (UM) student from 1966 to 1972, I was deeply opposed to the United States intervention in Vietnam. As part of this anti-war movement at (UM) in the late 1960s and early ’70s, our group held demonstrations on campus, as well as prayer vigils and even occupied the ROTC building in an effort to start a dialogue with ROTC staff and students. I think your history on ROTC should have included the complete story.

PETER STEERE ’70, M.A. ’72
Sells, Arizona

OH, EMMA!
I was so very pleased to read the story of [106-year-old] Emma Lommasson in the spring 2018 Montanan. I was raised in Maxville, Montana, and graduated from Drummond High School in 1964. She managed the War Orphans Educational Assistance Act of 1956, which provided financial assistance to dependents of WWII vets. As a war orphan, I qualified for this act, and I was required to visit Emma in her old “Old Main” office. Starting in the fall of 1964, I would monthly leave my Craig Hall room and visit Emma to chit-chat on how I was doing. I remember well, outside of my mother, thinking she was absolutely the most beautiful woman I had ever seen. With those black, piercing eyes and her white/blue short hair, she was intimidating to me. I know she related to me due to the fact I was from the mountain town of Maxville. Thank you, Emma, for helping me succeed at the University some 50-plus years ago.

GORDON SPUNICH, ’68
Spokane Valley, Washington

WHERE’S YOUR GRIZ BEEN?
Roaming Griz: REX BOLLER ’67 recently traveled across Russia. In addition to visiting Moscow and St. Petersburg, he snapped this picture in Kamchatka, Siberia, which is renowned for its trophy coast brown bears.

Congratulations, Rex! You have won a $50 gift card to The Bookstore at UM.

Do you have a photo of yourself wearing Griz gear in an amazing place or while on an incredible adventure? If so, send it along with a brief description to themontanan@umontana.edu. Winners will see their photo published in the Montanan and will receive a $50 gift card to The Bookstore at UM. To be considered, photos must be in focus with the UM or Griz logo clearly visible.

WANTED: YOUR OPINIONS
The Montanan welcomes letters to the editor. Please sign and include your graduating year or years of attendance, home address and phone number or email address.

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Because of space limitations, we are not able to include all letters sent to us. Letters may be edited for length or clarity. While universities are places of discussion where people do not always agree, letters deemed potentially libelous or that malign a person or group will not be published. Opinions expressed in the Montanan do not necessarily reflect those of the University of Montana.

The Montanan would like to thank the following people for recently donating to the magazine:
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When Pearl Jam became the first major music act ever to perform in UM’s Washington-Grizzly Stadium in 1998, it was the largest music event in the history of Montana, with 22,000 fans rocking out under the M.

Almost 20 years to the day on Aug. 13, the newly minted Rock and Roll Hall of Famers topped that earlier triumph by filling the stadium with 25,500 people. It was only the fourth concert at Washington-Griz – the others being the Rolling Stones in 2006 (23,000 fans) and Paul McCartney in 2014 (more than 25,000 fans).

The fact that the band even performed in Missoula might seem like an anomaly. The concert was part of the band’s four-city “The Home Shows” tour, with other stops at much-larger venues in Seattle, Chicago and Boston. But Pearl Jam has performed at UM seven times since 1993 – almost making the group the Griz house band.

This is largely due to the influence of PJ bass player Jeff Ament, a Montana native from small-town Big Sandy and a part-time Missoula resident. Ament attended UM for about two years in the early 1980s before dropping out to invade the Seattle music scene. (Editor’s note: The University doesn’t recommend this career path, but it seems to have worked in Ament’s case.)

Ament has timed more-recent Missoula concerts to support the election bids of U.S. Sen. Jon Tester, another prominent Big Sandy resident he knew growing up. According to the Missoulian, it’s Ament’s “big ask” of the band to play the Missoula shows to support Tester.

Something of a Renaissance man, Ament has helped build skateparks in small towns and cities across Montana and beyond. He and the band also promote many progressive causes, and a pre-concert festival titled Rock2Vote featured live music and promoted organizations such as Forward Montana, Montana Conservation Voters, Montana Native Vote, the Montana Skatepark Association and the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center.

Ament also is an artist and writer who plays a major role in developing the band’s concert posters and album covers. The belligerent sheep on the band’s “Vs.” album, for instance, was taken by him on a farm near Victor, Montana. He also helped create the controversial poster for the Missoula concert, which depicted Tester, an organic farmer, flying in a tractor over a burning White House. Republican pundits were not amused. Other concert logos incorporated Main Hall and the grizzly bear.

Many of the Pearl Jam faithful at the concert contended it was the best on the tour because of the “intimate” size of the venue. This writer personally met people from the Dakotas, Dallas, New York and Manchester, England, all of whom hit Glacier National Park before swinging down to Missoula for the big event. It was a major boon for western Montana businesses.

The band ripped through 29 songs, including favorites such as “Daughter,” “Better Man” and “Jeremy.” It also did memorable covers, including Neal Young’s “Rockin’ in the Free World.” Front man Eddie Vedder said he attended the McCartney show in the stadium, and now it was time to “bring in John,” which led to a cover of John Lennon’s “Imagine,” which filled Washington-Grizzly with star-like lights from mobile phones.

It was an epic night, prompting one to feel “Alive” on the way out.
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Greetings Griz Faithful,

Fall semester is in full swing, and the campus is buzzing with energy from our students, faculty and staff. We are all tremendously excited for this new year. Just a few weeks ago, I and the leaders of our faculty, staff and student senates presented the annual State of the University – my first as president. We broke from tradition by sharing the stage with our shared governance leaders because this University is not about one individual – we sent a strong message that our great University is the result of our entire team and the talents each of us brings to the important work we do each day.

In our State of the University address, three key themes emerged. First, our University is poised to respond to the challenges facing higher education today. We provide a high-quality education to students from all walks of life and starting points. We prepare these students for an uncertain world that will require their agility and creativity. I noted that our new students showed up on the Oval for Orientation not just with their duffel bags, laptops and the supplies to outfit their residence hall rooms. They came with hopes and dreams – their most precious possessions – and they’re entrusting them to us. We are, and we must continue to be, worthy of that trust.

Second, our work is worthwhile. Simply put, we transform the lives of our students, and they transform their communities and the world. We do that through an incredible array of exceptional programs, many highly ranked in the region and the country. We have challenges, of course. Enrollment, student retention, difficult decisions around how best to allocate our resources. But as we put students at the center of all we do – every decision, every plan, every story we tell – we will meet these challenges and maintain a course forward while offering our students extraordinary experiences.

Lastly, we are capable of this important work. We’ve built a solid foundation upon which to act with the UM2020 plan, the Strategic Vision and our work last spring with the University Planning Committee. We have our blueprint for success, and our task now is to implement our good ideas. The University of Montana must be clear not only in our values and principles, but also in the concrete and measured steps we will take to live up to them. When we do this, we will be worthy of our students, and we will make good our promise to provide access to a high-quality Montana education.

Our new provost, Dr. Jon Harbor, often remarks that our University is “on the rise.” We have an incredibly important mission, exceptional people and the resolve to write the next chapter for the University of Montana.

What an inspiring chapter it will be.

Seth Bodnar, UM President
UM Announces 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award Winners

FIVE OUTSTANDING UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA ALUMNI WILL RECEIVE 2018 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS ON FRIDAY, OCT. 5, DURING HOMECOMING. THE AWARDS ARE THE HIGHEST HONOR PRESENTED BY THE UM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

This year’s distinguished alumni are Paul Lewing ’69, M.F.A. ’72, of Shoreline, Washington; William Marcus ’74, of Missoula; Sara Peck ’66, of Lakeside; Sheila Skemp ’67 of Oxford, Mississippi; and Evelyn Adedoja Yeye Dada, M.P.A. ’83, of Abuja, Nigeria.

Lewing achieved his childhood dream to live as a professional artist in Seattle. Since 1972, he has worked in pottery and ceramic tile, created more than 1,000 custom projects for clients all over the world, including dignitaries in Sweden and Japan. Lewing has written two books on the ancient technique of china painting, and he has painted numerous murals. His collections are in institutions ranging from the Seattle Art Museum to the Igneri Talleres Foundation in the Dominican Republic, and some of his works include large tile murals for churches and colorful shower wall tiles with paintings of landscapes. He also has taught art and ceramics to thousands of students, presenting seminars in every U.S. state.

Marcus came to UM from the small rural community of Wibaux, Montana, and devoted the next four decades to capturing the stories of his home state. He helped develop MontanaPBS before public television existed in Montana, bridging the divide between UM and Montana State University. As director of Montana Public Radio/MontanaPBS and UM’s Broadcast Media Center, he also has brought student work on air. Marcus is well-known for his “Backroads of Montana” series on MontanaPBS, and his documentaries have earned him four regional Emmy awards. In 2010, “Night of the Grizzlies” had the most viewers of any Montana public television program. Marcus retired in 2015 but serves as an active volunteer with MontanaPBS, Montana Public Radio and the Montana Arts Council.

Interested in marine life from an early age, Peck has integrated education and ecology throughout her life’s work. She became passionate about coral reef ecosystems while working at the Waikiki Aquarium in Hawaii, and she began Ed-U-Dive Inc. in Montana to bring marine life study tours to aquariums and museums. She established a charter school focused on science and technology at the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii. An education specialist for the University of Hawaii and a Hawai’i Sea Grant extension agent, Peck has published many articles on marine science and established programs and educational resources to help protect the reefs surrounding Hawaii. The State of Hawaii and several foundations have recognized her, including the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

History scholar Skemp has become a groundbreaker in her field. Skemp has taught history for more than 40 years at four different colleges and universities. She won outstanding teaching awards in 1985, 1990 and 2009, and she has been lauded as a community-builder and mentor by colleagues at Stanford, Princeton, University of Michigan, Fordham and more. Skemp’s work focuses on the Colonial and Revolutionary periods in American history, especially on the illegitimate son of Benjamin Franklin. Among the six books she has authored, two – “Benjamin and William Franklin: Patriot and Loyalist, Father and Son” and “William Franklin: Son of a Patriot, Servant of a King” – focus on this little-known piece of history. Skemp is the Marquette Chair in American History at the University of Mississippi.

Yeye Dada already was a world-changer when she came to UM as an international student. She began her career in 1973 with the New Nigerian Development Company, becoming a leader in economic development. She worked for a short time with the U.S. Peace Corps and the British Council and then for more than 20 years with the United Nations in several countries throughout Africa, the Middle East and Europe. Yeye Dada’s bio includes many significant accomplishments with the UN Children’s Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization. She continues to serve with the UN after her retirement, and in 2016, she received a merit award from the king of her hometown of Egbe, Nigeria, for her contributions to the town’s development.

THE BOTTOM LINE:

4: Ranking of UM in a 2018 Disability-Friendly Online Colleges study, which was completed by the SR Education Group. Schools receive high marks for providing access for the visually, hearing- and speech-impaired, as well as offering comprehensive services for students with learning disabilities.

400: The approximate increase in summer semester enrollment at UM this year. The 2018 figure of 2,932 students is the highest since 2014.
98-year-old Earns UM Degree

Paula O’Neil had no idea what was waiting for her under the piece of tissue paper on the table as her family gathered, watching in anticipation, at her daughter’s home in Evergreen, Colorado, on Mother’s Day this year. Her arthritic fingers trembled as she lifted the paper to reveal a diploma, stole and tassel. The 98-year-old could not fully comprehend what she was looking at, until her daughter, Laurie O’Neil, told her:

“Well, you just graduated from college yesterday from the University of Montana.”

The moment Paula dreamed of for nearly 70 years finally had arrived. And also included in her Mother’s Day surprise was an edited proof of her most recent and final book.

Paula, who has been a writer most of her years, never graduated college.

“That is her life’s regret,” Laurie says.

Frances Pauline Meagher – “Paula” – began writing in middle school and wrote her latest book three years ago, when she turned 95 years old. The collection of short stories, called “Once Upon a Village,” is a 120-page novella based on the town and people of East Hatley, Quebec, where she lived when she was 13.

