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Communique

Volume 49, 2005

The University of Montana

School of Journalism



R-TV's Denise Dowling named 'most promising'

Radio-Television Assistant Professor Denise Dowling is the most promising new journalism professor in the country, according to the Mass Communication and Society Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. The division sponsors the contest each year to honor excellence in teaching by professors who have been teaching for fewer than five years. The applications are judged by fellow journalism professors in colleges and universities around the country.

Dowling was nominated by Journalism School Dean Jerry Brown who wrote, "In my 30-plus years of professional and academic work, I have never known a professional journalist who has made the transition from newsroom to classroom as swiftly and successfully. I see many indications that, in her case, outstanding initial performance is merely a prelude to a long and outstanding career as an innovative and energetic professor of journalism."

See **Denise Dowling**, p. 5

Native News writers & photographers

J-students win RFK award for honors project publication

UM J-School students rubbed elbows with some of the nation's elite journalists in late May as they received the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award in Washington, D.C., for their work reporting from Montana's seven Indian reservations.

The Kennedy award is given for writing about the disadvantaged. Only a single college winner is named. The student reporters and photographers won for their publication "Sovereignty," a 36-page report that culminated their work in the Native News Honors Project, taught by professors Carol Van Valkenburg and Teresa Tamura.

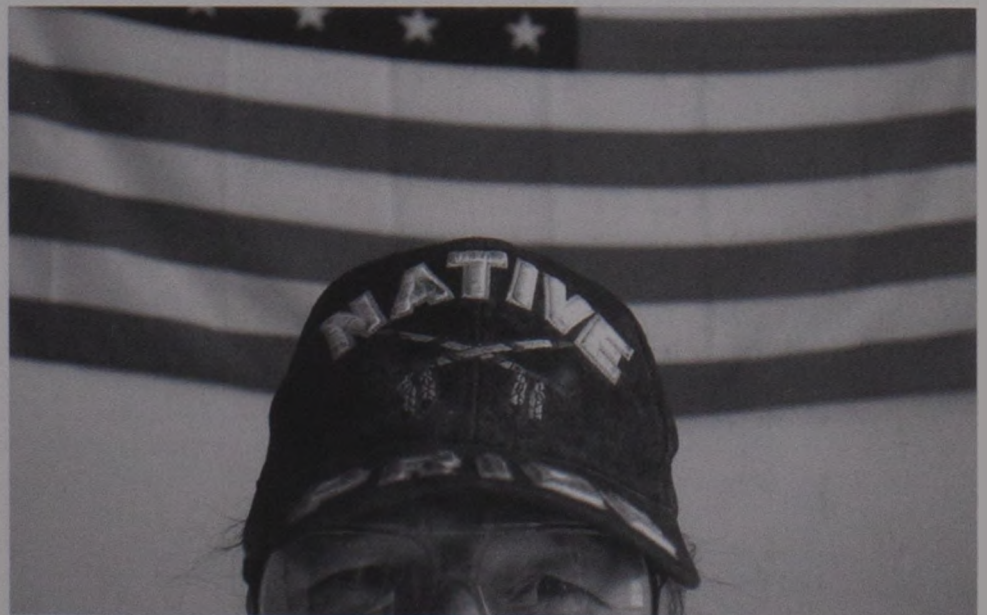
Seven students attended the ceremony where Robert Kennedy's widow, Ethel, presented them with a bust of her

husband. The award also carries a \$500 prize.

At a private gathering before the presentations, the students chatted with winners from the Los Angeles Times, New York Times, Sacramento Bee, Frontline and National Public Radio. Only a few minutes after arriving, student Joe Friedrichs found that Mark Fiore, winner in the cartoon category, has a brother who lives in Missoula. Before the evening ended Van Valkenburg got a promise from him to visit the J-School.

At the main ceremony at George Washington University, a Who's Who of journalists were in attendance, including Bob Woodward, who was hard to miss as

See **RFK award**, p. 3



This photo from the Blackfeet Reservation by student Mike Cohea was the cover shot for the award-winning "Sovereignty" issue of Native News.

Letter from the Dean

I've participated in dozens of commencement exercises, but this year's was, by a long stretch, the most exceptional.

For one, it was held outside, on the site where the new building, Don Anderson Hall, will be built. For those of you who've been out of the Communicate loop, we've been raising funds for five years to construct a facility that will re-unite print and broadcast units and accommodate our growing enrollment.

Anderson Hall will be built just north of Jeannette Rankin Hall, which many of you remember as the old law-school building.

Bids were opened June 22, and by the time you receive this issue, the backhoes should be at work. (We are still raising money for equipment and for an underground auditorium, but, halleluyah, we are getting the main building started, and we hope to begin classes in September 2007.)

But bricks and mortar do not a great j-school make. Two moments in our 2005 commencement are more representative of UM's tradition.

Verna Brackman Krout received her diploma 59 years after her last UM campus class, and Mollie Bond Reiss, a "traditional age" student, received more than a diploma.

Verna left school in 1946 with about nine quarter hours remaining. Her husband, Jack, was an Army Air Corps pilot who'd been stationed in California and flown missions looking for Japanese incendiary bomb-launching sites. When he was ordered into Japan with the first occupying forces, Verna decided to go with him. Dean James L.C. Ford warned her that, if she left, she'd never complete the degree.

Verna never forgot the challenge, and she decided this spring was the time to prove the much-respected and now-late Dean Ford wrong. She contacted me and, miracle of miracles, we found her academic records. As it turned out, courses she had taken and her professional experience were deemed by the University Graduation Committee sufficient to satisfy the requirements, and she became a member of the Class of '05, receiving the first diploma of the afternoon and a standing ovation.

Mollie didn't have a choice to go or stay. Her husband, Eric, was ordered to Iraq. While Mollie was com-

pleting her broadcasting degree, trying to concentrate on Student Documentary and Senior Seminar, he was in a hot war, and, as everybody knows, talk of extended tours was in the news.

As Mollie watched her classmates coming forward during graduation exercises, a well-staged event was unfolding. On advice from the RTV faculty, Mollie's name was not to be called until a special guest arrived. She knew Eric had been shipped back home, but she didn't know when he would get to Montana.

We were near the end of names, and no Eric had shown up. He appeared just in time, and he joined Mollie as she marched to receive her diploma. They made a newsworthy contrast — Mollie in her gown and mortar

board, and Eric in his campaign fatigues. In all the dozens of commencement exercises I have participated in, I have never seen a happier graduate, weeping, as the old books say, "copiously."

And, yes, she and Eric got a standing ovation too. What a way to conclude a commencement ceremony.

As the new graduates and their relatives and friends milled about, saying their goodbyes, the sun was setting over the Bitterroots, and a slow spring rain was beginning to fall.

Walking back alone to the old building that Dean Stone had willed into being in 1936, I thought about

Verna and Mollie, about tradition, persistence, patience, values, courage and about a sense of community that has reached across time, wars and generations. Those virtues have sustained this School of Journalism through more than 90 years. I have no doubt they will be with us, as will the legacy of all past students, professors and deans, as we enter Don Anderson Hall.

Please come by to visit. You can walk through the old building and look at the familiar artifacts (among them, the horseshoe-shaped copy-editing desk) that will be placed in the new building.

And you can help us carry the spirit of your alma mater to its new home across the Oval.



Dean Brown helps Mollie Reiss stay upright as she gets a surprise visit from husband Eric, just in from Iraq, along with her diploma.

Jerry E. Brown

Dean Stone awards top \$90,000

The School of Journalism awarded more than \$90,000 in scholarships at the 48th Dean Stone banquet April 15.

The banquet capped two days of Dean Stone festivities that began with the Dean Stone lecture by Deborah Potter, a former network television correspondent who now directs NewsLab, a non-profit journalism training and research center in Washington, D.C.

Dean Jerry Brown also delivered his annual "State of the J-School" address.

"A J-School is only as good as what its students do," said Brown. "If you look good, we look good."

At the banquet Potter followed her previous evening's lecture with a few words about the traits required of good journalists:

- **Curiosity:** "A good reporter is always astonished by the obvious."
- **Commitment:** "Journalists who seek to do excellent work don't give up easily."

• **Caring:** "That may seem counterintuitive, but reporters, at heart, are do-gooders who just happen to hate math."

• **Courage:** "I know, Dan Rather made the word a joke when he used it as his sign-off for a brief time," Potter said of her former CBS co-worker. "But great journalists need to be courageous, to tell stories people may not want to hear."

Potter closed her brief lecture by saying, "Journalism is a noble profession. For many of us it's a calling, a public service. It needs you, the best of the next generation, to practice it and protect it."

The awards ceremony that followed was anything but subdued. Most recipients drew a standing ovation from sections of the crowd as well as an onslaught of cheers.

"Seeing students cheer for each other lifts everyone's spirits," said Brown, "especially those of the faculty and this dean."

RFK award

from p. 1

he made a late appearance. John Seigenthaler, former Tennessean editor and publisher and founder of the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center, was master of ceremonies.

Aside from the UM students' award, a highlight of the event was the lifetime achievement award given to historian and Pulitzer winner Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. After accepting the award and giving a brief talk, the 88-year-old Schlesinger was interviewed on stage by the year's book award winners, Jim Wooten, author of *We Are All the Same*, and Geoffrey Stone, author of *Perilous Times*. He gave his assessment of the Bush presidency and recalled his experiences during World War II working with the Office of War Information.

The following day the students and professors were treated to a tour of the Washington Post, thanks to last fall's Pollner Professor Nancy Szokan, who is an editor in the Post's Outlook section. The first person the students saw as they entered the newsroom was J-alum Jonathan Krim, who was sitting in the Post's makeshift TV newsroom doing an

interview for TV about a story published that day. Krim is a technology writer at the paper. At a nearby desk was alumna Lexie Verdon Barr, assistant managing editor for the Post's online news publication, PM Extra.

Szokan had other reporters and photojournalists join the group for lunch, where they sat at a table next to former editor Ben Bradlee, who just a week later was back on the front pages when the identity of Deep Throat was revealed.

The students also attended the Post's afternoon news meeting, conducted by editor Len Downie, and attended by about 25 of the paper's editors. During the meeting, outgoing Kaimin editor Jessica Wambach turned to Van Valkenburg and said, "This is the most exciting thing that's ever happened to me."

Students in Washington for the event were Friedrichs, Wambach, Natalie Storey, Fred Miller, Mike Cohea, Heather Telesca and Noelle Teixeira. Other students who worked on the project were Adam Weinacker, Meghan Brown, Alisha Wyman, Lisa Hornstein, Sadie Craig, Adam Bystrom, Chandler Melton, Yogesh Simpson, Liz Grauman and Kate Medley.

When the students arrived in Missoula with the hefty Kennedy bust, they pulled it from a backpack and raised it high as they descended the steps at Missoula International Airport, attracting applause from supporters and attention from curious onlookers.

When one person shouted out, "What's it for?," Van Valkenburg answered: "You've heard about the Grizzly national football champions? These are the Grizzly national journalism champions."

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Photo prof gets a 'dream job' as National Geographic fellow

If you ask UM photojournalism students what their dream job would be, more than a few mention National Geographic magazine.

Now, one of their professors, Teresa Tamura, will be working with the prestigious publication this summer.

Tamura is the recipient of the 2005 National Geographic Faculty Fellowship. She is spending 10 weeks at the National Geographic headquarters in Washington D.C.

"I hope to get the chance to gather more knowledge about how the magazine works, from editing to design to photo selection," Tamura said before she left Missoula. And she'll also bring back a better idea of what it takes to be a photographer for the magazine.

In the past, faculty fellows at National Geographic have been sent into the field with staff photographers. While there is no guarantee that Tamura will get that nod, the chance is ever-present.

Tamura gathered questions from UM students this spring to ask the National Geographic staff. Also, she plans to compose a photo essay of her experiences for use in the classroom next fall.

She expects to learn things to help her with her personal project, a book of stories and photos from the Minidoka Internment Camp, where thousands of Japanese-Americans from Alaska, Oregon and Washington were sent after Pearl Harbor. Minidoka is located on a parched sagebrush plain near Twin Falls, Idaho, near where Tamura grew up.

"It's people, places and objects relat-



Photo-J professor Teresa Tamura gives a student some tips on camera operations.

ed to the camp," said Tamura of the project she has been working on for several years now. "It'll be a collection of what I'm able to piece together about it."

Over the past few years, Tamura has spent vacation time traveling throughout the western United States and sending letters as far away as Japan to try to track down those affected by that sad segment of American history. Last August, Tamura's photo essay "Minidoka Memories" was published in Pacific Northwest, the Seattle Times' magazine.

Tamura, a former staff photographer for the Seattle Times, has been at UM since 2002.

—Bennett Jacobs, Web reporter

Talbots receive Bucklew Award for UM service

John and Sue Talbot, two prominent friends of the University of Montana and of the Journalism School, were honored in February for their efforts to create lasting links between fellow Montanans and the UM community.

Talbots received the Neil S. Bucklew Presidential Service Award from the university.

"Both John and Sue are well known for their generous philanthropic contributions, unmatched in breadth, from the arts to the environment," said Laura Brehm, president and CEO of the UM Foundation, who introduced the Talbots.