Paula’s parents emigrated from England and Ireland, and the first tale, “The Irish Story,” describes how she ended up in the French Provinces of Canada. One evening, she heard her parents arguing and eavesdropped on them. She remembered her father saying, “I’m going back to Ireland. I can’t stand New York, and it’s where I was meant to be.”

Two weeks later her father had left, and Paula soon found herself on a plane to East Hatley, an idyllic little village now boasting 750 residents. She lived with her aunt and uncle for two years, and eventually her parents got back together, choosing to buy a house there.

After living in Canada, Paula moved to Long Island during high school and, in 1946, decided to attend UM in Missoula to major in English and minor in French.

When Paula took the entrance exam for the beginning-level French class, Laurie says she “flat-out failed it.” Paula visited the professor’s office.

“I speak French,” she told him. “And I’m wondering if I can take the second-level French.”

As the story goes, the professor decided to give her a chance, and she passed the second, harder test. She didn’t know the grammar associated with the first one, but she was so fluent, she could begin the second-level class.

It was at UM that Paula met her husband, Richard O’Neil, who enrolled at the same time. He served in World War II and graduated in June 1949 with a bachelor’s degree in business administration.

Laurie recalls one story of her parents from before they were married – the two of them were waiting for a bus to downtown Missoula. When it arrived, Paula immediately started pushing her way to the front, even though there were only around 10 people riding.

“She was, after all,” Laurie says, “from New York.”

Paula attended UM from 1946 to 1948. When she married Richard and became pregnant in 1948, she had to withdraw from classes at UM. The rule then – as it was at most universities – was a pregnant student could not attend school.

“Awarding a degree from 1948, 70 years after it was earned, is unprecedented for the Registrar’s Office,” says Joseph Hickman, UM registrar. “A few years ago we awarded a degree to a student 40 years after she had earned it, but this new record is unlikely to be surpassed.”

“No more regrets for Mom for never having graduated,” Laurie says. “Her life is complete.”
—By Courtney Brockman

The University’s ranking among “25 Best River and Lake Colleges,” according to a College Consensus survey. UM was one of only six universities west of the Mississippi River to rank in the top 25 and the only Montana institution to earn the ranking.

Size of a National Institutes of Health grant awarded to UM researcher Jay Evan and Inimmune, a startup in UM’s MonTEC business incubator. The grant will help develop a vaccine to fight bacterial infection.
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The American Bar Association has selected a UM alumnus to lead its 400,000 members as the organization’s 142nd president.

Bob Carlson, who earned his bachelor’s degree from UM in 1976 and a Juris Doctor in 1979, accepted the gavel at the ABA annual meeting in Chicago on Aug. 6.

Carlson, a Butte resident and shareholder with Corette Black Carlson & Mickelson P.C., became Montana’s second president of the national organization – more than six decades after the first Montanan held the position.

An active member of the Montana and national legal community, Carlson served as president of the State Bar of Montana from 1993 to 1994, chaired the state bar’s board of trustees, and served as Montana’s state bar delegate on the ABA House of Delegates and state chair of the Fellows of the American Bar Foundation. Carlson served as the chair of the ABA House of Delegates, the Association’s policy-making body, from 2012 to 2014. He worked as a member of the ABA’s Board of Governors, chaired the Executive Compensation Committee and served as a member of the Executive Council of the National Conference of Bar Presidents. The former UM Alumni Association board member also has been a member of the law school’s Clinical Board of Visitors since 1994.

William J. Jameson, a U.S federal judge under President Dwight Eisenhower and a member of the Montana House of Representatives, served as Montana’s first ABA president from 1953 to 1954.

“This is a tremendous accomplishment for not only a member of the Montana legal community, but for a graduate of our great law school,” says Paul Kirgis, dean of the law school. “Bob is already a tireless volunteer for the law school, the State Bar of Montana and ABA, and he is perfectly positioned to tackle the ABA’s goals of serving its members and improving the legal profession throughout the country.

“We wish him the best in this role and look forward to his successes.”

As a small-firm owner, Carlson will bring a different experience to the role, as recent presidents have hailed from some of the nation’s largest law firms. He plans to continue the organization’s mission of advocating for access to justice and criminal justice reform but also hopes to focus on making a difference for practicing lawyers in their everyday work.

“As a Montana lawyer in a small firm, I know firsthand what a difference membership in the ABA makes for my practice and what a difference it makes in all our communities and our nation,” Carlson says. “As president, I want to deliver the message that the ABA is essential for all lawyers. We are the voice of the legal profession, an advocate for the rule of law and a place where every lawyer can access abundant resources to be a better practicing lawyer.”
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THEY PROMISED TO DEFEND. WE PROMISE TO SUPPORT.

Join UM President Seth Bodnar in supporting Operation Hat Trick through the purchase of officially licensed Montana OHT product.
Add Some Art to Your Homecoming

A show featuring art by two outstanding UM alumni artists will be held Homecoming weekend in Missoula. The Walter Hook and Jay Rummel Art Show and Sale will run from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, in Craigs Mart, located at 3100 Brooks St. Additional shows are set for 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 6 and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 7. Both influential Missoulians are now deceased. Rummel studied ceramics under Rudy Autio, the sculptor of UM’s Bear Statue, and his work can be spotted at Charlie B’s. Besides being a graduate, Hook taught art at UM from 1955 to 1977.

Meet Grizwald: Provide the best original caption for Grizwald, UM’s cartoon bear, and the Montanan will send you a Griz stadium blanket. Email submissions and your address to themontanan@umontana.edu. The winning caption will be revealed next issue.

Former Lady Griz Torry Hill laughs with a Salvadoran girl from Soyapango, El Salvador, during a basketball clinic this past summer with more than 100 youth. Hill was among 19 professionals and students from Montana who visited Central America, where they served as citizen ambassadors in a U.S. Department of State youth sports diplomacy program managed by UM’s Mansfield Center.
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How did you begin working in higher education? Education opens doors and possibilities for people that they never even knew existed. My undergraduate mentor encouraged me to pursue graduate study, and I ended up going to the University of Colorado in Boulder because of their research institute in alpine studies.

My first day in that program, I met this amazing person, and we’ve been married for over 30 years now. We moved to Seattle, where I completed my Ph.D. at the University of Washington, and spent a year working for an environmental engineering company. I wanted to combine research and teaching, and my first academic job was as an assistant professor at Kent State University, northeast Ohio. Purdue recruited me from there in '94.

You've won multiple awards from Purdue, as well as fellowships. Could you describe your work? As a professor, I have really enjoyed integrating student learning with research. This has included work in hydrology applied to community needs, environmental education and in studies of glaciers, climate change and landscape development. I work with many international teams, and my students and I have worked extensively on the Tibetan Plateau and in Scandinavia. Last winter we spent a month in Antarctica doing research on long term changes in the East Antarctic Ice Sheet.

I’m very interested in environmental problem-solving, so I work with local communities in the U.S. and abroad. This has included a connection with Salish Kootenai College, where I served on a board of their new hydrology program, funded by the National Science Foundation.

What exactly is a provost's role? At UM, the provost provides leadership for academic and student success. It’s a bit like being the coach of a sports team – I work for the manager (the president) and am responsible for encouraging the players, for guiding, for putting together processes and strategies that help them excel. I’m not on the field scoring the goals, but I help the team succeed. I work with all of the academic units, with the deans and with the chairs, to make sure they’re supported to create superb programs for our faculty and students.

I also oversee the student success side of UM, working with leaders in these areas to ensure that we have amazing programs for students in housing, in dining, in health and recreation, and in advising. We are continuously asking if we are preparing the student holistically. For example, are we putting together recreational programs that connect to what the students are learning academically?

I often describe myself as a catalyst. When I get involved in things, my hope is that it will create better and faster outcomes.

Are you undergoing an attempt to boost enrollment at UM? Where does your role fit into that picture? When students come to UM, part of my responsibility is to make sure they’re having an amazing education, and that they’re well-supported so that they persist to graduation. If lots of students leave before they finish, that is not good for them or for enrollment. So part of my role is to make sure that as many as possible of the students who could succeed here do succeed here and then are able to move on to their lives and careers. In addition, to attract more students to UM, we have to be continually working to make sure that we have the academic programs and experiences that students are looking for, and so part of my effort is working with our colleges on program evolution.

How do you hope to help change academic programs? In many universities, there’s a lack of connection between the academic experience and all of the other parts of a student’s experience. What I want to be involved in here is knitting those together, so that when a student comes, if they’ve got a passion or interest that’s developing, it’s not just something that they’re doing in courses, but it’s tying into the experience they’re having in the residence halls, in the clubs that they’re joining, the study abroad they’re doing.

A good example would be learning communities in residence halls – students self-selecting to take advantage of a program that brings them together in a wide range of activities around a shared area of interest.

You’ve talked about the technology piece of student success. How do you want to enhance that here? I’m really keen about making sure students and faculty here leverage the best technologies to support learning. I think of it as a continuum – technology in our traditional face-to-face classes, hybrid courses – where part is fully online and part involves coming to a place and working together – to fully online experiences. There’s a huge opportunity for UM to reach students who cannot relocate to Missoula. How do we make sure they have access to a high-quality online education that will help advance their lives?

How does your background as that first-generation college student from Britain add a unique perspective to your role? Having had that lived experience, it makes me very aware of how our decisions affect a wide range of students. I’ve been an adviser in a mentoring program for first-generation students and for international students, and I can say, “Well, this was me. And here’s all the things I didn’t know. Let me explain to you how that works.” Whether you come from a small town in rural Montana, one of our tribal nations or from the U.K., we all bring a set of experiences and perspectives that really enrich the University. I love being part of highly diverse teams, and I’m really hoping to connect UM even more strongly to the globe, to the larger community.

– Interview by Courtney Brockman ‘17
Griz Great Dave Dickenson Reflects on His Career as He Enters the National College Football Hall of Fame

Calgary Stampeders quarterback Dave Dickenson smiles during a 2008 preseason game. He went on to a hall-of-fame career in the Canadian Football League.
Imagine if Mount Sentinel above the University of Montana campus was turned into a Mount Rushmore of honorary Missoulians. Who would be on it? Votes would surely go to the pioneering men and women who shaped Missoula’s values and culture, like U.S. Representative Jeannette Rankin, Bitterroot Salish Chief Charlo, smokejumper pilot Bob Johnson and writer Norman Maclean.

But the most votes might go to a man who in the mid-1990s wore a sepia-toned number 15 and did for Grizzly sports what no one had done before. He is quarterback Dave Dickenson. In 1995, he led a corps of Montana athletes, like a reverse of the westering pioneers of yore, east from the sparkling Rocky Mountains down to the humid banks of the roiling, brown Ohio River in Huntington, West Virginia, for a national championship game. The Grizzlies had never won it before. A fervent cadre of fans from Missoula followed – forebears of a culture that would blossom in the next generation.

The tale is Grizzly mythology now. On a fourth down on the 50-yard line with his team down 20 to 19 and 3:14 left to play, Dickenson took a snap. With the special intuition that allowed him to throw a record-setting 5,676 yards and 51 touchdowns that season, he waited. Waited as three boulder-sized linebackers charged him after he had already taken a beating all game. Waited until a bullet’s path opened up to fire the ball into the hands of UM receiver Mike Erhardt, who ran it more than 20 yards.

A few plays later, Andrew Larson kicked the field goal that changed Missoula from being a mountain town with football into a football town with mountains. In Dickenson, the modern Griz Nation had its George Washington. They reverently nicknamed him “Super Dave.”

“The cool thing with Montana celebrity is anytime anyone does something good from Montana, the whole state claims you and believes in you,” Dickenson says by phone from his home in Calgary, Alberta. “I was very proud to be a part of something we’d never done. You can only be first at so many things. When you’re the first team to win something, they can never take that away.”