The UM Foundation established the Neil S. Bucklew Presidential Award in 1987, named after the man who was UM president from 1981 to 1986. The award recognizes men and women who "communicate the University's strengths to their fellow Montanans and relay back to the university community the hopes and concerns of Montana residents."

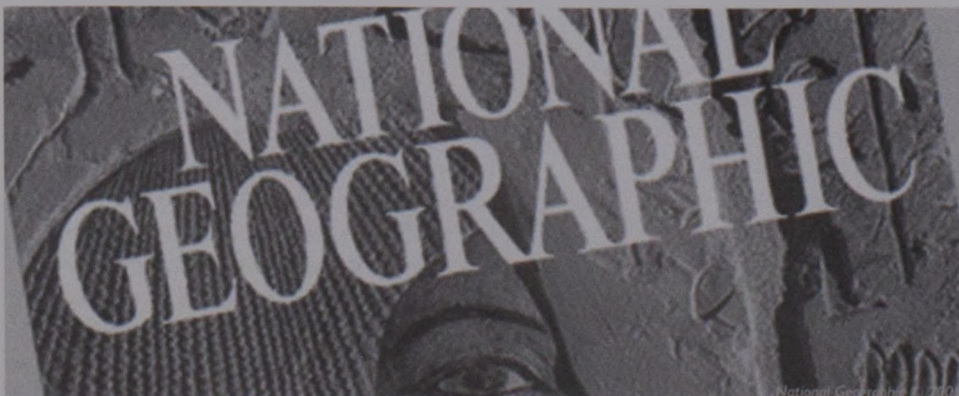
John Talbot is originally from western Massachusetts, "what they call 'out West' in Boston," he said. He and Sue met in college, and he graduated from Harvard with a degree in fine arts. His career took him from Washington, D.C. to Europe while he worked for the Central Intelligence Agency. He later worked with the now-defunct airline, TWA. He became publisher of the Missoulian in 1970, a position he held until 1980.

For many years he taught media management courses at the Journalism School as his "last chapter," he said.

Sue Talbot is involved with a long list of community organizations; two are the Missoula Youth Homes and United Way.

With their award they were able to designate a \$1,500 scholarship to any UM department. They directed theirs to the School of Journalism and it was awarded in April to sophomore Peter Bulger.

—Kelley McLandress, Web reporter



Alums cover tsunami aftermath

Three University of Montana School of Journalism graduates reported on the tsunami in southern Asia and all say the effect on both land and people is almost beyond belief.

"The waves pulverized anything in their paths, turning high-end resorts into refuse piles," writes Karen Coates, a 1993 graduate of the print program. "Everything is where it shouldn't be: doors and windows littering the ground, an overturned truck in a hotel lobby, electric wires in ditches, concrete posts snapped in half, a tree sprouting from a windshield."

Coates and her husband, photographer Jerry Redfern, also a 1993 grad, live in Chiang Mai, Thailand, and make their living as freelancers. After spending a month in Sri Lanka, they returned to Thailand just three days before the tsunami hit on Dec. 26. Coates and Redfern rushed to Khao Lak Beach near Phuket to report on the disaster.

Thomas Nybo, a 1995 Journalism School graduate, witnessed the tsunami's aftermath from the Maldives Islands, where he went to report for UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund.

"Nobody lives on this once-postcard-perfect island anymore," he wrote in his latest dispatch. The island of Gemendhoo "resembles a war zone where a thousand bombs exploded, leaving no structure untouched." But even though the island was swept clean by the huge wave, only seven of the 460 inhabitants were lost.

For Coates and Redfern, the tsunami was not their first experience with the horror of mass carnage. They visited the

genocide museum outside of Phnom Penh, which memorializes the 3 million Cambodians murdered by their government, as depicted in the 1984 movie "The Killing Fields." Coates' book about contemporary Cambodia, "Cambodia Now: Life in the Wake of War," was published this spring by McFarland & Co.

The Sept. 11 attack had a profound effect on Coates and Redfern. They quit cushy jobs in small-town America to examine post-war and post-oppression societies — hoping to broaden Americans' understanding of the world. Their stories have ranged from political subjects to environmental and social topics such as a National Wildlife Magazine story about the nearly extinct Cambodian royal turtle.

"We also go after whatever interests us, and that's a lot, which is actually a bit of a problem," they wrote. "We're never short on ideas, just time."

Coates and Redfern now earn a living freelancing in Asia, but it was not easy to get started. It took them several years to establish contacts in the region, learn the area, sign up with a photo agency and earn the trust of magazine editors.

Still, they consider returning to the United States almost daily.

"Thailand is a tourist paradise, but a difficult place to actually live as a foreigner. The work is wildly interesting, making thoughts of returning to daily newspapers rather, um, dull," said Redfern.

You can see their work at www.red-coates.net.

—Jim Beyer, Web reporter



Al Price shows appreciation for UM students.

Ex-janitor gives \$25k to UM, \$5k to J-School

A University of Montana alum who left a career in education and worked as a UM janitor for the past decade was so impressed with UM students that he has donated \$25,000 for scholarships.

Albert Price chose to give \$5,000 grants to the School of Journalism, the School of Fine Arts, Native American Studies, the International Program and the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling. Each school or department will receive \$1,000 a year for five years.

Price graduated in 1964 and worked out of state until 1991. When he couldn't find a job teaching in Missoula he took a janitorial job at UM.

Price was impressed with how hard the students were working — practicing music, painting and studying. He respected the late hours J-School students put in, both at the Kaimin and in the labs.

He chose the five programs because, he said, they were "improving the quality of life for other people."

J-School Dean Jerry Brown was the only dean on campus to seek him out and introduce himself, Price said. The janitor was impressed by the smile and handshake he received.

"Al Price belongs in an academic community or any other community where people who are well-read and curious congregate," said Brown.

— Jim Beyer, Web reporter

Denise Dowling

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Dowling began teaching at UM in 2000 after a 20-year career in broadcast news. She has created several new courses including an advanced television news producing class, an experimental radio deliberation course and an initiative that sent student radio reporters to cover the legislative session in Helena.

She has won numerous grants and research contracts and her students have won nearly every award given to college journalists.

The AEJMC will honor Dowling with the award at the organization's national convention in San Antonio in August. Dowling will also present a workshop to share some of her teaching strategies, philosophy and techniques with other educators.

Blog pioneer is next Pollner prof J-grad donates \$100k to school

Chris Boese, a writer and researcher for CNN and a pioneer in the Weblog movement, will be the UM Journalism School's fifth T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professor.

Boese will spend fall semester at the J-school, teaching a class on blogging and working as an adviser to the Montana Kaimin. She'll also deliver a public lecture in October.

"We were particularly interested this year in getting someone who was on the cutting edge of technology," said Carol Van Valkenburg, chairwoman of the print department and the Pollner selection committee. "Chris will bring something new and unique to the school and we're certainly looking forward to that."

Boese started her first Weblog, or blog, in 1994, before the software to do so which is so readily available today even existed.

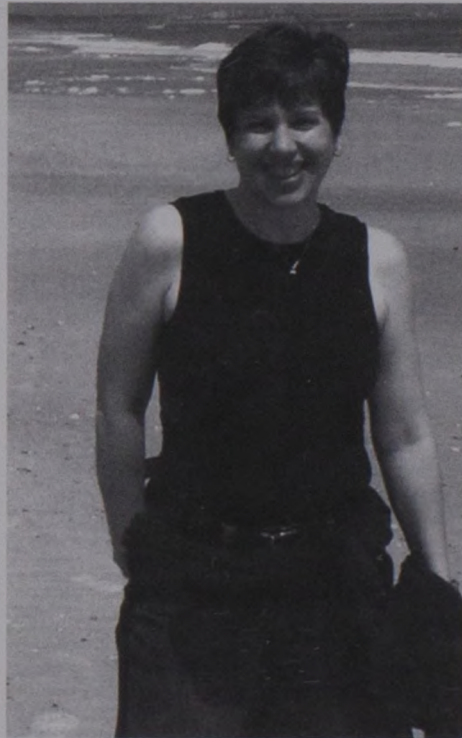
"I was like, 'Oh my god, someone's given me a soapbox,'" Boese said of that first blog. Since then she has built and maintained dozens of blogs for herself and others, including some controversial ones for reporters in Iraq.

"I think the bloggers kind of act as a checks and balances to journalists," Boese said. "It's an explosion of words and voices and it gives power to a lot of people and that is empowering."

In the past several years, blogs have become an important and powerful platform for journalists and non-journalists alike to voice opinions and receive feedback as well as communicate with one another.

Boese joined the CNN Headline News team just a month before 9-11. In her application letter she wrote that she went to Headline News because she "wanted a front-row seat to the attempted 'convergence' of broadcast and interactive media with that very busy molecular screen."

What she got was a front-row seat at the biggest event in modern media history. During that crisis, as well as during the ensuing two wars, Boese was often the writer vigorously punching out the blurbs on the Headline News double-tiered ticker.



Chris Boese

Boese started her career long before her days in the bustling Atlanta newsroom of Headline News. It was in her home state of Alaska where she was first a reporter and photographer for the *Frontiersman* and *Valley Sun* newspapers. From there she entered the academic world, teaching at Clemson, Valdosta State, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the University of Arkansas.

Boese received a degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and an MFA in poetry from the University of Arkansas. At Rensselaer in New York, where she earned a doctorate in rhetoric and communication in 1998, Boese studied the impact of interactive media on traditional forms of media.

Family and friends of 1999 J-school graduate Anthony Pollner created the T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professorship to honor his memory after his death in a 2001 motorcycle accident. Pollner was a Kaimin reporter, then stayed an extra semester after graduation to create a better and more sophisticated Kaimin Web page than had existed previously.

—Bennett Jacobs, *Web reporter*

Ted Hilgenstuhler, a 1950 J-School alum who had a lengthy career in print and broadcast media, has donated \$100,000 to the School, money that is helping staff, students and faculty.

"Ted loves Montana and this school, and, though he will flinch at my praise, his gift is not only helping students and staff, it sets a superb example," said J-School Dean Jerry Brown.

Hilgenstuhler, 79, lives in Simi Valley, Calif.

"I sold some property I had for many years and decided to up the ante in my long-standing practice of sending an annual amount to the J-School," Hilgenstuhler said. "Being a life-long bachelor and with no immediate family alive, who else would I give it to?"

Upon high school graduation at age 17, Hilgenstuhler joined the U.S. Navy to fight in World War II. He manned a 5-inch cannon on the destroyer U.S.S. *Taussig*. His squadron engaged in the last sea battle of World War II and sank four Japanese ships inside Tokyo Bay. The Navy re-entered Tokyo Bay only after the Japanese surrendered in August 1945.

After the war, Hilgenstuhler came to UM because it was far from his home in Brooklyn, N.Y. It also had a varsity baseball team. He played four years and was elected captain when he was a junior.

He moved to Hollywood, Calif., in 1951 and worked for the TV-Radio *Life* magazine and the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner* until 1968. From 1955 through 1973, he worked on more than 400 television documentaries and drama shows. During that time, Hilgenstuhler worked for KFWB radio news and KNXT-TV news. He capped his career as editor of *Edison News* and retired in 1990.

Students who received \$1,000 Ted Hilgenstuhler scholarships, awarded at last month's Dean Stone Night, were print student Dennis Carroll and broadcast student Andrew Weed. Staff members and faculty who will benefit from the Hilgenstuhler donation will be determined later, Dean Brown said.

—Jim Beyer, *Web reporter*

Pollner lecturer Nancy Szokan chose her career because journalists have 'more interesting lives'

“I realized that everybody who I thought was aware, was smart and fun to talk to, and just cool, was in journalism.”

—Nancy Szokan



Enjoying a comment by R-TV professor Ray Ekness, right, at a reception before Nancy Szokan's Pollner Lecture are Dean Jerry Brown, Alice Pollner and Carol Van Valkenburg. John Talbot and Ben Pollner, in the background, share some stories.

Washington Post editor Nancy Szokan wrapped up a successful semester in December as the 4th Pollner professor. She taught a class called “Truth Telling in an Age of Opinion,” served as a mentor for the Kaimin staff, and delivered the Pollner lecture.

An editor for more than 20 years, most of them at the Philadelphia Inquirer, where her last job was foreign editor, she now works at the Post, primarily in the paper's opinion section. The school scored a double in selecting Szokan because her husband, Rick Nichols, a columnist at the Inquirer, was with her for most of the semester and helped teach the seminar. Nichols was a member of the Inquirer editorial board for a number of years.

Szokan, who has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Northwestern University, said she didn't originally intend to be a journalist. She wanted to major in foreign languages so she could become a translator in Russian, French and Spanish. However, the journalism students she met made a big impression.

“I had not been there long before I realized that everybody who I thought was aware, was smart and fun to talk to, and just cool, was in journalism,” Szokan said. “And I transferred in completely for that reason. I had no higher goals—it was the environment I wanted to be hanging in for four years.”

Szokan says she hasn't been disappointed in her choice of career and her initial insights about journalists hold true.

“They have more interesting lives,” she said. “They have more interests . . . in other people and other things.”

To prepare for her Montana teaching stint, she asked fellow journalists for advice.

“I went around the Post newsroom before I came,” she said. “I probably interviewed . . . at least 20 people to say, ‘What do you think kids should learn? What should we be talking about?’ and everybody, when I do this process, they sort of say, ‘Hmm, can I do this next?’”

Szokan said her favorite class project involved a class interview with Weymouth Symmes, who became a

national figure during the presidential election because of his involvement with Swift Boat Veterans for Truth. Symmes lives in Missoula and Szokan invited him to meet with the seminar students.

The class held a mock editorial board meeting—a meeting between newspaper editors and a newsmaker designed to help editors develop an editorial stance—then researched the issues and developed their own opinions.

Szokan's public lecture, titled “What are we doing here?” analyzed the changes in mainstream American media.

Anthony Pollner graduated from UM's School of Journalism in 1999. He was a reporter for the Kaimin and came back to the J-School after graduation to work as the Webmaster.

“Anthony embraced technology before most students even knew what the Internet was,” said journalism professor Carol Van Valkenburg during her welcoming remarks at the lecture.

—Tyler Christensen and Erin Madison
Web reporters

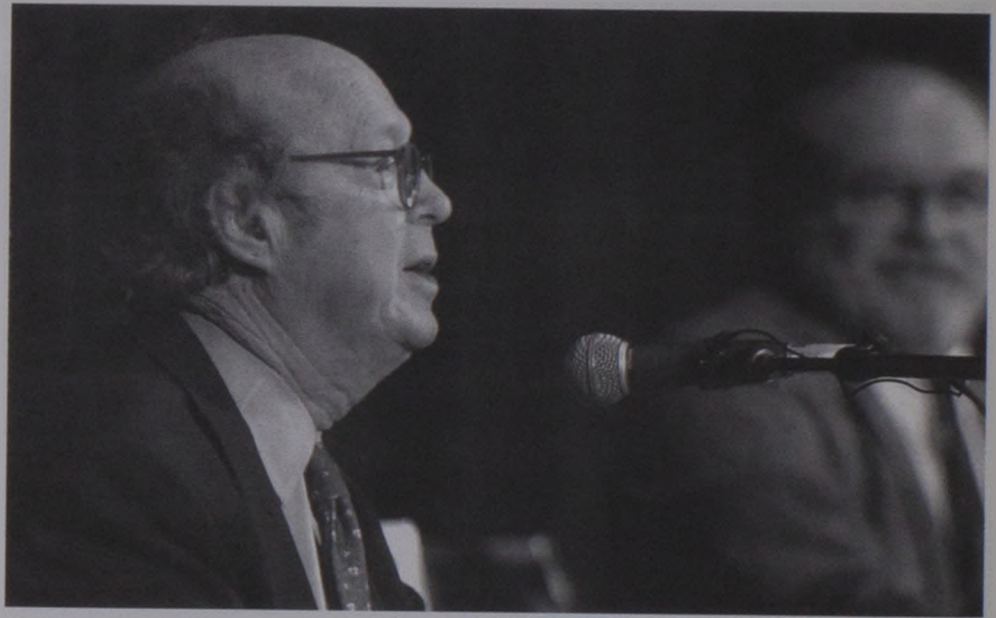
Visiting journalists tell how they get the stories

Several noted journalists visited the school in the last year to speak with students and offer their insights on topics ranging from covering landmark Supreme Court media cases to photographing the Sept. 11 attacks to the rash of ethical lapses by journalists.

Anthony Lewis, a former New York Times reporter who covered the historic New York Times v. Sullivan libel case, was joined on the telephone by Rod Nachman, the attorney who represented L.B. Sullivan. Dean Jerry Brown arranged for Lewis' appearance in the print and broadcast senior seminar classes, and Nachman's telephone interview.

The Times v. Sullivan case arose from an advertisement that criticized Sullivan, a police commissioner in Alabama during the civil rights movement. The ad contained some inaccuracies and Sullivan sued, winning in the Alabama courts. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Times, and at the same time set the standard for libel suits involving public officials, saying that to prevail they must prove actual malice.

Lewis said the case has allowed the media to be strong and to fulfill its constitutional mandate. Nachman argued that it has allowed journalists to do sloppy



Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Anthony Lewis speaks at the President's Lecture series on the legal and ethical challenges of reporting domestic issues and the war in Iraq. Dean Jerry Brown, right, has arranged for many working journalists to share their insights with students.

reporting and has prevented good people from seeking public office.

Lewis, who won two Pulitzers during his career, also spoke in the evening as part of the President's Lecture series, this speech on the media, the law and the war in Iraq.

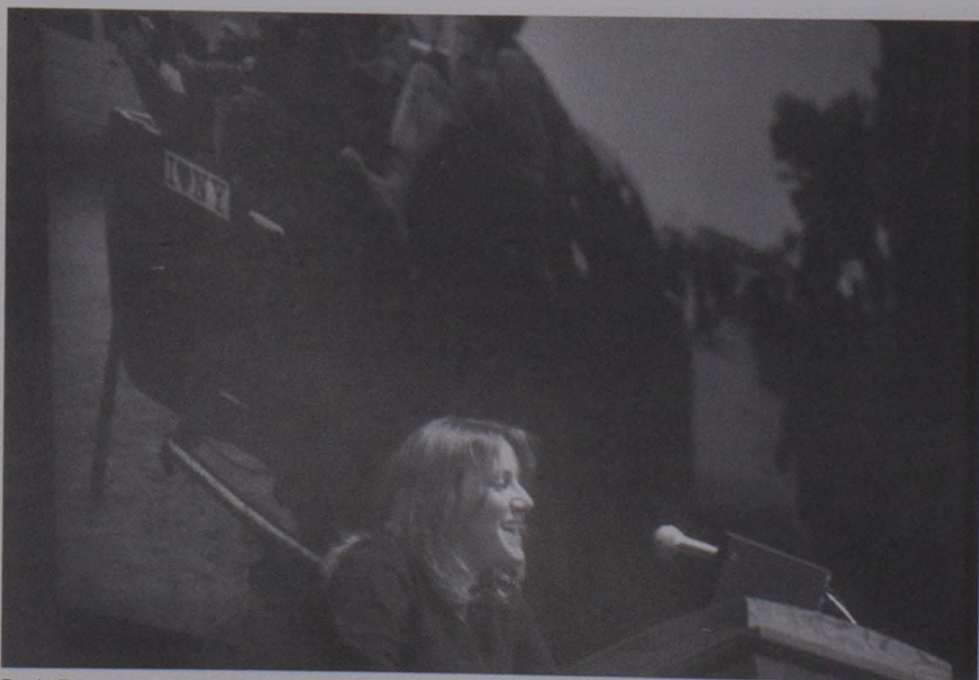
New York Times photojournalist **Ruth Fremson** captured the fall of the first tower after airplanes hit the World

Trade Center. The Pulitzer-Prize-winning photographer hid beneath a car as debris cascaded from the collapsing tower. She showed a capacity crowd in the University Theater the photographs from Sept. 11, as well as those she took soon afterward in Pakistan and Iraq.

Kelly McBride, an ethics expert from The Poynter Institute, told students that it is important for them as journalists to make it clear to the public how they get their information and what goes into their decisions about what to print and broadcast. She said journalists should use as their guiding principles seeking the truth and reporting it as fully as possible, acting independently, and minimizing harm.

She also recommended that the media adopt standards to guide their journalistic practices and decisions. Journalists can't turn their ethics on and off, she told the students.

Another journalist brought to campus with financial help from the UM administration was **Ron Rapoport**, a sports columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times. Rapoport visited a sports reporting class, the Kaimin, KBGA student radio, and in an evening event read from his new book, "The Immortal Bobby: Bobby Jones and the Golden Age of Golf."



Ruth Fremson captivated a U Theater audience with her photos of Sept. 11 and the Iraq war.

Students enjoy a taste of Chile

As the first week of spring semester got under way, a handful of journalism students were returning to Missoula from a UM Wintersession course in Chile.

The group of print, photo and broadcast students were gathering stories on the environment and the effects of the Free Trade Agreement between the United States and Chile.

The course was offered through UM's School of Journalism in collaboration with the School of Law. Leading the expedition were freelance writer and J-School adjunct Jeff Hull, UM's legal counsel David Aronofsky and environmental attorney Ronni Flannery.

TV students produce two documentaries

Broadcast journalism and R-TV production students have produced two hour-long documentaries since the last edition of *Communique*.

The latest was "Sex Talk: Our Children, Their Choices," which examines how the choices Montana teens make about sex can affect the rest of their lives. The program includes reports from Absarokee, Conrad, Hamilton, Helena, Great Falls, and Missoula.

Eighteen students worked on the sex education documentary. Student producer was senior Angela Marshall with senior Megan McFarland directing. R-TV chair Ray Ekness and professor Bill Knowles advised the projects.

Another documentary examined the effects of the No Child Left Behind Act on Montana students. It was directed by Marina Mackrow and produced by Dax VanFossen.

Student documentaries traditionally are first shown to students' families and friends the night before graduation and are broadcast later on Montana public television. Students so far have produced a total of 20 documentaries.

Magazine class gets inside scoop on how to create a publication

Nineteen journalism students got insider secrets to the magazine market last fall in a new class made possible through the Jeff Cole Legacy Fund.

Jonathan Weber, an adjunct professor in the J-School and a former Pollner professor, taught the class called Starting Your Own Magazine. The course examined what it takes to get a publication off the ground in today's market. It's was the second in an annual series of business journalism courses offered through the Cole Fund. Cole, a UM grad who was aerospace editor at the Wall Street Journal, was killed in a plane crash while covering a story in January 2001.

The course focused on how to find an untapped niche in a market currently swamped with specialty magazines. Students learned how to determine the demographic makeup of their magazines' audiences and how to tailor and market their publications to those audiences. They also presented business plans for their magazines and explained the editorial and advertising content they chose.

Weber said he tried to teach the nuts and bolts of circulation and practical experience.

Weber came to the J-school in January 2002 to teach a class about glob-

alization and the media as the first Pollner professor. He co-founded the Industry Standard, a magazine that reported Internet news for businesses. It met its demise with the dot com bust, but before it crashed, it ran almost 300 pages weekly and had an editorial staff of more than 100. Weber edits an internet magazine focusing on the Rocky Mountain West. It can be found at www.newwest.net

Students praised the class and it taught some of them that starting a magazine is not likely in their future. Senior photojournalism student Dan Menlove, said the class was more of a business class than a journalism class. It taught students how to sell a product and themselves. The class taught him that he doesn't want to start his own magazine – just have his pictures published in them, he said.

"The stuff you have to do is insane and the failure rate is ridiculous," Menlove said.

The Jeff Cole Legacy Fund provides funding for scholarships, resources and guest lectures for the UM School of Journalism.

—Chelsea DeWeese, Web reporter

J-School addresses ethics head-on

Journalism students wrestled with ethical decision-making this spring in a new contest sponsored by the School of Journalism, the Society of Professional Journalists and UM's Center for Ethics.

Students examined an ethical dilemma that involved a journalist who wrote a story about a poor family's rise from poverty after she helped the family financially. The journalist was fired from her job.

Students had to decide whether the journalist or her editor made the right decision. Teams of students researched similar cases and contacted professionals for their opinions.

The teams then argued their cases to

a panel of professional "judges" during class.

The ethics competition also included an April 28 public lecture by Gary Gilson, executive director of the Minnesota News Council. The council, a non-profit agency, helps the public hold news organizations accountable by reviewing complaints about coverage.

Winners in the student competition were photojournalists Rebekah McDonald, Louis Montclair and Michelle Gomes. In broadcast, the team of Angela Marshall and Max Calise placed first. Winners in print were Tim Ratte, Allison Squires, Garret Smith and Devin Wagner.

New Yorker & Baltimore Sun

Reporters who exposed Libby asbestos hazards visit J-School

Investigative journalists Andrew Schneider and Paul Brodeur told journalism students that their role is to find reliable informants, present both sides of an issue and report with authority.

They spoke in April 2004 about their investigative work on the hazardous effects of asbestos and the tools they use in collecting their information. The journalists were at UM as featured speakers for "Libby and Beyond: A Public Symposium on Asbestos."

Schneider is a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner who brought national attention to the asbestos exposure problem in Libby. His 1999 articles for the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* led to his book with David McCumber, "An Air That Kills: How the Asbestos Poisoning of Libby, Montana, Uncovered a National Scandal." He moved to the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and now works as a Washington, D.C., correspondent for the *Baltimore Sun*.

Brodeur, a staff writer at *The New Yorker* magazine for many years, has been a pioneer in writing about the hazards of asbestos. He wrote a series of

articles and four books on the subject.

Both Schneider and Brodeur see the topic of asbestos contamination as politically sensitive.

"Newspapers don't usually like environmental stories because it conflicts with advertisers," Brodeur said.

Sometimes it's just finding a media outlet with enough guts to stand up to the big businesses, Schneider said.

Schneider and Brodeur also discussed the importance of knowing your audience. When working on his Libby investigations, Schneider had to remind himself that his job was solely to relay information and then allow the public to make its own decisions.

Brodeur believes in objective journalism, but he also warned students it's very important to report findings with authority and show readers how they could be affected.

"Just because you're a reporter, you don't have to leave your humanity at the breakfast table every morning," Brodeur said.