The national championship was Dickenson’s greatest achievement in America. After college he went north and became a superstar in the Canadian Football League. That feat briefly brought him back to America for a chance at the NFL. That, however, became his greatest disappointment.

Then in January of this year, Dickenson learned that his American career had been dramatically reconsidered on the national level. He was selected for the most elite prestige he is eligible for in his home country. He was voted into the College Football Hall of Fame. It’s a distinction that for him carries extra meaning and made him think about where he might do next.

“I’m just very proud,” he says. “I just can’t wait.”

Dickenson was born into a tight-knit family in Great Falls in January 1973, the third of three children to a husband and wife who worked as schoolteachers. By seventh grade he weighed just 72 pounds, too few to make the top football team at North Junior High School. His sister Amy Umbarger, now a
The national championship made Dickenson, who graduated with a 3.9 GPA, decide against becoming a doctor and instead pursue a career in football. Playing for the Calgary Stampeders in 2000, Dickenson won the Canadian Football League’s Most Outstanding Player Award.

That led him in 2001 to the opportunity of his dreams: to come home to America and play in the NFL. Dickenson, then 28, wanted to do what he had done in every other football program he touched. Up to that point, he had not only bested all expectations, he had obliterated them. This weighed on his mind.

“I actually put a lot of pressure on myself from the get-go,” he says. “It’s your last name, your family. Once you’ve had a lot of success, you start to ask, ‘What if it doesn’t go well? The standard is set so high.’”

He never got his chance. He was picked up and then dropped by four NFL teams over two years. Montana’s greatest quarterback played high school science teacher in Pendleton, Oregon, remembers him as a “red-headed, freckle-faced, pesky younger brother.”

“He always wanted to keep up with us,” she says. “We made him work hard.”

His size masked a fierce competitiveness. It showed itself in everything from his collection of bowling trophies to his 4.0 GPA. His neighbor, Tony Arntson, who went on to quarterback for the Grizzlies and was a role model for Dickenson, took early note of this spirit.

“He just would not let anybody beat him in anything – from checkers to the football field,” says Arntson, now a coach at Carroll College in Helena. “Dave spread that attitude through all of his teammates.”

In his final years of high school, Dickenson led the Charles M. Russell team to back-to-back state AA football championships. In 1993, he became UM’s starting quarterback despite his weight barely doubling since junior high.

“I wanted to go to the top level in Montana and see if I could make it,” he says.

At UM, Dickenson was paired with the perfect coach in Don Read. Read recognized Dickenson compensated for strength with smarts and skill. He could decipher in a flash everything an opposing team would do. Lacking a rocket launcher for an arm, this David made his a Goliath-killing sling. On the field he fearlessly dodged tacklers until he could bullseye one of his receivers.

“Don Read was willing to play to my strengths,” Dickenson says. “I can picture coverages, I can picture plays, I can see how things fit. The creativity I have is I would never give up on a play, I was not worried about injury of my body, no regard for my well-being, I was always willing to lay it on the line.”

Jon Kasper ’97, who got to know Dickenson as a high school teammate, as a sportswriter for the Missoulian newspaper and later as an assistant commissioner for the Big Sky Conference, says that from the start Dickenson’s perception of plays was superhuman.

“He understood the game in such an advanced way,” Kasper says. “He was a leader. People followed him. He was a winner.”

In 1993, the Grizzlies won the Big Sky Championship for the first time since 1982 and for only the fourth time in history. The next year they reached the I-AA playoff semifinals for only the second time in history. Then came that fabled 1995 season. Super Dave became the most famous man in Montana. To legions of fans, he still is.

“I took some friends down to Montana after I was up here in Canada, and I said, ‘Hey guys, it’s going to be a little bit crazy.’”

Dickenson says. “They thought it was a joke, but everywhere you went you’re getting honks and, ‘Hey Dave!’ I got across the border once without a passport. I still get calls from guys back in Missoula, and they still watch all my games. It’s pretty amazing to me.”

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well in exhibition games only to never get to play a single second in the regular season. It burned him then. It burns him now.

“That probably is the one negative of my career,” he says. “I never got a live snap. I never made it.”

He says he felt bitter about the way he was treated in the NFL. In 2003, he went back north. He signed with the British Columbia Lions and in 2006 led them to win the Grey Cup, Canada’s Super Bowl.

“I really needed that,” he says. “You need that championship as a starting quarterback to make you feel that what you’ve sacrificed and what you went through is worthwhile.”

By 2008, Dickenson’s trademark talent for holding onto the ball until a receiver opened, even if it cost him a skull-rattling hit, became a liability. Though he was by then the CFL’s all-time leader in passing efficiency, he retired because he suffered too many concussions. That fact has left the former medical student worried, but regretful of nothing.

“I would do it all again,” he says.

Dickenson was recognized at Washington-Grizzly Stadium for the 10th anniversary of the 1995 championship win along with former coach Don Read (left) and teammate Matt Wells.

No sooner had he hung up his uniform than he was hired as a coach. The Stampeders brought him on as their offensive coordinator in 2011. In 2016, he was given the job of head coach. He immediately won the Coach of the Year Award.

Halls of fame and other elite merits have come his way. In 2002, he was inducted into the Grizzly Sports Hall of Fame. In 2013, the Big Sky Conference named him its greatest male athlete. In 2015, he joined the Canadian Football Hall of Fame.

There was just one missing. By some metrics the College Football Hall of Fame validates what he did in the U.S., Craig Dickenson says.

In 2015, Craig Dickenson called Dave Guffey, then UM’s sports information director. Guffey submitted a formal application to the College Football Hall of Fame. Three years later, Dickenson was voted in.

“It puts the final stamp on just how great he was, how iconic he was,” Guffey says. “It’s deserving; it’s about time.”

Added National Football Federation President & CEO Steve Hatchell, “There is no doubt that he is one of the best to have ever played college football, and his accomplishments deserve to be immortalized.”

Dickenson’s wife and two children, his parents and his siblings will travel to New York City in early December for the induction ceremony. Dickenson says he is once again proud to have brought esteem to his family name. His sister Amy pointed out that all Dickasons played a part.

“We always pushed him,” she says. “We deserve a little bit of the credit for this, too.”

The question always comes up: Would Dickenson ever return to Montana to coach his alma mater? Working as a coach in Canada while receiving honors for his play at UM makes him think about it. The team, he says, “is in my blood.”

“But let me say I know the Griz are in good hands right now with Bobby (Hauck),” Dickenson says. “He’s a great coach, and I’m excited to see what he can accomplish this year. And I’m certainly not in a hurry to leave Calgary, but I do always have Griz football on my mind.

“And it may not be in my best interest to ever coach in Montana, as it may cause hard feelings if it didn’t work out. Really, I have no unfinished business in Montana, just great memories.”

Craig Dickenson says that, ironically, his brother, always protective of his family time, created the conditions that make him hesitate. In the past generation, Griz coaching has shifted beyond intensive cultivation of native-grown alchemy to include time-intensive recruiting of top talent from far away.

“Part of what makes the job hard is what Dave and his teammates did,” Craig Dickenson says. “The winning tradition he started, fans there have gotten used to 10-2 and 11-1 seasons.”

Dickenson knows that if he didn’t do as a coach what he did as a quarterback, it would never tarnish his playing legacy. But it would become its epilogue. Fortunately for the Griz fans who would love to see his face above the stadium, or better yet back in it, he never let fear stop him from a play.

He continues to wait for that opening.

Nate Schweber is a freelance journalist who graduated from UM’s School of Journalism in 2001 and lives in Brooklyn. His work appears regularly in The New York Times. He has written for Rolling Stone, Al Jazeera America, Anthony Bourdain’s “Explore Parts Unknown,” Narratively and Trout. He is the author of “Fly Fishing Yellowstone National Park: An Insider’s Guide to the 50 Best Places.” He sings in a band called the New Heathens.

He felt that after the NFL disillusionment, his brother deserved a nationwide honor in his home country.

“The acknowledgement of making the College Football Hall of Fame validates what he did in the U.S.,” Craig Dickenson says.

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In the past 100 years, the College of Business has helped 20,000 graduates launch careers.
This past June, UM’s Ellie Hanousek spent 12 weeks at Nike Inc. helping the company fine-tune its engine. As a current student in the College of Business, Hanousek studies management information systems for digital marketing, and the Nike internship allowed her to apply what she’d learned in the classroom to the inner workings of one of the most powerful companies in the world.

Her project focused on streamlining month-end reporting for Nike’s finance and global operations team. To make that happen, she met with 14 of the company’s finance managers and analysts to understand where improvements could be made. The information she gleaned from the interviews allowed her to create one standardized process, which she automated using a bot team. She also set up a data visualization software program to help Nike gain deeper insights into its finance data.

“A lot of the project was consolidating information and trying to come up with best practices,” Hanousek says.

Her experience at UM perfectly prepared her for the internship in a multitude of ways. In an Information Infrastructure class taught by Professor Cameron Lawrence, for instance, she developed the skillset that allowed her to ferret out some of Nike’s inefficiencies and develop solutions.

In addition, Hanousek’s education at the College of Business provided her with a necessary international perspective. In her first year at the college, she studied abroad in New Zealand, where she learned about sustainable business practices. Last year, as part of the Kakehashi Project grant, she participated in a weeklong guided tour of Japan, where she learned about Japanese culture, history, politics and economy. Both those experiences prepared her to work with a global team of professionals.

“The global perspective really helped me in this environment at Nike,” she says. “I’ve had some really amazing opportunities at
UM student Ellie Hanousek spent her summer interning at Nike Inc. and already was hired to return as a financial analyst at the Fortune 500 company in fall 2019 after her senior year.

UM. Understanding the framework for how to approach real-world issues in a very hands-on way and understanding data-driven decision-making have been some of the biggest takeaways for me from my time in the College of Business."

It’s no coincidence that Hanousek landed at the Fortune 500 company for an internship. Nike’s COO is Eric Sprunk, an alumnus of the UM College of Business. He established a recruiting program with the college called Project Shoelace, which provides internships to UM business students and opens the door of opportunity for a career at Nike.

But Sprunk’s ties with the College of Business are just one example of the natural reciprocation process that happens between the College of Business and its alumni. Since its inception in 1918, the college has seen 20,000 alumni go forth in the world to take management positions with global powerhouse companies such as Microsoft, Nike, KPMG and Boeing and launch careers as accountants, IT consultants, marketing professionals and entrepreneurs – work that bolsters local economies in Montana and beyond. Its list of notable alumni is extensive – besides Sprunk, there’s Columbia Sportswear CFO Jim Swanson and former Microsoft CFO John Connors, to name just a few.

This year marks the centennial anniversary for the College of Business – and there is plenty to celebrate. Over the years, the college has built a thorough, well-rounded educational experience featuring global travel opportunities, internships, hands-on and project-based classroom learning, and applied, cutting-edge techniques taught by award-winning instructors. The programs are fortified both by strong relationships with alumni and by strong networks with professional companies across the world.

UM’s business college is the oldest AACSB-accredited business college in the state, and it has come a long way since its inception. It sprang out of a program solely focused on secretarial work, and in 1917 expanded its offerings to areas such as elementary accounting, commercial law, court reporting, business organization, real estate and insurance.

At first, enrollment was low because of the war, but in 1918, when the School of Business Administration was established, it saw the highest enrollment of any college at UM. It continued to expand as soldiers returned home and chose to go into business careers – and it continues to this day to be a high-enrollment college.

Chris Shook, the Sprunk and Burnham Endowed Dean of the College of Business, says one of the main reasons the college continues to enjoy a glowing reputation is that students get real-world instruction from the beginning. Shook has experience teaching abroad, and he recalls being ribbed for how much American education is focused on theory rather than application. UM’s College of Business bucks that stereotype.

“Here we don’t only talk about theory, we practice it. Because theory’s great, but if you can’t apply the theory, then you really haven’t learned it.”

—Chris Shook, Business College Dean

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accounting is one of the college’s flagship programs and is highly successful in terms of job placement, with about half of the college’s graduates staying in state and
half leaving for work out of the state. Students take the CPA exam before they enter the workforce, which gives them a head start. It’s one of the main reasons the “big four” accounting firms recruit from UM.

The process of preparing students for accountancy careers (and the exam) has a lot to do with the relationships the program builds with outside companies. For instance, KPMG, a worldwide accountancy firm, selects 30 schools with whom to partner, and UM is one of them. The firm devotes one of its partners to each school, and that relationship helps build a bridge for students as they transition from school to career.

Working with companies in Missoula and surrounding areas is key to UM’s business education. Students in David Firth’s consulting class, team up with Advanced Technology Group, a “quote-to-cash” company that works with integration and automated management of end-to-end business processes on the customer side. They form consulting teams and meet throughout the semester with ATG consultants to execute a project for the company.

ATG is one of several companies the college works with to facilitate projects in every field of study. Students in marketing must present a project at the end of the year using real data, real companies or organizations, and real problems coupled with real solutions. Historically, marketing was an area of study that focused primarily on presentation and building relationships. The business college requires students also to understand the underlying concepts and data from which they’re drawing and use that to tell a broader story.

“We provide a solid foundation with cutting-edge applications,” Shook says. “In marketing, we moved early into the analytics and the digital marketing space. So now our marketing majors really have to know numbers – it’s not like they can just be personable.”

Central to the college’s successes is its long list of beloved instructors, who must constantly keep up on ever-shifting technologies and industry trends. Jakki Mohr, Regents Professor of Marketing and the Gallagher Distinguished Faculty Fellow, is a prime example of how the college consistently stays on top of its game. Mohr, who’s been at UM since 1997, recently received the Montana Professor of the Year Award from the Montana Ambassadors for her award-winning research and thought-provoking teaching on the unintended consequences of technology and the challenges companies face when commercializing breakthrough innovations. She also works with the Marketing Financing Institute, a nonprofit that helps Fortune 500 companies set their agendas and stay up to speed on current technologies. And that kind of engagement with the world outside the classroom keeps the college on the front lines.

“Our students get this amazingly high-quality education, and that’s something that binds all of the business faculty together,” she says. “We get to focus on what’s relevant, cutting edge, practical and rigorous.”

According to Mohr, the College of Business succeeds because it doesn’t insulate itself from the outside world – it’s responsive to opportunities.

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1850 The business school moves into a new building, which would later become the education building.

“Ideas, experiences and opportunity are driven by the people you surround yourself with, and the UM College of Business was filled with amazing people and collaborative thinkers. Five on Black was, without a doubt, created as a result of my time at the University of Montana.”

Tom Snyder
Five on Black Inc. Owner

Larson, Beaton wrote the business plan for Big Dipper. He based it off a book Larson wrote called “Montana Entrepreneur’s Guide,” which Larson

and quantitative chops from a marketing perspective. Mohr and her colleagues took that comment to heart.

“In response, we started pioneering classes in data analytics when it was still just an idea in most schools,” Mohr says. “Now that we’ve developed the full curriculum for a Master’s of Science in Business Analytics, I think we’re one of the only schools that I know of that focuses on that intersection of statistical methodology and creativity. People often forget that the way you interpret and glean insight from data is ultimately a creative endeavor. We are always trying to find the sweet spot of not only what’s cutting edge, but what’s important and what we can do to give our students that extra edge.”

he college doesn’t just help prepare students for careers, it helps them seed their own ventures right in the classroom. Missoula is chock-full of businesses and organizations started by College of Business alumni. One popular Missoula business that sprung from the college is Big Dipper Ice Cream.

Owner Charlie Beaton, who graduated in 1991, studied at the College of Business, where he took entrepreneurship and marketing classes. Beaton isn’t your stereotypical businessman. He grew up playing in punk rock bands and wanted to find a way to own a fun business that fit his laid-back personality. He says he found some answers in a class taught by Dan Callahan, a marketing professor at the time.

“That’s when I learned about guerrilla marketing, which is the type of marketing I’ve used for Big Dipper forever,” Beaton says. “It’s just about being creative – the same thing you do when you’re in a band. You’re trying to figure out how to get people to come see a show, you know? Like making stickers and buttons – and so that always stuck with me.”

In an entrepreneurship class taught by Paul Larson, Beaton wrote the business plan for Big Dipper. He based it off a book Larson wrote called “Montana Entrepreneur’s Guide,” which Larson

used as a textbook for the class, and which provided state-specific details on financing, trademarks and legal issues.

“That was like a bible for me,” Beaton says. “When I started Big Dipper, I used that to write my business plan and figure out how to do my projections.”

Several Missoula businesses, from restaurants to digital marketing companies to ski manufacturers, got their start as part of the John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge, a statewide business plan competition for college students. The Startup Challenge originated in 1989 at the College of Business and is now an annual event, hosted in collaboration with Blackstone LaunchPad, where students can win thousands of dollars in cash prizes and secure startup funding. The challenge also allows students the opportunity to network with venture capitalists, early stage investors, investment bankers, economic developers, corporate executives and successful entrepreneurs.

“The opportunity to remain involved with the business college after graduation has been a wonderful chance to be introduced to the extraordinary people and programs that make it the exceptional institution that it is today.”

Warren Wilcox
CPA, Entrepreneur
Former John R. Daily Inc. CEO

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1950 The business school moves into a new building, which would later become the education building.

“Buildings aren’t the most important thing,” Gianchetta says, “though the facilities are important...
to create an educational environment that serves the students well. But it’s the friends and alumni of the University of Montana who are so loyal and have such a giving spirit that keep us going. They can’t all do it with money, but they all think of ways they can help. There’s little question in my mind that the College of Business delivers one of the finest educations that you can get anywhere in the United States.”

Since May 2016, when he stepped into the role of dean, Shook has led the college forward, while still maintaining the strong foundation its faculty, staff and alumni have cultivated for a century. Last year, the Montana University System Board of Regents voted to rename the School of Business Administration to the College of Business – a name, Shook says, that matches the college’s educational depth and prestige as “an institution that honors long-standing traditions of excellence while embodying creative thinking, forward progress and growth.”

Alumna Jena Gardner, who grew up in the Bitterroot and attended UM’s business college, is a prime example of a creative thinker who has made positive impacts on the world. Her lifelong love of travel became her career when, in 2002, she started JG Worldwide, a multinational New York City-based company for which she is president and CEO, which provides an expansive portfolio of services to the travel and tourism industry. In 2008, she co-founded The Bodhi Tree Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting environmental and humanitarian efforts related to travel and tourism sustainability. Her glowing reputation has made her a sought-after international keynote speaker and consultant on business innovation. And like so many alumni before her, Gardner can trace the roots of her global success back to the hallowed hallways of UM.

“I will be forever grateful for my time at UM College of Business and for everything the professors and staff taught me,” Gardner says. “The accounting, marketing and management knowledge I gained gave me the confidence to start my own business at 32 and provided the foundation to help grow it into a multinational company, with offices across the U.S and around the globe.”

Erika Fredrickson is the arts editor of the Missoula Independent. She graduated from UM’s Creative Writing Program in 1999 and received a master’s degree in environmental studies in 2009.
Lynne Avril illustrates bestselling children’s books, composes museum-quality paintings and sketches strangers on bar napkins. She also plays the blues.
Artist Lynne Avril works on the latest Amelia Bedelia children's book at her home on the shores of Flathead Lake in Polson.
Avril can’t remember not drawing.
She was born Lynne Woodcock in Miles City to an arts-loving mother and a cowboy father who liked to doodle. Her father, Walter Woodcock, was president of the Billings Arts Association, and even late into his life he was a tough critic of his daughter’s work. When Avril was illustrating a children’s book called “Every Cowgirl Needs a Horse,” her father appraised her pictures with comments like, “That horse has no chest,” “That’s not how you tie a lariat knot,” and “You hitch a wagon like this.” He taught Avril to get over her ego.

The first person outside Avril’s family to take an interest in her art was her sixth-grade teacher in Billings. That teacher invited her to stay in at lunch one day to paint a watercolor of Mount Fuji. “He taught Avril to get over her ego.”

Armstrong remembers thinking Avril showed promise even then. Now a master printer, Armstrong has followed Avril’s career and formed a close friendship with her. They both live in Phoenix for most of the year and keep up on each other’s art. Armstrong continues to be impressed.

“She’s an illustrator, she’s a fine painter, she’s a colorist, she draws well, she plays in a band, she’s well-read, and she speaks more than one language,” he says. “She’s capable of a lot of things.”

In 1969, Avril enrolled in the fine art program at UM, where she studied under teachers like Walter Hook, James Dew and Rudy Autio. Armstrong wanted to become a fine art painter.

“I had never had any thought of being a book illustrator,” she says. “When you were at the University, you did not draw little kids with rosy cheeks and cute little animals. You drew dead babies. You know, serious art.

Avril graduated from UM in 1975 after taking a year off to be a ski bum in Red Lodge. She married a music teacher named Jay Cravath, had a daughter named Chloe and moved to Arizona. Avril already played the flute and the fiddle, and at Cravath’s suggestion, she taught herself the bass guitar.

Avril still aspired to make a living in art, but in the meantime she worked as a dishwasher, a line cook and an aerobics instructor. She spent three years as a firefighter in Whiteriver on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

“I’ve never turned down a job,” she says.

Still, art crept into her life. She illustrated birth announcements and birthday invitations. And she carried a sketchpad to Chloe’s 4-H events and dog shows, where she drew kids and their animals in action.

In the late 1980s, Avril caught a break. She was doing freelance graphic art, designing ads and laying them out for a typesetter in Phoenix. She would pack her infant son, Jeff, into the car when she delivered ads to the print shop. One day her boss got a call from Jostens, the company that makes yearbooks and class rings. Jostens was marketing a series of computer programs and needed a bevy of short kids’ books to accompany them.


So Avril started assembling small packets of her art samples. She mailed them relentlessly to all the major publishers in New York. But after a steady stream of rejections, she decided to go back to school for an elementary teaching degree at Arizona State. That’s when Simon & Schuster called to ask if she would illustrate a picture book by Debbie Driscoll called “Three Two One Day.” Avril dropped out of school.

“Was I going to get a paycheck every two weeks, or was I going to jump off a cliff and be a children’s illustrator?” she says. “I decided to jump off the cliff. And I’ve never had a spare moment since.”

Even cliff jumpers experience turbulence, though. Every time Avril gets an assignment, she comes down with what she calls the “BBBs” – the Beginning of the Book Blues. She flops down on her bed and sighs audibly. The problems seem insurmountable. The art direction seems questionable.

“I get really depressed and stressed,” Avril admits. “But as soon as the problems are worked out, I love it. I thrive on the intensity.”

When she’s on assignment, the pace builds until, in the final stretch, she’s working 18-hour days. Then, when the book is finished, she feels aimless. “I guess it’s the End of the Book Blues,” she says. Fortunately, it’s rarely long before the cycle starts anew.

Busy as she is, Avril still makes time for other interests. Every Thursday in Phoenix, she practices yoga and meditation at the Self Realization Fellowship, a community founded in 1920 by the Indian yogi Paramahansa Yogananda. She attends political rallies and protests. She brings her books into elementary schools to speak with children about art. She illustrates for Highlights High Five magazine.

She hasn’t stopped learning, either. One day, she decided she wanted to learn French. So she canceled all of her TV stations except for the French one. Now she speaks the language fluently and spends six weeks of every year in Paris, recharging her creative batteries by sketching street scenes and visiting places like the Halle Saint Pierre, a museum for outsider art.
She also frequents the city’s jazz clubs – sometimes playing her electric bass on stage, and sometimes just listening and sketching the musicians on bar napkins. She does these spontaneous portraits all over the world. They keep her skills sharp and inspire some of the characters in her illustrations. Starting in September, Avril will have an installation of these napkin sketches and an oil painting on display in a jazz-inspired art show at the Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum.