— *Josi Carlson, Web reporter*

Photo educators show at UM

Photographers specializing in a variety of niches showcased their work during the Society for Photographic Education's Northwest regional meeting at the University of Montana last October.

Photojournalism professor Teresa Tamura coordinated the event that included photographic displays, portfolio reviews, book signing and a panel discussion on art and documentaries.

The SPE is a nonprofit organization that provides a forum for discussing photography and related media. The Northwest region consists of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.



Professional interactive training

Reznet scores online partnership with Poynter

Reznet's online advanced reporting class has scored a new partnership with the Poynter Institute, bringing it to the forefront of journalism e-learning.

"This gives students visibility and credibility," said Denny McAuliffe, Reznet director and the J-School's Native American journalist in residence. "It elevates the status of the entire Native American program because it offers the quality of Poynter."

Reznet, an online newspaper written by and for American Indian college students from around the country, is a joint venture between the UM School of Journalism and the Robert C. Maynard Institute for Journalism Education.

McAuliffe was instrumental in organizing Reznet's partnership with Poynter's News University. He and visiting assistant professor Michael Downs collaborated with Steve Chin of the Maynard Institute and Victor Merina, who teaches an online class through Poynter.

Downs has taught the online class since its inception three years ago.

The News University is Poynter's new online newsroom that offers training to journalists and journalism students through its interactive online program. Its goal is to provide technology and expertise to journalism associations and educators around the country.

This spring, Downs' online Reznet

class includes 10 American Indian students who are reporting about their schools and their communities. The students log on to Poynter's NewsU Web site to participate in the class. The site is designed to be an interactive e-learning source, where students can link to an array of journalism education tools and training opportunities.

Reznet will join the list of other organizations already working with NewsU, including the Asian American Journalists Association, the National Association of Black Journalists, the Society of Environmental Journalists, the Association of Health Care Journalists and the American Copy Editors Society.

Faculty continues 'singing' tradition during record Dean Stone banquet

Thanks to generous support from alumni and friends of the school and the good work of many students, the J-School was able to give a record \$90,000 in scholarships and awards at the 48th Dean Stone Awards Banquet in April.

The awards followed the Dean Stone speech the previous evening by Deborah Potter, a former CBS correspondent who is director of NewsLab, a training and research center for journalists. Potter also spoke briefly to students at the banquet, offering them four characteristics of good journalists: curious, committed, caring and courageous.

Among new awards this year were two made possible by a generous donation by Ted Hilgenstuhler '50. His \$100,000 contribution made it possible for the school to award two \$1,000 scholarship, which this year went to Dennis Carroll and Andrew Weed. The

dean also used Hilgenstuhler funds for staff support.

The festivities went on for a good part of the night, with students cheering wildly when one of their own from the four journalism options was called to the podium to collect a scholarship envelope.

The faculty also continued its relatively recent, but hugely popular, entertainment, in the form of what some call singing. This year it was a rendition of "Newsboy Jimmy Brown," though several singers could be heard shouting – er, singing – Jerry Brown during the chorus.

Last year at Dean Stone Night the faculty sang new words to the John Prine song "Spanish Pipedream," also called "Blow Up Your TV." The parody was written by J-alum John Bulger. If you attend Dean Stone Night 2006 you may hear it again.

If not, we've included it here:

*She was a budding broadcast major with a three-six gpa
And he a feature writer with his life in disarray
Well she met him in a downtown bar where they shot a little pool
With his mind on sin, he let her win and now she blows off school*

*She blew up her TV, threw away her paper
Moved to the country, lives off the land
Has a little garden, eats a lot of veggies
Gets a little edgy near a newsstand*

*She flopped down on a barstool to help collect her thoughts
But it wasn't very easy after fourteen Jager shots
She'd always strived to do the things that made her parents glad
But on Dean Stone night she lost the fight and fell for a J-School grad*

Refrain...

*She mustered up her courage and she looked him in the eyes
Although he had a Pulitzer he darn sure was no prize
Well, on his arm WWJD was inscribed in a tattoo
And to her lament found those letters meant What Would a Journalist Do?*

*Put a -30- to this story you know just what they did
He took her home and made her try the Inverted Pyramid
He applied the Kama Sutra and the AP Stylebook too
But she had to balk when she learned that talk about a liberal press was true*

Photo students keep raking in the gold

Photojournalism students had another stellar year, winning honors in several contests and prestigious fellowships.

Here's the latest from the third floor:

Mike Greener was among 1,500 finalists out of 30,000 applicants in the 25th Annual College Photography Contest held by Photographers Forum magazine. His work will be published in *The Best of College Photography Annual 2005*. Greener, a junior, spent six months in New Zealand shooting a fly-fishing expedition for the magazine.

Lisa Hornstein '04 brought home the gold in the 2004 College Photographer of the Year contest, and **Matt Hayes '04** earned three honorable mentions. Hornstein won gold in the Personal Vision category for her underwater photo, "Bobs," featuring swimming lessons at the Missoula YMCA pool. Hayes won honorable mentions in the Portfolio, Sports Portfolio and Sports Action categories. His sports action shot, "Black Ride," pictured a bareback rider at the Mackay Rodeo in Mackay, Idaho.

For the second year in a row, a UM photojournalism senior was accepted into the Poynter Institute's visual journalism program for college graduates. In June **Liz Grauman '05** traveled to St. Petersburg, Fla., for the six-week pro-



A Missoula gallery had a month-long exhibit of photos from grad Matt Hayes' project "Lost on Route 93."

gram that covers photography, design, informational graphics and visual reporting. Last summer, UM photojournalism students Kate Medley '04 and Lisa Hornstein '04 were part of Poynter's visual journalism program.

Hornstein also won a \$4,100 Alexia Foundation scholarship to study in London fall semester for a picture story in the Native News Honors Project,

which won a national Robert Kennedy Journalism Award. Her work featured the Fort Belknap Reservation. As part of the scholarship she also won \$500 that she contributed to the honors project.

Lee Tortorelli '05 won first place for feature photography in the Wyoming Press Association annual contest with a picture he took at a carnival in Cody, Wyo, last summer. Tortorelli was interning for a freelance photography company and, on his off time, took pictures for the Cody Enterprise. This summer he's interning at the Enterprise.

Heather Telesca '05, who is from Binghamton, N.Y., received \$500 for her first-place finish in the "Faces of Civic Engagement" photo contest. The winning photo was of Telesca's boyfriend, a local Eagle Scout. Telesca also claimed second-place in the competition for another Eagle Scout photo.

A picture by photo student **Tom Baker** was accepted for exhibition by the Texas Photographic Society's National Student Photography Competition. His entry was one of 60 selected from 850 submitted. The exhibition began in June 2004 in Texas and travels to college and university galleries for two years.



Lisa Hornstein's gold-winning photo of "Bob" at the Missoula YMCA pool.

All departments score well in Hearst awards

Three print students and two photo students won awards in the 2004-05 Hearst Journalism Awards Program.

Lee Tortorelli won 6th place in the picture story category for a series of photos he shot at the annual motorcycle rally in Sturgis, S.D. He won \$500, plus a matching grant of \$500 for the school.

Mike Cohea won 8th place in portrait/personality photography for work published in the 2004 Native News Honors Project. He shot the cover photo for the series on sovereignty. He won \$500 plus a matching grant for the school.

Their wins put the school in 10th place among all schools in the photojournalism competition.

Alisha Wyman took 15th place in sports writing for her story about UM's \$1 million athletics department deficit. After the department proposed raising student athletics fees, saying UM students paid less than students at other Big Sky schools, Wyman contacted all the schools and found that UM's information was inaccurate.

Brad Fjeldheim won 16th place in spot news for in-depth interviews with friends and roommates of a UM student who committed suicide.

Joe Friedrichs tied for 19th place in feature writing for his story for the 2004 Native News Honors Project, which was about the debate over whether the Flathead tribes should assume control of the National Bison Range.

The UM J-School has continued its impressive record in the Hearst Awards, often called the College Pulitzers.

In the 2003-'04 academic year, J-School students won 10 awards. Winners were:

Jessie Childress, Opinion Writing, 4th

Danielle Cross, Broadcast Feature, 6th

Matt Hayes, Picture Story, 9th

Beth Saboe, Broadcast News-Radio, 9th

Angela Marshall, Broadcast News-Radio, 11th

Chelsi Moy, Feature Writing, 13th



Hearst winner Mike Cohea '05 is on the edge of the action at a Grizzly game. Cohea was the photographer for Game Day Kaimin, a special edition distributed at Grizzly football games.

Lisa Hornstein, Photo/Sports & News, 15th

Steve Dent, Broadcast News-TV, 16th

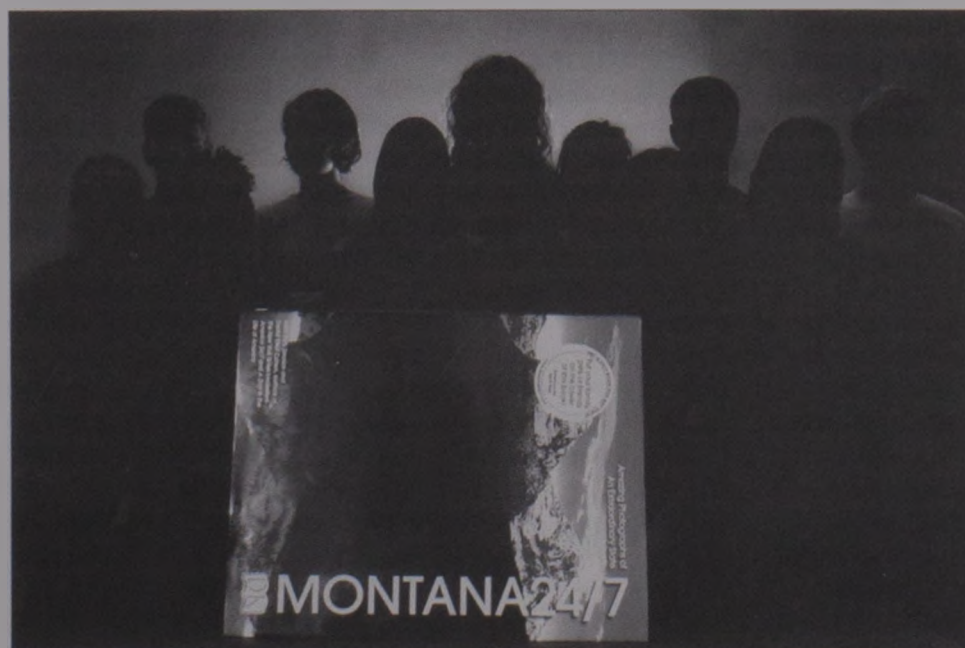
Chelsi Moy, Spot News, 20th

Martin Ross, Broadcast News-TV, 20th

The Hearst awards are sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. The 105 journalism pro-

grams accredited by the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication are eligible to participate in the program.

The Hearst Journalism Awards program is a year-long competition made up of 13 separate contests: six in writing, three in photojournalism and four in broadcast news.



Eleven J-School students and alumni had their work published in the book "Montana 24/7." The project was part of the "American 24/7" project.

R-TV students sweep SPJ competition

Students in UM's department of Radio-Television took first place in every television category in the Society of Professional Journalists Region 10 Mark of Excellence Awards May 6 in Seattle.

Of the UM winners at the regional level, three have been named as national finalists: Stan Pillman, Van Redpath and Dustin Blanchet, who was named twice as a national finalist. Results in the national competition will be announced in September.

The Mark of Excellence Awards honor the best in collegiate journalism.

In all, 19 UM students or student-produced programs received recognition in television or radio at the regional level.

TV GENERAL NEWS REPORTING: 1st—**Aaron Flint** and **Libby Riddle**, "Term Limits"; 2nd—**Aaron Flint**, **Van Redpath** and **Dustin Blanchet**, "Gambling"; 3rd—**Tim Reilly** and **Mollie Reiss**, "Cyanide Mining Initiative"

TV FEATURE: 1st—**Sarah Leno** and **Steve Abatiell**, "Small Towns: Bynum"; 2nd—**Alison Brya** and **Gabe Ferguson**, "Disability Workout"; 3rd—**Angela Marshall** and **Megan McFarland**, "Day of the Dead"

TV IN-DEPTH REPORTING: 2nd—**UM Class of 2004**, "No Child Left Behind"; 1st—**UM Class of 2005**, "Montana Journal: 2004 Ballot Issues"

TV SPORTS REPORTING: 1st—**Sarah Leno** and **Dustin Blanchet**, "Scott McGowan"

TV NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY: 1st—**Van Redpath** and **Dustin Blanchet**, "Gambling" (national finalist)

TV FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY: 1st—**Kalee Scolatti**, "Small Towns: Emigrant"

TV SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY: 1st—**Dustin Blanchet**, "Scott McGowan" (national finalist)

RADIO FEATURE: 1st—**Stan Pillman**, KUFM, "Addicted to Gambling" (national finalist); 3rd—**Eli Bierwag**, KUFM, "Thanksgiving Refugees"

RADIO SPORTS REPORTING: 1st—**Andrea Lutz**, KBGA, "No Name Jerseys"; 2nd—**Derek Buerkle**, "UM Golf Team"

Eric Stadler was one of four finalists in the Radio-Mercury Awards student competition that recognizes outstanding radio commercials.