Former UM art Professor Jim T odd met Avril last year in Phoenix and remembers walking through a garden of tall cacti to get to her studio. Inside he was moved by Avril’s fine art, which is inspired by music, politics, the environment and spirituality.

“She got the personality of the character,” Le Floc’h remembers, “but we wanted her to be more contemporary. So we gave her another cloche hat.”

“Her studio is filled with large and small imaginative paintings,” Todd recalls. “Like the late Swiss painter Paul Klee, her smaller works were especially impressive in the way they combined the symbolic imagination of a child with the sophistication of abstract design.”

Avril’s first book with Simon & Schuster led to more work for Random House and other publishers. Then in 2007, she got a call from Sylvie Le Floc’h, an art director for HarperCollins. The publisher was reimagining the Amelia Bedelia series and wondered if Avril could submit some samples. Avril quickly painted two scenes of a young, old-fashioned Amelia Bedelia in a vintage uniform and cloche hat.

“She got the personality of the character,” Le Floc’h remembers, “but we wanted her to be more contemporary. So we gave her another shot, and that was it.”

Now Le Floc’h and Avril work closely together on at least four books a year. Le Floc’h loves Avril’s sense of color, her humor and her speed.

“It’s one thing to be fast,” she says, “but Lynne is fast and good.”

Avril’s illustrations inject humor into a book and embellish the narrative. That sense of optimism and fun are a big part of Avril’s personal magnetism, too.

“I’ve gone on vacation to Montana,” Le Floc’h says, “and I’ve stopped by and spent the day with her. That’s how much I like her.”

Le Floc’h knows firsthand how hard Avril works, even when she makes the job seem easy. “Her art looks very simple,” Le Floc’h says, “but if you go behind it and see how much she works, it’s not. Sometimes it’s harder to do something that looks so simple.”

Herman Parish, the author of the new Amelia Bedelia books and the nephew of original author Peggy Parish, remembers seeing Avril’s depiction of the young Amelia Bedelia for the first time. “I thought it was gorgeous,” he says. “It was just right. She’s found this energetic persona that everyone would like to have as their friend. If you were in first grade, and it was a confusing day, you’d want Amelia Bedelia sitting next to you.”

Parish says he’s always pleasantly surprised to see Avril’s illustrations. “They’re just happy,” he says. “You can’t look through one of those books and be in a bad mood afterward. It takes you to this normal, safe place, where it’s not boring, and if anything hard or bad is going on, it’s solved with humor.”

Parish continues. “She’s nice. She’s positive. She’ll help you get through anything.” Is he talking about Amelia Bedelia or Lynne Avril? Parish laughs. “It could be both,” he says.

Avril is adding color to an illustration with compressed charcoal brush strokes that don’t always obey the lines. “I want to give children art that has integrity,” she says. “I don’t want it to be too cartoonish or cute.”


She sets down her stylus and drags a knee-high Fender amp out of the bedroom closet. She picks up a battered guitar case and carries it all downstairs to her Prius in the driveway. She has an evening gig with a jam band at the Sitting Duck Bar in Woods Bay.

Avril adores art, but music is a special passion. In Arizona, she used to play for the late, great blues drummer Chico Chism, who introduced her to people – including B.B. King – as “my lady bass player.” Now Avril is in a Phoenix band called The Chevaliers. Avril makes time for music wherever she goes. It’s a valuable social outlet that offsets her solitary hours illustrating.

“When I’m playing music, I’m about as blissed out as you can get,” she says. “When I’m doing art, it’s intense and hard and time stops meaning anything. I get in the zone, but it’s not bliss.”

It takes about an hour to drive to the Sitting Duck. When Avril arrives, she unloads her amp and guitar, orders a Miller Lite and a shot of tequila, and sets up with the other musicians on the deck outside, overlooking the glittering Flathead Lake.

Avril sits on a stool and cradles her guitar. She’s bright and youthfully effervescent, with a chartreuse top, black leggings and shoulder-length blonde hair. The band starts up with songs by Johnny Cash and Jimmy Buffett. Avril is in the background, making every note count, like the lines in her drawings.

It’s a sun-soaked summer evening, and from Avril’s stool she can see the dock below and the blue waves lapping ashore over rainbow-colored stones. The scene is so cheerful and awash with color that it almost looks like an illustration, perhaps with a little girl on the dock with a daisy in her hair, skipping stones into the water and trying to make sense of this big, wild world. 

Jacob Baynham graduated from UM with a journalism degree in 2007. He writes for Men’s Journal, Outside and other magazines. He lives in Missoula with his wife, Hilly McGahan ’07, and their son.
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Tell us about your UM story.

Mike: I grew up in Missoula, and my parents instilled a love of UM and the Griz at an early age. The decision to attend UM was an easy one when the Griz offered me a scholarship to play football. My dad, Bill, also played for the Griz, so the opportunity to play for his alma mater was a great honor. I have been a fan since my earliest memories watching Griz football at Dornblaser Field, and I will be a proud alum, fan and supporter of the Griz and UM for the rest of my days.

Andy: My dad was a UM alum as well. We definitely came to Griz football games, and I distinctly remember the great Grady Bennett teams. At the time we were playing, Griz football wasn’t nearly as big of a deal as it is now. I don’t even think back in ‘93 we really knew how good we were. We were just out there playing and having fun. I think looking back, that’s really what got people excited to be involved.

What was it like to win the championship?

Mike: That first fall on campus in ’92, our redshirt freshmen class set a goal to not only win Big Sky championships, but also a national championship. Coach Don Read used to point to the old press boxes in the stadium during practice and tell us that the first Griz team to win a national title would go up on the boxes forever. We wanted to be that team. Winning the title was the perfect storm of talent, drive and heart from the players, coaches and administrators. Everything just clicked.

Andy: Dave Dickenson got voted best athlete in the Big Sky for good reason. I’ve never been around a leader like that before. He just expected so much that it propelled us all to step our game up.

What inspired you to give back to UM?

Mike: My parents clearly valued UM growing up and lent their support to the University in numerous ways. They talked often to us about the importance of supporting many things, but the University of Montana always held a special place for our family. I knew early that I would support the University later in life.

Andy: Well, it’s funny, Mike’s dad was actually president of the bank that I came back to work for. He instilled a culture of philanthropy and giving back. Prior to that moment, I donated to a few causes, but it wasn’t a major part of my life. But at that point, I realized how much it mattered to me.

How did you come up with the idea to raise funds with your team?

Andy: Mike and I started talking about putting together a ’95 team gift before our team’s induction into the UM Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005. We remembered that the 1984 Bobcats donated money to help MSU get a turf, and we had this idea that our team should also find a way to give back.

Mike: It was important to us that our ’95 team had a lasting impact at UM beyond the field. We wanted to leverage the ’95 title to build a legacy of support and giving back among current and future UM student-athletes. With our 20th anniversary looming in spring of 2014, it seemed a good time to move forward.

How did it feel to give back as a group?

Mike: Amazing! The entire effort of reaching out and catching up with all the guys, talking about football, about life, about the fundraising effort, and then having it all successfully culminate with the ’95 team coming back to campus to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the national title and present the team gift to UM – it was nearly as memorable as winning the title in the first place.

Andy: Because it was such a long time coming, it was even sweeter to help put this together. It was a great way to inspire others to make a larger impact for campus. Our biggest hope is that this spurs others to give back to UM.
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It was around midnight one evening last July when Nick Scholz ’08 received the call from Search and Rescue about a 5-month-old infant lost in the woods near Lolo Hot Springs. Scholz, who graduated from UM with a degree in recreation management and has worked in law enforcement for the U.S. Forest Service for six years, has helped with many SAR cases.

But this time he thought, “Oh no, this is not good.” As he drove to Lolo Hot Springs with Missoula County sheriff’s deputy Ross Jessop, he knew the unlikely odds of finding a baby in such an extensive forest landscape.

After piecing together clues from the extremely impaired man who had crashed his car and abandoned the infant, Scholz and Jessop followed a two-track road behind Lolo Hot Springs. The car was not there.

Further into the forest, they saw tire tracks on the side of the mountain and then a small driven-over tree. They followed a game trail 80 yards to an opening and ran to the dome light of the car. The baby’s car seat was there. But the baby wasn’t.

Children’s trivia cards lay scattered on the ground near the car, and a trail of items extended deeper into the woods. When the officers arrived at an empty baby carrier, diaper bag and towel, they told the SAR crew who had arrived to stand back.

“In our minds, we were assuming the worst,” Scholz says. As they walked upslope along a beaten trail, they heard a whimper minutes later and raced toward it.

“I just remember Ross moving a couple sticks out of the way and picking up this little baby boy from the ground,” Scholz says. “It was pretty surreal. The kid wasn’t fussy, wasn’t crying, just like ‘Oh, hi,’ looking at us like, ‘Oh hey, how’s it going?’”

The baby received treatment and survived.

Scholz says even after working in a profession where he is trained to play out worst-case scenarios in his mind, he experienced a roller coaster of emotions that night.

“This is not what I was preparing myself for, but this is incredible,” he says. Scholz says he is surprised he and Jessop received national attention for doing their duty – just like they do every day.

“Still, it’s a very uplifting story and very much a win for all the first responders in this community who deal with and see tragedy day after day,” he says. “This little baby’s life was saved.”
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1930s

EDITH ATKINSON WYLIE ’34, Bigfork, celebrated her 106th birthday on July 28. For 30 years, she has lived in both California and Bigfork, and two years ago, she participated in the Bigfork Fourth of July parade donning her Griz gear. Future parade appearances are planned.

1950s

Editor’s Note: In the last issue, a photo of Newt Buker ’51 was misidentified as Richard Woods ’56. Richard noted, “At least he’s younger and much more handsome than I.” The real Newt is pictured. The Montanan apologizes for the error and sent Richard a hat for so graciously alerting us.

STANLEY NICHOLSON ’58, Missoula, holds a doctorate in economics from Duke University, and this year two of his grandsons continued the tradition by graduating in economics. He taught at the College of William & Mary and worked for 10 years in Nigeria, Columbia and Brazil in economic development. After a residency at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., and an administrative vice president position at Colby College, he retired to Seeley Lake in 1990. He became involved with the Business Bureau with Fiscal Forums and helped found the Seeley Lake Community Foundation before moving to Missoula in 2013.

ROGER SMITH ’58, Norwalk, Conn., remains active in his community of Rowayton, Connecticut, where he serves on the local library board as a trustee, as well as with other organizations. He worked at the Navy’s U.S. Submarine Base, the New London Ct., the Stouffer Foods Corp. and Top of the Sixes restaurant in New York City. After marrying, he joined Batten, Barten, Durstine & Osborn Inc. and spent most of his career there as a vice president corporate personnel director.

BARBARA MATTESON ’59, Tucson, Ariz., retired after teaching elementary school for 30 years. For 27 years she served as a member of the Arizona Women’s Political Caucus to support women running for office. She has worked in numerous political activism campaigns at local, state and national levels and as a delegate to the Democratic

Barbara Matteson was honored in 2017 with the Distinguished Service Award from the NEA. ’59

1940s

DONNA FANNING ’48, from Butte, MCGEE, BILLIE MCDONALD CARVEY ’48, and MARJORIE SPLAN STAPP ’45, all from Great Falls, sit on the steps of UM’s Kappa Alpha Theta House circa 1945.

ANNA MCGEE MOODY ’48, Bellingham, Wash., worked as a probation officer at Whatcom County Juvenile Court in Washington for 25 years and, through the court system, monitored dependency cases and handled adoptive home studies. After retiring from the county, she continued conducting adoptive home studies until she was 80 years old. She has four daughters, one grandson and one great-granddaughter. Her hobbies include swimming, walking down by the waterfront in Bellingham, reading and playing bridge on Monday nights.

McGee meets her future husband FRED MOODY ’49, Marine vet and Sigma Nu alum, on the steps of the Theta House after the invasion of Iwo Jima in 1945. This photo was taken by fellow Theta sister MARGERY HUNTER BROWN ’50, M.A.’53, J.D.’75, who later became one of the first women to enter UM’s law school and established the Indian Law Clinic.