Stadler did a 30-second spot, called "Me and RJ," on Missoula's Double Front Chicken for professor Ray Ekness' RTV 150 class.

Sarah Leno and **Dustin Blanchet** won third place in the Broadcast Education Association's Sports Reporting-Television category for a piece on UM's nationally ranked distance runner, Scott McGowan. In the Sports Reporting-Radio category, **Courtney Hanson** and **Derek Buerkle** won second and third places for stories about UM's equestrian and golf teams.

Andy Atkins – his full name is Andrew Owen Atkins Van Lieshout – of White Sulphur Springs will receive the BEA's 2005-2006 Harold Fellows Scholarship, worth \$1,250. It was the fourth year in a row a UM student won a BEA scholarship. It's also the latest in a string of scholarships for Atkins. In late spring, he was selected for a Great Falls Broadcasters Association scholarship worth \$2,000. In June of 2004 he received a National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences scholarship, also worth \$2,000, and repeated the feat last month. Joining Atkins in winning NATAS scholarships in May were **Sarah Hubbard** and **Abby L. Lautt**.

The 2003 student documentary, "Settling the Tab on Montana's Alcohol Culture," received the Montana Broadcasters Association/Greater Montana Foundation E.B. Craney Award in June 2004 for outstanding non-commercial television program of the year.

Also, the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences-Northwest Chapter awarded a Student Emmy in June 2004 to an episode of "Business: Made in Montana."

Ryan Axmear won the 2004 National Press Photographers Foundation

Television News scholarship, worth \$1,000. The foundation, an arm of the National Press Photographers Association, awards several prizes in still photography, and created the television production scholarship to recognize that TV camera operators are also photojournalists.

Print students win RFK prize, several others

The highlight of the year for print students was winning the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award, but other recognition added to a successful year.

Lucia Stewart was of five students in the United States to receive an outdoor communications scholarship from the Outdoor Writers Association of America. She received \$2,500 through the group's Bodie McDowell Scholarship. Stewart wrote an essay about her experiences in the communications field, and about her goals. She also included clips of her work at the Montana Kaimin and Paddler magazine.

Erin Madison won an essay contest sponsored by New West, the internet news site that covers the Rocky Mountain West. Her article was "Should a University be a Business?" It addressed UM's contract with Coca-Cola, increased tuition and the administration's proposal to build a retirement community on the site of the UM Golf Course.

Photojournalism student **Mike Cohea** won the New West photo contest for his bison range photo.

Former students **Alisha Wyman '04** and **Adam Weinacker '04** won Society of Journalists Mark of Excellence Awards. Wyman won second place with a piece about UM Athletics and Weinacker won third for a story about housing on the Blackfeet Reservation that residents claimed was causing health problems.

FACULTY NOTES

Swibold & Work uncover dark history of free speech

• Professors Clem Work and Dennis Swibold have received book contracts for their long-time projects, both tied to dark periods for freedom of speech and press in the Montana.

Work's book, "Darkest Before Dawn," to be published by the University of New Mexico Press in September, follows a few of the 64 Montanans who were tried and convicted under the 1918 Montana sedition law for speaking their minds.

In spite of the First Amendment, the law punished people who voiced anti-war or anti-industry sentiments.

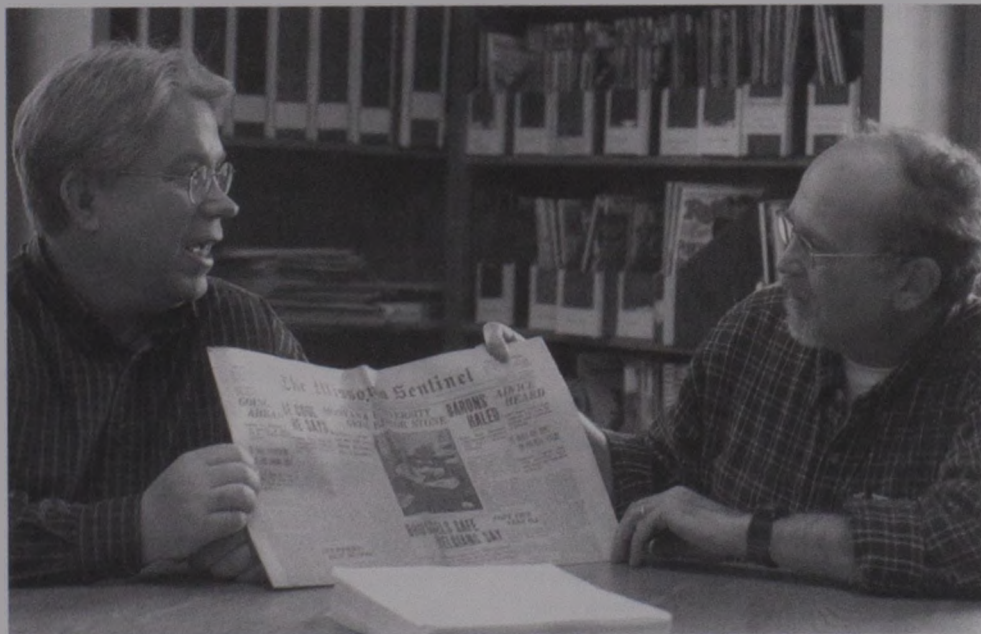
"My focus is on the fear and hysteria that gripped the state at the time," said Work.

Swibold's book, "The Copper Chorus," to be published by the Montana State Historical Society Press in the summer of 2006, examines the influence of the Anaconda Copper Mining Co. on Montana newspapers from 1889 to 1959. The book details how the Anaconda Co., Montana's largest industrial employer, with mineral, timber and energy holdings, kept a stranglehold on newspapers it owned. Together, those papers owned by the company were called "the copper press."

"To the extent that vast numbers of Montana newspaper readers were either left in the dark or given only the news favorable to the company's vested interests, Anaconda journalism was clearly bad for democracy," Swibold said.

Work focused on the rising chaos that engulfed Montana's industries between 1905 and 1917.

He writes of the Socialists and dissatisfied workers who formed the Industrial Workers of the World in Chicago in 1905 and later became known as the Wobblies. Their purpose, said Work, was to counter



Prof. Dennis Swibold, left, and Clem Work share some research ideas for their respective books, soon to be published, concerning little known but important phases of Montana history.

severe work conditions in factories.

When World War I began, Montana was at its industrial high, copper mining and timber industries booming. The eyes of the nation turned to the West, with its abundance of raw materials needed for the war effort. Meanwhile, the IWW's infamy was growing, and it expanded into Montana. There, the tension between workers and industrialists soared.

A fearless, one-eyed IWW agitator named Frank Little helped organize the Wobblies' first "free speech fight" in Missoula in 1909. In 1917, Little exhorted striking workers in Butte to join the IWW and to oppose the war. On Aug. 1, he was dragged from his rooming house and lynched.

"This was a time when reason was abandoned and people did weird things," said Work.

In the midst of the tension, the Montana sedition bill was proposed in 1918. In February of that year, Gov. Sam

Stewart demanded a special legislative session to pass the bill. Nine days later, the state adopted the Montana sedition law and the criminal syndicalism law. These laws, Work said, outlawed the IWW. Saying just about anything critical or insulting to the government could be punished with up to 20 years in prison.

"At the time [the Montana sedition law] was passed," he said, "it was the [nation's] most repressive measure for free speech."

But Work emphasizes the good that came from Montana's sedition law: "These events in Montana ultimately led to more breathing room for freedom of speech."

As did Work in doing his research, Swibold logged his share of time in libraries across Montana.

"I read over 70 dailies and weeklies," he said of his more than four years of

Continued on next page

FACULTY NOTES

research, part of which he completed during his sabbatical in 2001-2002.

One difficulty in researching, said Swibold, was that the Anaconda Co. hid its ownership.

"In the 70 years of the copper press, I found no public admission by any of the copper editors that they worked for the Anaconda Co.," he said. "It was the state's worst-kept secret, but company officials and copper journalists lied regularly about the papers' true ownership." They knew the company's and the newspaper's credibility would be compromised if they admitted ownership, he said.

Papers owned by the Anaconda Co. included the Butte Daily Post, the Montana Standard, the Billings Gazette, the Missoulian, the Missoula Sentinel, the Livingston Enterprise, the Helena Independent Record and the Anaconda Standard.

"For a town of 3,000 people in the middle of Montana, Anaconda had a paper, the Anaconda Standard, that was matched in scope by no other in the Northwest in 1889," Swibold said.

Why in Anaconda?

It was the War of the Copper Kings at the turn of the century in Montana, Swibold explained.

"Tycoons flooded the state with money," he said. One notable tycoon was Marcus Daly, founder of the Anaconda Co. In 1889 he decided he needed his own newspaper to promote himself and his expanding company — and the Anaconda Standard was born.

"No paper could cover as much as the Anaconda Standard," said Swibold. "But with the company money came the company's editorial voice."

The company's 70-year hold on the "copper press" is divided into two stages.

"In the first half, the papers were aggressively attacking enemies in very blatant, overt ways," he said. "The last half was just bad journalism. The press was really not credible." You couldn't find any criticism or negative publicity

about the Anaconda Co. in the paper, nor about the politics the company supported, he said.

Anaconda's ownership of the papers stifled their professional development and that of the journalists who wrote for them, he said.

"Fearful of appearing biased, yet unable to truly pursue the news, Anaconda journalists slipped into a sort of timid twilight ambivalence that was surely the worst consequence of 'wearing the copper collar.'" Swibold said.

By the time Anaconda sold the newspapers to Lee Enterprises in 1959, said Swibold, Montanans had become cynical of the press.

"This is a cautionary tale," he said. "Ownership matters in conflicts of interest in the press. I want Montana journalists to read it. I don't want them to forget."

—Kelley McLandress

• **Dean Jerry Brown** spent a week in early July, 2004 getting back to his roots in community journalism—he edited the July 8 issue of *The Philipsburg Mail*, helping publisher Brian Eder while editor Maureen Connor was on vacation.

He not only edited stories, but wrote them as well. Brown's byline topped two front-page stories in the weekly newspaper out of Granite County. He also took photos and produced more stories for inside the 10-page issue.

"It was quite a three-day stand," said Brown after the week was over. "Embezzlement, tragic death, doctorless dilemma, wonderful elderly rancher (who is a book in himself, and I only had 45 minutes to interview him); and, by damn, I learned to use a digital camera."

Brown, who edited a weekly newspaper in Virginia before becoming an academic, also wrote a column for the paper about his stint there. "[W]riting news from a small community is more difficult than reporting from the lofty perch of a big city paper," he wrote. "It requires more courage, more diplomacy, more knowledge of contexts."

• The Fulbright scholarship lecture program named Professor **Sharon Barrett** to be a member of the Peer Review Committee for the Fulbright Senior Specialists Program for the second year. The program officer, Brad Niemann, lauded Barrett as "one of six authorities in your field, representing a range of specializations and institutions."

Her duties will be to review applications sent to the 2005-2006 Fulspec Communications and Journalism 1 Peer Review Committee. This is the program's fifth year and Barrett's second nomination to the committee.

Barrett was awarded a half-year Fulbright lectureship in journalism to the University of Lima, Peru in 1987. The Fulbright program sent Barrett to the University ORT, Montevideo, Uruguay, for one month in 2003.

• **Sally Mauk**, KUFM news director, has been honored with the Radio-Television News Directors Association's 10th Edward R. Murrow Regional Award.

Mauk won in the small market sports category with a story about women's ice hockey



in Western Montana. The Women's Hockey Association, Missoula (WHAM), was founded in 2002 and offers league play, clinics, coaches and officials at Missoula's new Glacier skating rink. More than 70 women are members. Mauk said the women play hockey the same way men do, but with "no checking and more finesse."

Mauk interviewed the founders of the league, women who had played pick-up games three years before its formation.

"They are so passionate about ice hockey," Mauk said of the women's enthusiasm. "Good stories are made by good interviews."

Mauk has worked at KUFM for the last 25 of its 40 years. After graduating from the University of Kansas, she came to Montana to work as a wilderness

ranger in the Cabinet Wilderness of the Kootenai National Forest.

"I wanted to live somewhere that was pretty," she said. Mauk soon found it easier to work in a tiny newsroom than to live in a tent in the woods. She joined the School of Journalism R-TV program as an adjunct instructor in 1998.

RTNDA has given Edward R. Murrow Awards for "outstanding achievements in electronic journalism" since 1971. The award is named after the famous CBS correspondent who worked in radio and television from the 1940s until the 1960s.



Jonathan Weber and Courtney Lowery know how to keep smiling while working night and day on New West, a Web magazine with no guarantees but apparently lots of fun.

• **Jonathan Weber and Courtney**

Lowery sit in a small office — three computers hum, the phone rings incessantly and the Fed Ex man is at the door. The two are launching a new online magazine, New West Network, the next morning. Both look tired. The phone rings again. Weber brings the receiver to his unshaven chin and starts talking quickly while Lowery takes time to grant an interview.

New West Network will focus on the monumental changes coming to the Rocky Mountain West. The area is rapidly changing from a resource-based economy to a service economy. New West will report on the issues affecting current residents and newcomers — on the clash of cultures where the new-technology Silicon Valley meets the Old West of the Clark Fork Valley.

Weber came to Missoula as the first T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professor in January 2002. His previous job as founding editor of the Internet business magazine, The Industry Standard, ended abruptly when the company filed for bankruptcy during the dot-com bust of 2001.

"The Industry Standard was a business failure, but editorially (it) was a success." Weber said. "I have no regrets." He has participated in online media since the early 1990s, so he is confident of the success of his new venture.

New West will be published online at first. Weber and Lowery started three Web logs (blogs) based in Missoula, Salt Lake City, and Boulder, Colo. Readers may comment on the topics published on the blog and post topics as "citizen journalists." The blogs will discuss "local issues, arts and culture, politics and the environment" said Lowery.

Lowery is a product of the Old West. She grew up on a farm near Dutton, Mont. and worked for the Great Falls Tribune as a high school student.

In 1997, she enrolled in the UM School of Journalism. Lowery took Weber's class in the spring of 2002, and she was editor of the Kaimin during his tutelage. They stayed in contact after she graduated.

Weber called Lowery in the summer of 2004 and asked if she wanted to work on his new magazine.

"Missoula is not a hard place to be lured back to," she said. Lowery was willing to learn HTML computer language and was confident of her writing skills.

"One of the things different about us is that we'll be a blogging network with an editorial structure," she said. "Our goal is to marry the best parts of print journalism and the best parts of blogging, so we can add value to the media that is out there while creating a new genre."

New West Network will be funded by online advertising, Weber says. While online publication is growing rapidly, Weber also looks forward to printing his magazine on paper next year. Hard copy is about "long narrative, packaging, visual presentation. It is self-contained, crafted and has visceral appeal," he said. The bottom line for Weber: "Any start-up is risky, but it's more fun than working for Time Inc."

—Jim Beyer
Web reporter

• **Assistant professor Sheri**

Venema has begun research on the Church Universal and Triumphant in Montana's Paradise Valley. The group made headlines in Montana and around the country more than a decade ago when its members fled to underground bomb shelters to avoid a nuclear holocaust predicted by their leader. Venema will examine media coverage in Montana and nationally. She also will look at the effect of that coverage as well as church teachings and lifestyle on people in their 20s and 30s who were adolescents and pre-teens during the early 1990s.

In the classroom, Venema has continued to teach editing, beginning reporting, feature writing and Online News, in which students report and photograph stories for the Journalism School's Web page. The fall 2005 Online News class will have more students as the school works to post J-school news more often than the monthly pages we now produce.

• **Former Dean Charlie Hood** has returned to Missoula after several years living in Prague and Paris. His most recent experience was working at the Herald Tribune in Paris. He's enjoying being back home but says he's having a hard time adjusting to being around so few people.



Obituaries

Gayle Carmen Bauer of Forsyth died Jan. 4, 2005, of cancer.

She was born April 19, 1932, in Fairfield, then moved with her parents to her grandfather's ranch southeast of Forsyth.

Ms. Bauer graduated from Rosebud High School and attended business school in Phoenix. When she returned to Montana, she enrolled in the J-School, pursuing a passion for writing that she said was fulfilled in the school. She was also a member of the riflery club, winning awards at shooting competitions. She was a sharpshooter all her life.

She worked in radio and television in Billings. She married Walt Pierce, and they later divorced. In the late 1960s, she married Vern Bauer of Forsyth. He died in 1987. For the next several years, Ms. Bauer worked as a caregiver at Rosebud County Medical Center in Forsyth.

Among survivors are a daughter, Suzanne Vernon, and a brother.

Montana pioneer broadcaster **Donald Bradley** died May 15, 2004, in Great Falls of complications of Parkinson's disease. He was 76.

Mr. Bradley was inducted into the Montana Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 1998 for his career that began in 1949 when he was hired as a part-time radio announcer while he was attending the J-School.

In 1958 he became the first program director and operations manager for Great Falls station KRTV. He was later vice president of operations and chief executive officer of the Montana Television Network.

Albert C. Cochrane '51 died July 19, 2004, in Bigfork of progressive supranuclear palsy. He was 74. Mr. Cochrane was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force upon graduation and served until 1979, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. As a squadron navigator his work took him around the globe on troop carrier missions. In 1959 he began service in public information for the Air Force, with postings in the United States and in Vietnam and Belgium.

Upon retirement, Mr. Cochrane and his wife, Garene, moved to Bigfork, where he was active in community and church service. He also remained engaged with his alma mater, serving as an Alumni Association delegate.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three sons and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The family suggests memorial contributions to causes he embraced, including the building fund for the J-School's Don Anderson Hall.

Margaret Joan "Margie" Gardner '69 died March 3, 2004, from cancer. She was 58.

She was born on Oct. 10, 1945, in Anaconda, and graduated

from Anaconda Central High School in 1963. She earned a journalism degree in 1969. After college she moved to Baltimore, Md., to teach English at North High School. After teaching for two years, she moved to Naples, Italy, a home base for three years of travel in Europe.

When she returned to the states in 1973, she married Miklos Gratzner, and moved to Syracuse, N.Y. In 1983, she divorced and moved back to Anaconda, where she lived for the next 21 years.

She is survived by a son, Miki Joe Gardner Gratzner.

Dorcas Keach Northey '35, whose scholarship, awarded each year at Dean Stone Night, has benefited scores of students, died Sept. 13, 2004, in Missoula.

In honor of their 50th wedding anniversary in 1986, her husband, Harry, established a scholarship in her name for promising journalism students. They observed their 68th anniversary just weeks before her death. She was 90 years old.

Mrs. Northey was a life-long Missoula resident. At UM she was a member of Theta Sigma Phi journalism honor society. After raising five children she came to work as the secretary for UM printing services, a job she held for 12 years until retiring in 1972. She was interested in politics all her life, keenly so when her husband served in the Montana Legislature.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by five children and 11 grandchildren.

Patsy Cohe Green '44 died Jan. 12, 2005, in Missoula. She came to the J-School from Billings. After graduation she married Jack L. Green and accompanied him to basic training in Hattiesburg, Miss., where she worked at the Hattiesburg American. She had also edited *The Yellowstone* in Billings. After the war she lived in Missoula where she reared three children and was active in civic affairs.

Beverly L. Knowles '38, who for 24 years was a Congressional aide to U.S. Sen. Lee Metcalf, died Aug. 12, 2004, in Fredericksburg, Md. She was 88.

Knowles began working for Metcalf in 1952, after he was elected from Montana to the U.S. House of Representatives. She served as his secretary and receptionist throughout his tenure in Congress, both as a representative and, from 1960 until his death in 1978, as a senator. She retired in 1978.

After graduation from the J-School, Knowles moved to Spokane, where she was a freelance journalist and office manager for a group of doctors.

She was a member of Theta Sigma Phi journalism society and several Washington, D.C.-area clubs.

Knowles was born and reared in Butte. She left no immediate survivors.

Gary Langley, a longtime reporter, communications director, and lobbyist, died July 16, 2004, in East Helena of a heart attack. He was 57.

Mr. Langley began his journalism career in high school, working as a correspondent for Hunting and Fishing News. He worked at the Livingston Enterprise before attending the J-School, where he earned a degree in 1969. His first job after graduation was at the Spokesman-Review, his next at The Missoulian. In 1972 he joined the Lee Newspapers State Bureau and later became bureau chief. In 1977 he took a job as communications director for the Montana Stockgrowers Association. For years he was executive director of the Montana Mining Association. His public relations and lobbying work also included the gambling and tavern industries. He also served as secretary of the Association of Boxing Commissioners.

He was married to Pam Patrick Langley. They later divorced. Survivors include a son and daughter.

David C. Martin '47, who worked for several years in newspapers before starting his own advertising agency, has died. The date and place of death were not reported. He was born Dec. 9, 1923, in Great Falls, joined the Army after graduation from high school, and served in World War II.

After graduation from the J-School, he worked for the Atlanta Bureau of International News Service, then in Columbia, Tenn., and Newport News, Va. He was city editor of the Elizabethon Star in Elizabethon, Tenn., and then worked at the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. He later owned and operated his ad agency, DCM Advertising and Sales in Allison Park, Pa.

William Moore '49 died in Long Beach, Calif., of congestive heart failure. He was 82.

He was born in San Diego on July 30, 1921. After World War II service in the Navy, he attended UM. He carved out a career as an advertising executive for several newspapers, including the Press-Telegram and the now-defunct Los Angeles Herald Examiner.

In his 60s, the lifelong bachelor began taking in foster children, raising two boys at different times. He is survived by six nieces and nephews.

Vernon G. Nelson, '61, died June 28, 2004, in Gig Harbor, Wash. He was 68.

Mr. Nelson worked for 30 years at Rocket Research Corp. in Seattle, joining the company in 1966 as technical publications manager. The company became the Olin Corp. during his tenure. Before joining Rocket Research he was a technical writer for Boeing Co.

He was born Feb. 24, 1935, in Holt, Minn., and graduated

from high school in Tacoma, Wash. He served with the Army in security postings in Japan and Korea from 1954 to 1957. While in school he was news director and chief engineer for radio station KQTE. Immediately after school he was a reporter at KIRO radio and television in Seattle.

He married Beverly Kaplan-Nelson on Dec. 5, 1969. She survives him in Port Orchard, Wash. Also among survivors are eight children.

David C. Phillips, who worked in Montana at the Bozeman Chronicle and Great Falls Tribune, died of cancer on March 25, 2004, in Lodi, Calif. He had been a student at the J-School in the late 1950s. Mr. Phillips was 63.

After working in Montana he moved to North Dakota where he owned Black Hills Publishers Inc., the Sturgis Tribune, the Black Hills Press and the Tri-State Livestock News. In California he worked 21 years at the Lodi News-Sentinel, starting in classified advertising, where he was promoted to manager, and ending his career in the display advertising department. He is survived by his wife, Sue, and several children and stepchildren.

Beth Frisbee Short '75 died in her sleep on Jan. 2, 2005, in Astoria, Ore. She had received her degree in radio-television from UM and pursued her interest in music performance studies at the University of Washington. She had worked in public relations for the Montana Automobile Association, editing the Montana Motorist.

A Cut Bank native, she married Daniel Short in Missoula in 1978. They divorced in 2002. She is survived by a daughter and son, in addition to her mother, sister and two brothers.

Lester Grant Sooy '46 died July 15, 2004, in Little Rock, Ark.

A Havre native, Mr. Sooy married Betty Lou McKay on June 30, 1944. He was an officer in the U.S. Navy, serving 33 months during World War II. After graduation he worked for the Park County News in Livingston, first as sports editor and later in advertising, working his way up to general manager. He became part-owner until the paper was sold to Lee Enterprises. In 1971, he became general manager of Color World printing in Bozeman. In 1982, he moved to Modesto, Calif., where he and his wife opened Printing Plus. At the age of 80, Mr. Sooy retired and moved to Bryant, Ark.

My. Sooy spent many years refereeing high school basketball games throughout Montana. He played softball as a young man and was inducted into the Montana Softball Hall of Fame in 1993. He was preceded in death by his wife and a son. Among survivors are two daughters and two sons.

Continued on next page

Harold G. "Hal" Stearns, a legendary Montana weekly newspaperman, history buff, raconteur, adviser to politicians and longtime education advocate, died April 22, 2004, in Helena at age 91.

Montana leaders mourned the passing of the colorful character who usually wore mismatched plaid outfits, with assorted arrowheads, bullets and other mementos pinned to the lapels of his sports coat. For decades, Stearns regaled friends and acquaintances across the state with an overflowing treasure chest of stories about Montana history.

Mr. Stearns ran the successful, once-a-decade, 6-mill property tax levy campaigns for the Montana university system in 1978 and 1988. He is one of the few people to receive honorary doctorate degrees from both the University of Montana and Montana State University.

Mr. Stearns and his late wife, Jean, owned and ran the Harlowton Times and Eastern Montana Clarion from 1940 to 1973. During that time, he picked up the nickname "The Sage of the Musselshell," and politicians of all philosophies stopped to seek his advice. He wrote a column, first called "The Editor's Uneasy Chair" and later "The Uneasy Editor's Chair" in Harlowton and later for the Helena Independent Record when he moved to the capital city. He started his journalism career in Havre after graduation from the J-School in 1936.

After his wife, Jean, died in 1990, he created the Jean Kountz Stearns Award for journalism students. Following Mr. Stearns' death, the family renamed the scholarship the Stearns Family Scholarship.

The Stearnses had eight children, seven of whom survive.

(From the obit by Charles S. Johnson, Lee Newspapers State Bureau)

Joseph Frederic "Jose" Stell '50 who was international president of the Newspaper Guild, died March 23, 2004, in San Jose. He had for many years worked at the San Jose Mercury News as a reporter and editor. He was 77.

After graduation he worked at the Great Falls Tribune, the Pueblo, Colo., Chieftan and the Mercury-News. He was active in the Newspaper Guild for several years, and won the international presidency in 1973.

He liked to tell the story of sitting in Ed Dugan's advertising class with his legs crossed at the ankles, the soles of his size 12 wingtips facing Dugan's way during a lecture about the value of advertising space. "And speaking of unused advertising space," he recalled Dugan saying, "have you ever considered going into outdoor advertising?"

He is survived by two brothers and a sister.