ALUMNI EVENTS 2018

SEPTEMBER

21-22 College of Business Centennial
30-OCT. 6 Homecoming Week

OCTOBER

2 Hello Walk
4 House of Delegates Meeting
5 Distinguished Alumni Awards, Yell Night Pep Rally, All-Alumni Social
6 Homecoming Parade, All-Alumni Tailgate, Montana vs. Portland State
13-24 Griz Treks: Glorious Greece

NOVEMBER

17 118th Brawl of the Wild, Missoula; Griz/Cat watch parties, nationwide

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National Convention. She is most passionate about public education, women’s rights, environmental issues and senior issues. Matteson worked as president and vice president of NEA-Retired, as well as on its Political Action Committee, and she was recognized with its highest honor as 2017 winner of the Distinguished Service Award.

1960s

SUSAN HINMAN ’63, Dana Point, Calif., taught junior high in Billings and San Capistrano, Calif., and high school in Anaheim and Garden Grove, Calif. She worked for 12 years as an aide to an Orange County supervisor, as well as a staff analyst in the Orange County Social Services Agency. From 1990 to 2000, she served on the board of directors of the South Coast Water District and from 2000 to 2016 worked as president of both agencies on the Municipal Water District.

She holds an M.P.A. from California State University, Long Beach, and is a member of Phi Kappa Phi. Now retired, she has been married 53 years to Paul, a Bobcat.

ALBERT BREWER ’68, M.M. ’71, Hamilton, is now retired after a long career in music. He worked with the Washington, D.C., Opera from 1972 to 1974, taught in Libby from 1974 to 1995, attended Catholic University from 1995 to 1999, earning a Doctorate of Musical Arts, and then owned and operated Oceanside Academy in Oceanside, Calif., from 2001 to 2007. He taught at UM Western in Dillon from 2009 to 2014.

RUTH SILVIUS DOBSON ’68, Beaverton, Ore., taught voice, opera workshop, vocal pedagogy and song literature at Portland State University for more than 25 years. As an adjunct faculty member at the University of Oregon, she taught voice lessons for six years and worked as an interim faculty member at Oregon State University for two years. She served on the board of directors of the National Opera Association for 15 years, with the last two as vice president for conventions. She continues to teach voice privately in the Portland area and remains active in the National Association of Teachers of Singing and the National Opera Association. She won a Governor’s Arts Award in 2007 from the state of Oregon.

JUNE EHINGER ’68, Lewisville, Texas, retired as deputy executive director of the Oklahoma State School Boards Association. She also worked with the United States Agency for International Development in Macedonia and the Republic of Georgia to establish school boards. She holds a master’s degree from Tennessee Tech University and a doctorate from the University of Tulsa and now lives in Texas with her husband.

BILLIE HERRIN ’68, M.Ed. ’87, Ed.D. ’91, Missoula, taught high school classes in both Columbus and Helena, as well as worked as a part owner/manager of a bath shop in Billings. She returned to UM for advanced education degrees. As a teaching assistant and then faculty member in UM’s Department of Curriculum and Instruction, she taught business education courses from fall 1985 to spring 2000. She and her husband, Ned, now live in both Missoula and Phoenix, enjoying traveling, golfing, reading meeting with friends and attending events.

SUSAN HOVE-PABST ’68, Port Angeles, Wash., worked as a music specialist in elementary schools and then at the university level, retiring as a professor emerita in music. She also performed, taught guitar and owned a restaurant. Now retired, she enjoys the Pacific Northwest with friends and family, with a “bit of Montana always present.”

DONALD GATZKE M.A. ’68, Cherokee Village, Ark., has worked as a government administrator; psychologist; president at four colleges and universities; mediator; clinical professional counselor; CEO of a construction company, trucking company and well-drilling company; a subdivision developer; and school counselor in the Arctic. He holds
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My Story:

Jesse Strang, a proud UM Alumni and Veteran of the United States Armed Forces, is the new broker/owner of Missoula Mortgage. His service included four years of dedication from 1997-2001 with his favorite location to serve Fort Benning GA. His next chapter in life brought him to the University of Montana where he graduated with a business degree in 2005. During his years at the University, you would often find him roaming the halls of the modern Gallagher Business School. After college Jesse pursued a career in banking. He now has 17 years experience in the field with a diverse background working with National Banks, Community Banks & local Credit Unions.

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a doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a post-doctoral degree from the University of Alaska-Anchorage.

**RICHARD ORESTAD** ’68, Scottsdale, Ariz., worked for the Nielson Corp. of Chicago and then for Dial Corp., moving from San Francisco to Phoenix. He led Dial’s Sales and Business Development department for 20 years until he retired in 2008. He still lives in the Phoenix area, enjoying life and golf.

**GEORGE PECK** ’68, Aurora, Colo., retired in 2015 after nearly 50 years in the workforce, including 15 years as vice president of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. As well as enjoying his grandchildren, he remains actively involved in the community on several boards, commissions, Rotary and more. He received a Community Hero of Buckley award in 2013 for his support of Buckley Air Force Base. He and his wife, Barb, just celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary.

**CARL FRANKLIN** ’77, Fresno, Calif., was inducted into the California Pharmacists Association Pharmacy Hall of Fame for extraordinary service, character, innovation, trend-setting and altruism within the state. He is the senior adviser emeritus of the pharmacy recruitment and placement firm Rx relief and has worked as a pharmacist for 40 years and with Rx relief since 1990, serving as executive vice president. Under his leadership, Rx relief has won multiple awards, including numerous best staffing client awards and a Genius Grand Award from the American Staffing Association. Franklin said becoming a pharmacist was his dream since he was 15 years old. He retired in 2017.

“I am so happy to be able to share my award and acknowledgement with the University of Montana,” he said. “I owe my success in my career to what I’ve learned at UM – not only in terms of education, but also life lessons. I grew into adulthood during my attendance at UM, and I’m thankful for every experience.”

**PHILLIP VAN NESS** ’68, Urbana, Ill., is a private law practitioner with Webber & Theis, PC, in Urbana, Illinois. He focuses on environmental and real estate law and has published several chapters in environmental law publications, as well as presented at numerous professional seminars. He has served as a board member of a local school district, an officer in church and civic organizations, a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and chair of the Environmental Law Section and Real Estate Law Section councils. He previously worked for three Illinois state agencies for nearly 20 years and served as chief hearing officer for the Pollution Control Board.

**1970s**

**LOREN PINSKI** ’71, M.B.A.’87, serves as a Community HIV/AIDS Outreach Program Peace Corps volunteer in the province of Limpopo, South Africa.

**HARLEY SCHRECK** M.A. ’77, Arden Hills, Minn., retired this past spring after teaching at Bethel University for 30 years. He served in the U.S. Navy for four and a half years, spending most of his time in Southeast Asia, and then worked as a senior researcher for World Vision. He came to Bethel in 1988 to teach anthropology and helped create a partnership between Bethel and Frogtown Summit University near St. Paul, Minn. He has led study abroad trips to India and Amsterdam and will lead a final trip to Dehli, India.

**1980s**

**STEVEN R. ROVIG** J.D. ’80 Seattle, received the King County Bar Association’s Helen M. Geisness

spring. He has worked in education for 42 years, spending the past 25 years as the director of athletics for Marysville School District north of Seattle. He plans to retire at the end of the 2018-19 school year.
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Award for three decades of leadership. He began as a volunteer lawyer for KCBA’s Volunteer Attorneys for People with AIDS program and served on KCBA’s pro bono services committee for more than 10 years, earning an award in 1999. He also worked at the King County Bar Foundation, serving as board of trustees president in 2001-02. At KCBA, he became treasurer, vice president and eventually president and worked with numerous community organizations, earning a Businessman of the Year title by the Greater Seattle Business Association in 1996. Now retired, he is involved with the Board of Governors of the Montana State University Alumni Foundation.

BRAD NEWMAN ’81, J.D. ’84, Butte, left his position as a Montana District Court judge this July to become a full-time member of the Montana Board of Pardons and Parole upon appointment by Montana Gov. Steve Bullock. Each year, the board decides whether hundreds of inmates are released early from prison. Newman has served as a prosecutor, Montana District Court judge and legislator in Butte for 35 years. As a Democratic legislator, he focused on strengthening domestic abuse laws.

LINDA CARICABURU ’84, Great Falls, earned the Paris Gibson award for her dedication to the betterment of the city of Great Falls. A UM journalism alumna, she now is a technical writer for James Talcott Company. Caricaburu served as an original board member for the Great Falls Public School Foundation and past Foundation chairwoman. She also won an Athena Award from the Great Falls Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the YMCA Literacy and the PTA for Roosevelt School.

CRIMESTOPPERS, ADULT LITERACY AND THE PTA FOR ROOSEVELT SCHOOL

1990s


LISA PARKS ’90, Cambridge, Mass., recently was highlighted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for her work exploring the cultural effects of satellites. A global media scholar, she joined the MIT School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences in 2017. She previously worked as senate faculty and department chair of film and media studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and has authored or co-edited numerous books on satellite technology and media culture.

MORRY MATSON ’93, Chicago, became president of the Log Cabin Republicans of Illinois. Matson is the state delegate for President Trump in Chicago’s 48th Ward, the neighborhood where Hillary Clinton was born. The LCR-Illinois focuses on rights for persons who are gay and lesbian, and Matson plays an active role in communicating between Chicago and Springfield. He will run as an independent alderman in the February 2019 municipal election. Matson also owns a theater company in Chicago.

During the Grizzlies’ 22-20 national championship win over Marshall in 1995, Wells scored the only two touchdowns. ’96

During the Grizzlies’ 22-20 national championship win over Marshall in 1995, Wells scored the only two touchdowns. ’96

MATT WELLS ’96, Kansas City, Mo., was inducted into the Grizzly Sports Hall of Fame. Wells played for the Grizzlies from 1992 to 1995, and he is ranked among Montana’s top football players, with 248 catches for 3,342 yards and 23 receiving career touchdowns. While a senior at UM, he was named a first-team All-American by various organizations, and he received awards for outstanding freshman in 1992, most inspirational in 1993 and 1994, and outstanding back or receiver in 1995.

GLENDA CARR ’99, Pharm.D. ’00, Boise, Idaho, earned a Distinguished Service Award, Idaho State University’s highest honor. A clinical assistant pharmacy

STEPHEN PLACE J.D. ’96, Bishop, Calif., has been appointed a judge in the Inyo County Superior Court. He was an associate at the Law Office of Peter E. Tracy from 1996 to 2001, a sole practitioner from 2002 to 2004, a partner at Place and Christianson from 2004 to 2006 and a partner at Hardy and Place from 2006 to 2013 before returning to work as a sole practitioner again.

DAN O’BOYLE ’81, Huntsville, Ala., recently retired as a senior public affairs specialist with the Aviation and Missile Command after 39 years of service. He worked in public affairs for the Aviation and Troop Command in St. Louis and then at Redstone Arsenal. He also served in Army public affairs as a soldier in the Panama Canal Zone. Upon retiring, he received a Superior Civilian Service Award.

O’Boyle (left) receives recognition for his outstanding public affairs work from AMCOM Deputy Commander Bill Marriott.
**LETTER FROM THE UMAA BOARD CHAIR**

As we prepare to welcome our UM family back for Homecoming 2018, I’m reflecting on the rapid changes we have seen over the past year and during my tenure as UM Alumni Association board chair.

We have a new president, Seth Bodnar – a bright, young, talented nontraditional leader who brings a business mind with an academic soul. I have been nothing but impressed every time we meet or I hear him speak. I am thoroughly convinced he is the right person to lead UM through our next phase of prosperity and achievement.

To complement his vision, Seth has sought out and assembled a top-notch leadership team over the past several months. Cathy Cole, vice president for enrollment and strategic communications, brings great experience and incredible energy into renewing UM’s enrollment and marketing operations. Jon Harbor joins us from Purdue as provost. Dr. Harbor brings a student-centered approach as chief academic officer and will lead the UM student experience both in and outside the classroom. Seth has restructured both positions to ensure we attract plenty of future Grizzlies and give them wonderful opportunities to succeed. I’m more than optimistic they will get the job done.

But, they can’t do it by themselves …

I call upon you, our 104,812 alumni across Montana, the U.S. and the world to rally behind President Seth Bodnar, his team and your University.

I ask you to support us any way you can. Tell your friends, colleagues, family and prospective students that you attended an incredible institution that helped shape your life. Tell stories of your time on campus and those who influenced you. Help those people around you understand the impact UM makes. If you are inclined to give, there are hundreds of worthy entities on campus who will use your generosity to make this a better institution. Consider joining the Alumni Association to help us bring quality programming options so you can stay connected and/or volunteer with alumni in your area. We are working hard to establish Griz Chapters around the country to actively engage alums and promote UM leadership strategic goals. Vote for leaders and initiatives that support higher education.

With all the promise ahead of us, it is time to roll up our sleeves and help our new leadership bring back UM’s prominence. Go Griz!

WAYNE NELSON ’83

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**LIA RONALD** ’99, M.S. ’09, Missoula, led Lochsa Madness – a weekend of river rafting and kayaking – to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the National Trails Act. The Lochsa, two hours from Missoula, is one of eight rivers protected by law 50 years ago. Ronald is the wildlands communications coordinator in UM’s forestry college.

**KEIF STORRAR** ’05, J.D. ’13, Helena, recently became a partner in the firm Doubek, Pyfer & Fox, PC. He served as a law clerk and special master to Butte-Silver Bow County’s Honorable Kurt Krueger in the 2nd Judicial District Court. Storrar has worked at Doubek, Pyfer & Fox, PC, since June 2015 and represents those who have been injured by misconduct or negligence.

**LORI ARNOLD** Pharm. D. ’00, Cathedral City, Calif., just published her first book, “Undrugged Sleep,” from Balboa Press, which explores solutions to insomnia. As a pharmacist, she focuses on medication safety and preventing medical problems. She completed a functional medicine fellowship with the American Academy of Anti-Aging and Regenerative Medicine in 2011 and launched her wellness coaching services, Heal Yourself Beautiful, in 2015.

**JON HARDES** M.A. ’05, Flagstaff, Ariz., documents a portion of a mammoth rib in Bering Land Bridge National Preserve in Alaska. Hardes works as an archaeologist and a planning/compliance program manager with the National Park Service.

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**Seth Bodnar and Wayne Nelson**

**LISA RONALD**

**KEIF STORRAR**

**LORI ARNOLD**

**JON HARDES**

**WAYNE NELSON**
from others. He is a member of the Montana State Bar and the Montana Trial Lawyers.

**RORY JOHNSON**
Pharm.D.'06, Missoula, became the Montana Pharmacy Association’s new chair. He is an assistant professor of pharmacy practice in UM’s Skaggs School of Pharmacy and has been on the MPA board of directors since 2016. His research focuses on community pharmacy, chronic respiratory diseases and immunizations.

**CAROLINE SIMPSON**
M.Ed. ’06, Seattle, will publish her collection of poems, “Choose Your Own Adventure and Other Poems,” with Finishing Line Press this September. The poems explore the connection between nature and womanhood with humor and poignancy. Katherine Durham Oldmixon, author, editor and faculty member at Huston-Tillotson University says: “Step over Darwin; step back, Ovid. Cunning, cheeky and smartly evolutionary – ‘Choose Your Own Adventure and Other Poems’ is the quintessential little field guide (in verse) to our animal mating games (and other affairs of the heart and scent organs).”

**SIENNA SOLBERG** ’06, Missoula, became new executive director of the SPARK! Arts program in Missoula, beginning June 1. She has worked as the Missoula Flagship Program as an outreach specialist and youth development coordinator and as a Washington Middle School behavior specialist. In her new position, she will help bring arts education into all K-12 students in Missoula.

**ERIC BUSH** ’08, State College, Penn., became associate director of bands for the Hawkeye Marching Band at the University of Iowa. He previously worked as an assistant director of bands at Penn State. Bush says he became passionate about conducting while a graduate teaching assistant at UM. He directed bands at Suffolk County Community College in Long Island, New York, and worked as a teaching assistant for the concert and athletic bands at UI.

**2010s**

**TYLER FURRY** ’10, Columbia Falls, is a senior UI developer/designer at ZaneRay in Whitefish. He puts his media arts and communication degrees to work by helping build aesthetically pleasing websites.

**MATT RAFFETY** ’10, M.F.A. ’13, Dillon, recently became director of university communications at the University of Montana Western. For seven years, he oversaw communications and public relations at the University of Montana’s Center for Environmental Health Sciences, working on social media, graphics, ad campaigns and more. He also has worked on a research study developing educational video games as grant project manager for the past four years and taught in the media arts program at UM.

**CHARLES ROBISON** M.B.A., J.D. ’10, Helena, was appointed state director for USDA Rural Development in Montana by the Trump Administration last November. He worked as a USDA Forest Service wildland firefighter in the 1990s and then practiced law in Helena, representing family businesses, farmers, ranchers and Montana mines alongside Attorney General Tim Fox. He served four years as state director for U.S. Sen. Steve Daines and chief of staff to U.S. Rep. Greg Gianforte.

**TRUMAINE JOHNSON** ’11, Woodland Hills, Calif., has become the second highest paid cornerback in the NFL at $14.5 million per year. Only 28 years old, he already has 18 career interceptions and was acquired by the New York Jets for one of the largest contracts in NFL history – five years, $72.5 million and $34 million guaranteed at signing – this past March after playing for the St. Louis Rams for six years.

**FUTURE GRIZ:** Levi Sebastian Martin McPherson was born on Jan. 31, 2018. His parents are LAURA and JEREMIAH MCPHERSON, M.ED. ’13, Seattle, Wash. Some of the many UM alumni Levi is related to include grandparents GERALD MCPHERSON ‘77, Richland, Wash., WALTER ‘73, and PATTY KERO, PhD. Ed.07, Missoula, and great-grandma MARGARET KELLY ’69, M.S. ’75, Missoula.
IZAAK OPATZ ’12, Los Angeles, Calif., was featured in Rolling Stone magazine as one of “10 New Country Artists You Need to Know” in May. Opatz is described as “an eccentric singer-songwriter whom you not only connect with, but root for as he tries in vain to sort out his love life.” Opatz first discovered his love for metaphors while studying creative writing at UM. His latest album is called “Mariachi Static.”

ABBIE SCHUSTER ’13, Simsbury, Conn., started her solo business Kismet Outfitters, which offers everything from guided fishing trips to corporate events with the option to add yoga. She has worked in Montana, Seattle and Alaska and today guides out of Martha’s Vineyard, Maine and western Massachusetts. Schuster grew up in New England and first began guiding in Montana in 2011.

BROOKE HESS ’16, Missoula, has competed on the U.S. Freestyle Kayaking Team since 2013. In fall 2016, she taught environmental science, trigonometry and advanced algebra at World Class Academy’s climbing academy. A Missoula native, she has competed around the world—from championships in San Juan, Argentina, to the White Nile in Uganda. She has a degree in fluvial geomorphology and now lives out of her truck, traveling to competitions. She also started an annual women’s kayaking event in Idaho called Ladies on the Lochs.

JACOB GODBEY ’17, Los Angeles, and Trevor Cummings have signed a deal with Delish.com to produce a comedy cooking show. Former UM journalism student Alex Tait stars alongside Godbey. In the episodes, Godbey and Tait brew beer, eat pickled liver cheese, butcher a pig and more. The episodes premiere every Monday and are online at https://www.youtube.com/delish. Godbey and Tait also formed a Missoula-based comedy duo called “Gingers on Ice.”

MAMUNUR RAHMAN ’16, Pangsha, Rajbari, Bangladesh, is the founder of Ella Pad and a U.S. Fulbright/Humphrey Fellow. He developed an idea for low-cost sanitary napkins for poor workers in garment factories while still at UM. He was encouraged by UM faculty to showcase his invention, and now, his idea is used in the D-Lab of MIT and recognized globally as a sustainable way to help the productivity and well-being of garment workers. He says he still receives feedback from his Missoula host family and professors at UM.

In Memoriam
We extend sympathy to the families of the following alumni, faculty and friends. Names without class or degree years include UM alumni, employees and friends. To be included in “In Memoriam,” the UM Office of Alumni Relations requires a newspaper obituary or a letter of notification from the immediate family. Send to: Office of Alumni Relations, 107 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. Email: alumni@umontana.edu. Material for In Memoriam reached our office by Aug. 3, 2018.

1930s
Lois Elizabeth Blewett Lawson ’38, Mercer Island, WA
Martha Philippina “Marky” Wesin Jones ’38, Cut Bank
Montana
E. “Tana” Nimbar Saldin ’38, Shoreline, WA
Lola Fern St. John Gardner ’39, Wilmington, NC

1940s
Elizabeth Ann “Betty” Bernard Cowles ’40, Davis, CA
Mildred Ada “Milly” Semrau Garrett ’46, Houston, TX
Stewart Monroe Brandborg ’48, Hon.D. ’10, Hamilton
Clary Jean Kaufman Cory ’43, Great Falls

1950s
John Gleason “Jack” Lepley ’50, M.Ed. ’61, Hon.D. ’06
Robert Harold “Bob” Nicol ’50, Billings
Eva Agnes Tetraault, ’50, Kelispell
Daniel Dean “Dan” Kilbride ’51, Billings
Maxine Fern Anderson Beveridge Opheim ’51, San Clemente, CA
Lloyd Berent Paulson ’51
Colleen M. “Mozzy” Haag Molenaar ’52, La Conner, WA
Ralph Earl Ripke ’52 West Hills, CA
Robert C. “Bob” Hayes ’53, Evaro
Richard “Dick” Wesley Hubbard ’53, Seattle, WA
Doyne L. “Mike” Tank ’53, Ogden, UT
Gordon Rankin Corin ’54, Olympia, WA
David Adelbert “Dave” Graham ’54, Florence, AZ
Robert Joel “Bob” Jasken ’54, Houston, TX
Jack Kimberly Nelson ’54, M. HPE ’58, Baton Rouge, LA
Harry Samuel Woffenden Jr. ’54, Eureka
Charles Glenn “Chuck” Jacoby ’55, Helena
IN MEMORIAM  // ABOUT ALUMNI

Former students, faculty and staff
Richard M. “Dick” Disney, Naples, ID
Diane Jean Dragstedt Andrus, Surprise, AZ
Marion Luther Brechbili, Loveland, CO
Patricia Anne "Patsy" Ault Cowan, Billings
Candice Jan "Candy" Smalls Gray, Belt
Byron Joseph Greany, Spokane
Betty Gibson Greaves, Kalispell
Carol L. Worst Thieme Hahn, Helena
Robert Swanson "Bob" Howey, San Antonio, TX
Roger Evan Hill, Casper, WY
Carlton Duane Johnson, San Francisco, CA
Virginia May Robinson Lane, Helena
Brian Scott Larsen, Missoula
William George Joseph "B.J." Lefler, Missoula
Donna Coster Lundberg, Darien, CT
Frank L. Matule, Missoula
Robert Sidney "Bob" McDonald, Billings
Colleen Jeanne Tomcheck Williams Mitchell, Carlsbad, CA
Marijane Jaynes Livingston Morin, Butte
Eugene "Gene" Pietala, Billings
Jeffrey Lynn "Jeff" Pointer, Springfield, IL
Shirley Morrow Sedivy, Bozeman
Shirley Flo Kramer Smith, Butte
Stephanie Ann Pedersen Standen, Spokane
Murray L. Swenson, Helena
Patricia Ann "Pat" Puphal Sularz, Gold Canyon, AZ
Veronica Victoria Romanski Van Hess, Burlington, WA
Kathryn Ruth "Kaye" Schwab Libra Wanke, Whitehall
Richard Allen Whittet, Kalispell
Kathleen Lee Speck Young, Polson