Former Great Falls Municipal Judge **Robert Tucker '48** died of congestive heart failure April 14, 2004. He was 79.

He was born Oct. 11, 1924, in Anaconda, the youngest of seven children. After graduation he worked for the Associated Press from 1948 to 1954, and the Independent Record in Helena from 1954 to 1956.

In 1956, he and his wife, Doris, moved to New Mexico, where he worked for the Albuquerque Journal, both in Albuquerque and Santa Fe. In 1958, he returned to school in Missoula, obtaining a law degree from the University of Montana in 1960. He practiced law in Helena and Great Falls before being elected municipal judge in 1978, a post he held until 1990.

Gary A. Turbak, a freelance writer who attended the J-School in the 1980s and frequently spoke to magazine freelance writing classes, died Aug. 21, 2004, in Missoula, from cancer. He was 60.

Mr. Turbak had a degree in English from Northern State College, Aberdeen, S.D. After a brief stint teaching high school English, he served in the Air Force, then began a successful career writing articles and books, primarily about the outdoors, but also about military veterans and neglected children. The Outdoors Writers Association of America awarded him first place in 2003 for Conservation and Environment Writing and in 2002 for Outdoor Ethics.

He is survived by his wife, Janette.

Bill Walter '65, an editor at the Contra Costa Times, died Oct. 19, 2004, from injuries suffered in a fall at his home in Walnut Creek, Calif. He was 61.

After serving as sports editor of the Montana Kaimin and spending two years in the U.S. Army, Mr. Walter began his career at the Montana Standard, first as a sport writer and later as city editor. He worked 21 years at the Contra Costa Times, holding positions as wire editor, news editor, assistant managing editor for news and copy desk chief. His colleagues praised him as the "consummate professional" who held "exceedingly high standards" and worked hard to meet them.

Please keep us posted

We like to get regular updates from alumni for *Communique*. If you're not listed, or if you are and would like to tell us something new for the next issue, please either email the school at journalism@mso.umt.edu or write to us at *Communique*, School of Journalism, 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, MT 59812.

To read news about the school in between issues of *Communique*, look at our Web page, where you'll find stories reported and photographed by students. We update it monthly during the academic year. You can find it at www.umt.edu/journalism.

As we publish new issues of *Communique* we'll add new class notes to the Web page. Just click on the Alumni link. We'll also archive old class notes for your reference.

Finally, let us know if you'd like your email address included in your class note. We won't add it unless you say so, but several alums tell us they'd like to know how to easily communicate with other graduates. --CVW

ALUMNI NEWS

J-grad awarded second Emmy

Shane Bishop '87, a producer for "Dateline NBC," has won his second national Emmy award in less than a year.

The Emmy he received in May was for his work as part of a team of more than 50 producers covering the 2004 Olympics in Athens. They won in the category of Outstanding Live Event Turnaround.

A native of Conrad, Bishop won his first national Emmy last fall for Dateline's coverage of the Elizabeth Smart abduction story. Bishop said that story was produced in just two days, which he thinks helped get the judges' attention.



"I sound like a broken record, talking about owing so much to the UM, but honestly, between my wife and my career, it's given me the things I'm most thankful for," Bishop told J-School Dean Jerry Brown in an e-mail. "Somewhere I know, [former R-TV chairman] Joe Durso is smiling."

Bishop's wife is the former Erika Colness, a 1989 J-School grad who spent several years as a producer for the Food Network. She nows edits a monthly women's magazine. The Bishops live in Oregon.

Bishop previously won a local Emmy in Pennsylvania and was nominated for local Emmys while working in New York on coverage of the 1993 World Trade Center bombings. He was won several other awards as well.

"I won a Sigma Delta Chi award for helping to produce NBC's 9/11 coverage," he told a J-School Web reporter. "Stone Phillips and I and a couple other producers won specifically for the lead

stories we put on at the top of NBC's coverage on 9/11 through 9/15.

"And I still have my certificate for winning AP's Broadcaster of the Month when I worked at KPAX in Missoula in 1986."

...

Heisel is Pulitzer finalist 2nd time

For two consecutive years, J-School alum William Heisel has been part of investigative teams for the Orange County Register that have been finalists for a Pulitzer Prize.

In the 2005 Pulitzers, Heisel's team was a nominated finalist for the Public Service gold medal, the Pulitzer's highest honor, for the series "Toxic Treats."

The Pulitzer jury called their series a "tenacious investigation into the widespread poisoning of children by lead-tainted Mexican candy, spurring remedial action."

The reporters began investigating the story in May 2002, traveling throughout California and Mexico. The series ran in April 2004. The Register said it hired four labs to conduct 425 tests on children, candy, pottery and raw ingredients. Its reporters conducted nearly 500 interviews and reviewed about 6,000 pages of documents.

In 2004, Heisel was on the team of finalists in Explanatory Reporting for the series exploring the quality of care at 26 Orange County hospitals. He was the only reporter on both Pulitzer finalist teams.

Heisel, a 1994 graduate, investigates medical, social welfare and environmental issues for the paper but said recently that he is doing more editing now, in addition to his reporting. At present he's working on a series about the financial difficulties of a local hospital.

He has earned an impressive number of awards, in addition to recognition as a Pulitzer finalist. He won the John

Aubuchon Freedom of Information Award this year from the Association of Capitol Reporters and Editors for "Toxic Treats." He is a two-time winner of the Loeb Award for Distinguished Financial Journalism; winner of the top prize for large newspapers for the series. "The Body Brokers," awarded in 2000 by Investigative Reporters and Editors; winner of the Sigma Delta Chi Award for Public Service in 2000; winner of the Edward J. Meeman Award for environmental reporting in 1999; a finalist for Harvard's Goldsmith Award for investigative reporting in 2000, and a two-time finalist for the Livingston Award for Young Journalists in 1999 and 2003.

...

Marquand wins SPJ's top honor

Ian Marquand, special projects coordinator for KPAX-TV in Missoula and 1979 journalism alum, was the recipient of the Wells Memorial Key at the Society of Professional Journalists convention in New York City on Sept. 11.

Marquand, who served four years as chair of SPJ's Freedom of Information Committee, accepted the award before more than 700 people. The Wells Key recognizes dedicated service to SPJ and the journalism profession.

"The other people who've won this award I admire very much," Marquand said. "I thought, 'Do you really want to give this to me?'"

Marquand has been Montana's Television Broadcaster of the Year three times and has won numerous other awards, including one for a Montana Freedom of Information Hotline video R-TV chair Ray Ekness helped create. The video, a 1940s-style film noir that has old-time music playing in the background, depicts a county commission meeting in which "every law in the book gets violated," Marquand said.

Marquand also helped in 1987 to found the FOI Hotline, with help from an SPJ grant, over concerns about the Public Service Commission's closed meetings.

His more recent missions include helping to publish the Montana Freedom of Information Deskbook, a practical guide to ethics and a comprehensive guide to information law in Montana, and organizing a 2003 statewide access audit.

The FOI Hotline, of which Marquand is the acting vice president, completed the audit of government offices across Montana in October 2003. The audit sent volunteers to different counties to ask for information lawfully open to the public in order to see which offices complied with the requests. The Associated Press reported the results.

The Wells key is named after Chester A. Wells, Sigma Delta Chi's second national president, who died in 1913 at age 26. That same year SPJ began awarding the key to a member who has performed meritorious service to the organization.

...

R-TV alum helps produce Oscar nominated film

J-School alum **Elgin Smith** helped craft a film nominated for an Academy Award this year in the Best Documentary Short Subject category. The 26-year-old Smith, born and raised in Libby, is an assistant producer and editor for Storyville Films, based in New York City, which produced the film "Sister Rose's Passion."

Smith graduated from the University of Montana Radio/Television program in 2000, moved to New York and quickly landed an internship with Thirteen WNET, the New York area public television station. After a few months, he found a job with Storyville Films.

"I did just about everything you can imagine at one time or another," he said in an e-mail interview with a J-School Web reporter. On the Sister Rose film, he organized the shooting schedule and coordinated with the director. He also helped edit the rough cut of the film.

"Sister Rose's Passion" is about Sister Rose Thering, an 84-year-old Catholic nun who was instrumental in changing the Catholic church's teaching that the Jews were responsible for Christ's crucifixion. The 1,900-year-old charge was repudiated by the Second Vatican Council in 1965.

Smith's wife, the former Sarah Frick, also attended the J-school as a photo student and was a Kaimin photographer in her sophomore year.

His advice to current students? "Keep at it. Especially while you are in college, you have access to equipment and resources that you may not have when you get out. I wish I had used those resources a lot more while I was there."

...

Three UM grads have won National Headliner Awards for their work in the last two years.

Bill Heisel added to his cache of awards with a second place in the Public Service category for his investigative team's "Toxic Treats" series in the Orange County Register.

In 2004, **Julie Sullivan** and two other Oregonian reporters won third place in Investigative Reporting for their series, "A Place Where Children Die."

Bruce Ely, a photographer at The Oregonian, was awarded a second place in the Photography Portfolio category.

The Headliner Awards are presented by the Press Club of Atlantic City. The awards were first presented in 1935.

...

UM's public radio station **KUFM** claimed four honors in the 2004 Radio-

Television News Directors Association Murrow Awards.

KUFM won four of six categories in the small radio market for Region 1, (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington). The four awards are the most ever for KUFM.

KUFM News Director **Sally Mauk's** coverage of the Black Mountain fire near Missoula August 2003 won the "Spot News" category and her 2003 fire season work was named the best series in the "Continuing Coverage" category. Mauk's story on the annual bison roundup was awarded in the "Use of Sound" category and Montana Public Radio News was chosen for its "Overall Excellence."

Mauk is an adjunct instructor in the R-TV Department.

...

A two-part series for the Baltimore Sun by J-School alum **Kevin Van Valkenburg** has been selected to appear in the 2005 edition of Best American Sportswriting.

The stories about a college basketball player who lost her hands and feet after contracting meningitis also won Kevin 4th place in project reporting for papers with 250,000 or more circulation in the Associated Press Sports Editors contest. The Sun also nominated it for a Pulitzer prize.

Van Valkenburg covers University of Maryland football, contributes to Maryland basketball coverage, and writes sports feature stories across several beats. He recently spent time in the Dominican Republic for stories he wrote on Sammy Sosa, who was traded this year from the Chicago Cubs to the Baltimore Orioles.

On another celebratory note, Van Valkenburg, who graduated in 2000, was married April 9 to Jennifer McMenamin, also a reporter at the Sun.



CLASS NOTES

1950s

Don Mittelstaedt '42 visited the J-School in May. He retired in 1985 after a 20-year career as senior photographer at Pan American World Airways, a job that took him around the world. Don was a combat photographer in World War II in the South Pacific and Philippines and served in Japan as part of the occupation. He then joined the Spokesman-Review as a copy editor and later worked for weekly papers in the Seattle area and for the Las Vegas Sun before joining Pan Am. He lives in Sierra Vista, Ariz., where he is silversmithing and wood-carving. His e-mail is dobetmi@cox.net.

Joan Brooks Murray was on campus for the class of 1955 reunion. She is retired and living in Beaverton, Ore. Joan worked 17 years at the Daily Interlake in Kalispell, first as a crime reporter, then as news editor. She also worked for 10 years as Delta Gamma house director at the University of Washington. She has three children, all UM grads, and five grandchildren.

Ann Thomson Beaman '55 says she now majors in snow skiing, though she lives in St. Petersburg, Fla. She attended her 50th class reunion in May.

Glenn Chaffin was on campus in May and says he's looking forward to seeing the new journalism building. His father attended the J-School when Dean Stone and students were in tents and WW I shacks. Glenn spent his life in insurance sales and says his training in the J-School helped make it easy to talk to people and ask questions.

Bob Newlin, who was Kaimin editor in 1954-55, says retirement is great and he

recommends that retirees do something they've always wanted. He's spent four summers working in resort areas, including Yellowstone Park, Big Mountain in Whitefish, Jackson Hole, Wyo., and Cape May, N.J. Though it's minimum wage, he says it offers great fun, great vacations and no worries.

Ray Moholt '55 retired after working for the Anchorage Times, Great Falls Tribune and Stockton (Calif.) Record, then spending 25 years in association management and marketing communications. He lives in Portland with his wife Lorinda, 60. He has a son and daughter and three grandchildren. He was at his 50th class reunion in May.

Shirley DeForth Luchesi '55 struggled through a Montana spring snowstorm to get to her 50th reunion in mid-May, but says it was worth it to catch up on news from such interesting people. She's enjoying retirement and says grandchildren are the best part of this stage of life.

Murdo A. Campbell '55 re-retired in June. He first retired as administrative officer for the Montana Coal Board in 1995, but was hired by the board as a consultant. That stint ended in June 2005. He lives in Helena and joined his classmates for the 50th reunion at the school in May.

Verna Johns Kessner '55 says she is delighted to find that her classmates enjoy one another after 50 years as much as they did in college. She says their talk always turns to beloved Professor Ed Dugan and his sayings, such as references to "the great unwashed." "I came to his memorial," she says. "I didn't know one person in the room, but had one of the funniest evenings." Journalism alums are always fun to be around, she notes.