Friends and parents
Vivian Morgan Brooke, Missoula
Donna L. Keniston Martens Caras, Missoula
Joan Dorothy Monroe Crosbie, Manhattan
Patrick Lewis "Pat" Coyle, Missoula
John Laurans Dayries Jr., Surprise, AZ
Douglas Willard "Dog" Duff, Hamilton
Patricia Freeman Dunkum, Missoula
John Hunter Herrick, Troy
Shirley Helen Pfister Prahl Jorgensen, Denver, CO
John Daniel "J.D." Lynch, Butte
Joanne "Jodi" Scales Marshall, Missoula
Sharene K. Pugno Menson, Missoula
Timothy Joseph "Tim" Murphy, Missoula
Shelley Marinkovich Schafer, Anaconda
Eva H. Swenson, Billings

Arlene Katherine Lindemann Houghton ’56, Bellevue, WA
Jill K. Hageman Ludington ’56, Billings
Penelope Ann "Penny" LaFlame Ruthemeyer ’56, Helena
Hubert Ray Humes ’57, M.S. ’60, Mesquite, NV
Donald Bruce "Don" Blaylock ’58, Billings
Barbara Claire Schwingel DeGroot ’58, Cat Bank
Dyvort Gordon "Skip" Rognlien ’58, Wheeler, OR
Neil O. "Pete" Peterson ’58, Sheridan
Anne Louise Thomas David ’59, Thousand Oaks, CA
Jack Robert Liedle ’59, Billings
Edward "Lee" Robinson ’59, Butte

Austin Freeman Jones II ’73, Connecticut
Wayne Warren Montgomery Jr. ’73, Helena
John Rex "Jay" Painter Jr., M.A. ’73, Ph.D. ’74, Portland, OR
Bruce Harry Pugesek ’73, ’81, Melrose Park, IL
Urban Joseph Bear Don’t Walk, J.D. ’75, Billings
Joseph "Mayo" Ashley ’76, Helena
John Michael "Mike" McLean ’77, Missoula
Sheila Patricia Sullivan Cutter ’78, Butte
Bette Davenport Paskey ’79, M.Ed. ’93, Frenchtown
Susan Marie Ross ’79, Missoula

Douglas Jerome "Doug" Frieson ’80, Los Alisos, CA
Frank David Flores ’82, Missoula
John David Melcher ’82, J.D. ’87, Missoula
Randy J. Bekkedahl ’83, Libby
Iva Mae "Tiny" McArthur Joslyn ’83, Great Falls
Monty Dean Bullerdick ’84, Missoula
Charles Homer "Chuck" Mills ’84, Missoula
Mark E. Schultz ’84, Helena
Edward Leo Myers III ’86, J.D. ’90, Phoenix, AZ
Richard Osmund "Rick" Porter-Smith ’86, Missoula
Kelly Anne Ward ’86, Pullman, WA
Dawn Marie Hochstrasser ’87, Missoula
Richard A. Raymond ’87, Frenchtown
Donald S. "Don" Graham ’89, Kalispell

Debra Jean Elliott Bruninga ’90, Missoula
Beth Ann Olinski Nelson Robinson ’90, Kalispell
Joseph Gerard "Joe" Dorn ’91, Missoula
William "Michael" Stephenson, J.D. ’91, Richland, OR
Peggy Lou "Peg" Johannes ’92, Shelby
Melanie Ann Matson, M.A. ’92, Foster City, CA
Audrey Lee Webber Parenteau ’92, Missoula
Annalee Vieille-Jimenez, VC ’93, Browning
Ronald Jay "Ron" Kuehne ’94, Kalispell
Christopher Stephen "Steve" Jordan ’95, Helena
Gloria Joyclyn Gone Bordeaux Shopteese ’97, Billings

Gregory George "Greg" Holt ’00, Billings
James Alan Markovich ’01, Gilbert, AZ
Jamie Speth Heiland ’03, Corvallis
Ann Michelle "Annie" Rubens ’06, Sun Prairie, WI
Joseph W. "Joe" Bush ’08, Stevensville
Casey Page Worth, ’09, Hamilton

Michael Tomita Heath ’11, Missoula
Victoria Dawn Norskov ’11, Billings
Rebecca Grace Romero ’18, Stockton, CA
Robert Lee "Bob" Kalanick ’13, ’14, Missoula

1960s
Donald Patton "Don" Blumfield ’60, Lolo
Loren Robert Johnson ’60, University Place, WA
William A. "Bill" Anderson ’61, Vancouver, WA
Clarence Bertram "Bert" Croft ’61, South Royalton, VT
Walter Wendale Mathews ’61, Mansfield, OH
Charles Ronald "Ron" Smith ’61, Helena
Wayne E. Tree ’61, M.S. ’71, Stevensville
Charles Gibson "Charlie" Bennett III ’62, Boise, ID
Ridge Hilary Martin ’62, Tucson, AZ
Albert Charles "Chuck" Michael ’62, Bozeman
Ronald J. "Ron" Young ’62, Coeur d’Alene, ID
Edward Thomas "Ed" Zaback ’63, Town of Hamptonburgh, NY
Nelma Rash Bertholf Barker ’64, Plummer, ID
Donald "Bruce" Carmichael ’65, Great Falls
Franklin D. "Frank" Culver ’65, Bozeman
Thomas Arthur "Tom" Jones ’65, Sun City, AZ
Marjorie Evelyn "Marge" Stewart McAfee ’65, Phoenix, AZ
Sharon "Kay" Chambers ’66, M.Ed ’69, Tempe, AZ
Michael Martin Kreisberg ’66, Missoula
Olive Margaret Bosner McCarty, ’66, Great Falls
Aldon Oscarson ’66, Chelan, WA
Raymond J. Scharenbrock ’66, South Milwaukee, WI
Sharon Lee "Sherri" Stark Marten ’67, Billings
Stephen Peter "Steve" Attardi ’67, Bayonne, NJ
Guy Lester "Bud" Robbins III ’67, Great Falls
Kathleen M. Behm ’68, Helena
Donald R. Breiby ’68, Sun City, AZ
Darrell G. Trenary ’68, Lakeside, MN
Ronald Joseph "Ron" Page ’69, M.S. ’72, Missoula
Dennis W. "Skip" Rovero ’69, Great Falls

1970s
Clarence H. Greenwood ’70, J.D. ’75, Portland, OR
Gary L. Brook ’71, Billings
Geneva Louise Mather Corbett, M.Ed. ’71, Molalla, OR
Sandra R. "Sandi" Muckelson, J.D. ’71, Billings
William H. "Bill" Payne ’72, M.B.A. ’75, Philipsburg
Linda Lee Voigt Stevens ’72, Kalispell
Joseph G. "Joe" Arts ’73, Troy

1980s
Douglas Jerome "Doug" Frieson ’80, Los Alisos, CA
Frank David Flores ’82, Missoula
John David Melcher ’82, J.D. ’87, Missoula
Randy J. Bekkedahl ’83, Libby
Iva Mae "Tiny" McArthur Joslyn ’83, Great Falls
Monty Dean Bullerdick ’84, Missoula
Charles Homer "Chuck" Mills ’84, Missoula
Mark E. Schultz ’84, Helena
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Richard A. Raymond ’87, Frenchtown
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Joseph W. "Joe" Bush ’08, Stevensville
Casey Page Worth, ’09, Hamilton

Michael Tomita Heath ’11, Missoula
Victoria Dawn Norskov ’11, Billings
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GRIZCAT
NOVEMBER 17, 2018
WASHINGTON-GRIZZLY STADIUM, MISSOULA

From Massachusetts to Alaska, Texas to Florida (as well as a few sites overseas), more than 12,000 University of Montana and Montana State alumni and friends gather at more than 80 different locations to watch one of the greatest rivalries in the nation – the annual Griz/Cat football game affectionately known as The Brawl of the Wild.

For a full list of up-to-date Griz/Cat watch party locations go to:
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MAIN & HIGGINS DOWNTOWN MISSOULA
UM’s Evolving Fight Song

One of UM’s great traditions happens immediately following a football game. The armored, sweaty gridiron warriors gather around a mic, raise their helmets high and bellow out:

Up with Montana, boys, down with the foe,
Good ol’ Grizzlies out for a victory;
We’ll shoot our backs ‘round the foe men’s line;
A hot time is coming now, oh, brother mine.
Up with Montana, boys, down with the foe,
Good old Grizzlies triumph today;
And the squeal of the pig will float on the air;
From the tummy of the Grizzly Bear. [HEY!]

The “Up With Montana” fight song has offered Griz Nation its quirky, old-school lyrics for more than a century, and it gets noticed beyond Montana. In 2002, The New York Times did a humorous piece on college fight songs, and UM’s “squeal of the pig” line was noted.

“At (UM), fans expect their team to devour its enemies while still alive,” said the piece, which was accompanied by a funny illustration of a gigantic grizzly bear scaring the wits out of a tiny pig drinking tea.

Perhaps the best recitation of the fight song took place in 2002 on the floor of the U.S. Senate. Sen. Fritz Hollings of South Carolina had lost a bet with Montana Sen. Max Baucus when UM beat Furman University 13-6 in the national championship football game. Hollings gamely paid his debt, and the drawn out “squeeaaal” in his southern drawl is the stuff of legend.

Isn’t that something,” the distinguished South Carolinian said. “You say they recite that after every game? No wonder they play so hard.” (The clip is available here: https://cs.pn/2LBpwvn.)

Thumb through a battered “Montana Song Book” in the Music Building, and one will learn that “Up With Montana” was copyrighted in 1929 by the Associated Students of UM. The lyrics back then were different from what players and fans sing today. It was “Old Montana’s out for a victory” instead of “Good ol’ Grizzlies” in the first stanza. And instead of “We’ll shoot our backs” it was “She’ll shoot her backs.”

The song is attributed to Richard “Dick” Howell, who studied law at UM. The first mention of “Up With Montana” is in a Nov. 12, 1914, edition of the Kaimin student newspaper. Under the heading “Howell Writes Good Song,” the very focused original lyrics were:

Up with Montana boys, down with the Aggs.
Old Montana’s out for a victory.
She’ll shoot her back around the Aggies’ line.
A hot time is coming now brother mine.
Up with Montanan boys, down with the Aggs ...

The Aggs, of course, would become the Montana State University Bobcats, and “Up With Montana” was penned for the 21st Griz-Bobcat game, which the Griz won 15-5.

We don’t know much about the author of UM’s endearing and enduring song. UM Registrar Joe Hickman sleuthed out that Howell graduated from Butte High School in 1913. He arrived in Missoula in 1914 after attending one year at the University of California. His father was a very prominent Butte attorney and president of the state bar association. Howell’s transcript reveals a middling UM student, but he earned an A+ for music and the Glee Club.

Mysteriously, Howell withdrew partway through the spring 1916 semester with only a year of law school left. Then a 1921 Sigma Nu fraternity newsletter offers this nugget: “Brother Richard Howell was presented with a son during the middle of March. Brother Howell is in the business of selling steel office and theater furnishings. He is connected with the firm of Derge-Howell & Company of Butte, Montana.”

An online obit of Howell’s son suggests the family moved to Washington in the ’30s, but then the fight song writer mostly fades into history. The final UM document on him is a February 1964 death notice on record with the alumni office.

But whenever Griz Nation sings his song and those players raise their helmets high, part of Dick Howell lives on.

(Editor’s Note: Anyone with more information on Dick Howell should email themontanan@umontana.edu.)

Left: “Up With Montana” sheet music by Dick Powell (pictured)

Left: “Up With Montana” sheet music by Dick Powell (pictured)


Right: New York Times clipping of a cartoon depicting “Up With Montana”

Left: “Up With Montana” sheet music by Dick Powell (pictured)

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