Tom Needham '55 and wife Clara live in Somers, at the north end of Flathead

Lake and welcome friends for "five-minute or five-day visits." He retired there in 1989 after 33 years of "chasing rainbows" through five states. They love to travel and visit six daughters, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Carla Wetzsteon Beck organized the Class of '55 reunion in May. She retired in 1996 and says she's been majoring in volunteer work for whatever organizations she and husband Jake are involved with. At present she's the "scribe" for St. John's Fellowship, a group of retired clergy and spouses of the Episcopal diocese of Washington, D.C. They're also quite involved in their church in Thurmont, Md., a public library group, Democratic Party work, and newspaper guild interests.

Jewel Beck Lansing '52 is the author of "Portland: People, Politics, and Power, 1851-2001" published by the Oregon State University Press in fall 2003, the definitive book on Portland's political, social, and cultural history from 1845 through April 2001, the 150th anniversary of Portland city government.

Jewell served as the elected Portland auditor from 1983 to 1986 and as Multnomah County auditor from 1975 to 1982. She is a founder of WIN-PAC, a political action committee supporting first-time Oregon women legislative candidates. She is the author of five other books, including two about women and politics, and a murder mystery set in Portland City Hall. She and her husband, Ron, a law professor at Lewis and Clark College, have lived in Oregon for more than four decades.

John Bansch '57 can be reached at griz@netdirect.net. He is retired after a long career as a sportswriter and editor at the Indianapolis Star. He continues to live in Indianapolis.

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Pat O'Hare Rhodes is a retired reporter who spent 20 years at the Ravalli Republic and still lives on the family ranch where she was raised. She does freelance feature writing. Pat was at the J-School in May, joining classmates for the 50th reunion.

1960s

Jack Counihan '62 took early retirement three years ago from his position as promotion director at Newsweek. Before that, he did much the same at Sports Illustrated, LIFE, Field & Stream, The Wall Street Journal, The National (ill-fated sports daily), and Prentice-Hall.

Jack says that he's still vertical despite "a checkered career writing brochures, speeches, sales presentations, ads, marketing strategies, positioning statements, direct mail and, well, everything except actual journalism (much to Dean Blumberg's dismay)."

When he's not chasing deer from his shrubbery in Garrison, N.Y., Jack does "all this stuff at home as a freelancer" while his wife, Ellen, continues her daily commute to the Big Apple. Counihan can be reached at jackcounihan@aol.com.

Nils Rosdahl '67 is an instructor at North Idaho College who continues to get the most out of his students in their effort to put out an award-winning newspaper. He advises The Sentinel, which won a first place for the fourth consecutive year at the National College Media Convention in New York City this spring.

1970s

Gordon Dillow '77 was embedded in Iraq for a second time when he rejoined the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment last April through June. Gordon accompanied the Marines early in the war when they went from Kuwait to Baghdad. In early 2004 he made plans to return, but his editors at the Orange County Register canceled the assignment, deeming it too dangerous.

Gordon then quit the Register and worked freelance on his second tour. The Register carried his dispatches and has since rehired him where he continues to write his column. Not long before his second trip to Iraq, Gordon's wife, Tule, died of cancer.

Heidi Gasser Thomas '72 is teaching adult community fiction-writing classes and a memoir writing class, is president of a writers' organization and has two critique groups that meet once a week. Heidi says she'd like to move back to Montana some day, but doesn't miss shoveling snow. She has lived in Mt. Vernon, Wash., for eight years.

Kevin Giles '74, is a suburban editor at the Star Tribune in Minneapolis after six years as a night editor. He has worked for six newspapers in the 30 years since leaving UM.

Tom Harvey '79 received his Ph.D. in American history from the University of Utah in August 2004. He is co-editor of the book "Imagining the Big Open: Nature, Identity, and Play in the New West" published by the University of Utah Press in 2003. Tom is news editor for government and the environment at The Salt Lake Tribune, where he has worked since 1994.

Previously he worked as chief foreign correspondent for the Sun-Sentinel in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and for United Press International in Helena, Salt Lake City, Washington, D.C., Santiago, Chile, and Bogota, Colombia. After graduation from UM, he worked for the Sidney Herald and the Daily Inter Lake of Kalispell.

Tom and his wife, Joan, have a cabin on Flathead Lake, where they spend as much time as possible on their sailboat.

Randy Rasmussen '77 went to Iraq on assignment last September for The Oregonian. Rasmussen and a reporter were embedded for about a month with some of the 700 Oregon



national guardsmen on duty in and around Baghdad. In an e-mail to colleagues he recounted the anxiety of the first days there as mortars and missiles flew around them.

Bart Rayniak '73 won an Award of Excellence in the picture editing category for multiple page stories for his work with Brian Plonka on "Vets' Health Care Mission," published in the Spokesman Review.

Lorna Thackery, a 1974 journalism graduate who works at the Billings Gazette, was named Journalist of the Year for 2004 by the Suburban Newspapers of America.

Her entry included two special reports on the region's drought, a series on the toll uninsured drivers take on the regional economy, stories on controversial development of Beartooth Valley Ranch, and a humorous column on her uncanny ability to make it rain. She also took second place for Best Feature series.

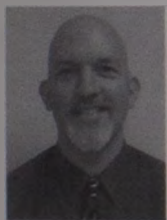
The award committee said she represents the epitome of an enterprising community journalist. Thackery has worked at the Billings Gazette for 27 years. She is the second Gazette reporter in three years to win the Journalist of the Year award. Community affairs reporter and columnist **Ed Kemmick '80** earned the national honor for 2002. This year he won a third place for Best Column writing.

Clair Johnson '79 shared a second place for environmental writing.

Suburban Newspapers of America includes 2,000 member newspapers.

1980s

Dan Carter '89, a former editor of the Billings Gazette, is director of government relations and publications at Montana State University-Billings. Carter has 20 years of journalism experience. He has been a design editor, desk editor and assignment editor for daily newspapers in Montana and Oregon. He worked for six years as managing editor of the Gazette.



Frank Field, former anchor at KVOA in Tucson, who now is adjunct at Emerson College in Boston. He ran in the Boston Marathon this spring.

J-alums working at UM's University Relations helped win a record seven awards—five silver and two bronze—in the Council for Advancement and Support of Education's Dist. VIII annual communications awards competition.

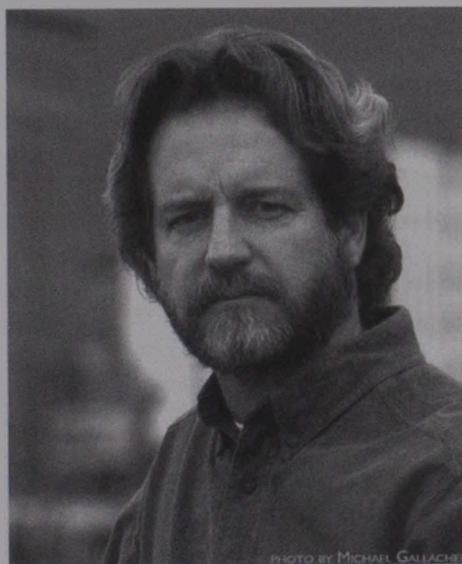
Silver awards went to **Joan Melcher** '73 for copy in an ad in the Montanan; **Patia Stephens** '00 for a story on higher education funding in the Montanan; and to Director **Rita Munzenrider** '82, photographer **Todd Goodrich** '88, and staff members Stephens and five others for the 2004 President's Annual Report.

Goodrich shared a bronze medal for cover design of the Vision 2004 research magazine.

Marlee Miller '85 received the Gerald W. Hathaway Memorial Award for 2003 staff member of the year from the Western Association of Chamber Executives, which covers seven Western states. Miller is senior vice president and chief operating officer of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

Missoulian reporter **Michael Moore** won a Casey award for his series of stories about two 11-year-old boys who drank

themselves to death on the Flathead Reservation. Moore, a 1986 graduate, spent four months researching and reporting the stories. "The weeklong series is a powerful, deeply nuanced examination of the lives of Flathead Indian children and the destruction alcohol leaves in its wake—narrative story-



telling at its best," the judges said. Casey awards are given for writing about disadvantaged children and their families. Moore won in the projects category for newspapers of less than 75,000 circulation. He won \$1,000 for the award.

Cut Bank native and former Western Breeze editor and publisher **Jim O'Day** '80 a 1980 J-School grad, was named UM athletic director at the end of June.

O'Day was one of five finalists to succeed Don Read, who took the job for a year while the department worked to recover from a \$1 million deficit and the resignation of its athletic director.

At the J-School O'Day was sports editor of the Montana Kaimin. After graduation he worked as a sports writer at the Daily InterLake in Kalispell before returning to Cut Bank to help run the family newspaper. In 1998 he was hired as assistant director of the Grizzly Athletic Association and in 2000 was named director of development for UM Intercollegiate Athletics.

He and his wife, Kathy, have two sons who are UM students: Chris, 20, and Kevin, 19. A third son, Brian, attends Hellgate High School.

Christopher T. Ransick, M.A. '88, won the 2003 Colorado Book Award for poetry for his collection "Never Summer." Chris is a faculty member in the English department at Arapahoe Community College in Englewood, Colo.

Dave Reese '88 is the editor and publisher of Montana Living. Reese started the publication in '97 after purchasing Whitefish magazine and changing the name to Montana Living. He feeds his addiction to "ink in the blood" by writing a weekly outdoors column for the Daily InterLake in Kalispell, where colleagues **Jim Mann** '88 is a reporter, **Karen Nichols** '88 is a photographer, and **Scott Crandell** '88 is associate editor.

Reese has been a reporter/photographer at Flathead Valley newspapers since graduating from the Journalism School. Freelance writer/photographers can contact Reese at editor@montanaliving.com.

Kathy Young '88 works in university advancement at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. Her e-mail is kathy.young@otago.ac.nz.

1990s

Teresa Bell is pleased to report that KGW.com in Portland has again won the Edward R. Murrow Award for Best Website in the Pacific Northwest region. This is the second year in a row, and the third out of the last four years, that KGW.com has taken the regional Murrow. KGW.com competes against Seattle for the award.

Betsy Cohen '98 won second prize from the National Education Writers Association in the breaking or hard news category for newspapers under 100,000 circulation for her story "UM Athletics." Betsy is a reporter at the Missoulian.

Matt Cooper '92 was a prosecutor and an international and operational law

attorney for the U.S. Army stationed for the last year about 50 miles north of Baghdad, Iraq. He prosecuted criminal cases against military members and advised U.S. commanders on international law issues and military operations.

He wrote: "The conditions over here are harsh, with high temperatures over 135 degrees, enemy attacks on our compound on a daily basis and few creature comforts. The good news is that my education and training at UM, especially from the School of Journalism, have prepared me well. I use my journalism skills every day. I draft policies for U.S. forces concerning operations, treatment of local civilians, treatment of detainees, and interaction with the media."

He also added this piece of advice: "If I could impress one thing on your students, it is that you never know where life will take you, but if you are sitting in a UM Journalism class, you will have the tools to deal with it."

Matt earned a law degree from UM in 1996.

Seanna O'Sullivan Hines '97 has her own photo business in Juneau, where she does commercial work and freelances for news organizations. Her Web-site is www.seannaosullivan.com, and she can be reached at seanna@ak.net.

Jim Kittle '94 teaches high school journalism in Idaho Falls, Idaho. He says he'd like to get back to Missoula permanently, but in the meantime makes the trek from Idaho frequently in the fall, as he never misses a Grizzly football game.

Two J-alums won awards from The Society of Environmental Journalists.

Sonja Lee '98 won third prize in the outstanding small-market reporting print category, for her story that was published in the Great Falls Tribune, called "Asbestos Tragedy Escalates."

The judges wrote that her "comprehensive package on asbestos pollution in Montana is a shining example of how dedication and skill can elevate the impact of a small-market publication. Her work was impressive in its scope and brilliantly captured the scientific, cultural and human ramifications of asbestos pollution."

Lisa Kerscher M.A. '99 won an honorable mention in the Outstanding Online Reporting for her work on Learners Online NIE. The judges wrote that the "material, developed in conjunction with the Newspapers in Education program, is thought provoking and fact-packed, in contrast to the vapid, tame fare generally supplied to schoolchildren. It also invites exploration of the topics in great depth, in contrast to the typical newspaper Web-site's news and features sections."

Thomas Nybo '95 spoke to senior seminar classes last fall about his experiences as an embedded correspondent in Iraq. Tom was working for CNN and was assigned to the 173rd Airborne Brigade. He now writes and reports for UNICEF.

Shelli Sniffen Johnson '91 and her husband, Jerry, live in Lander, Wyo., and are completing their 10th year publishing the Yellowstone Journal. Shelli says that "things are going gangbusters, primarily due to the internet and the fact we have YellowstonePark.com. I reserved the domain in late 1995 when the internet was just beginning to come on strong."

Their internet site recently won the 9th annual Webby Award, given by the International Academy of Digital Arts & Sciences. It competed in the tourism category against sites from New Zealand, Italy, Puerto Rico and the state of Maine.

Johnson and her husband also publish a magazine called "99 Things to Do in Yellowstone County." During recent years, they've evolved into a trip planning and tourism promotion company.

Shelli and Jerry also compete in trail-running events. "I attempted the Lake Tahoe 50-miler a year ago, but dropped out at 42.5 miles after hallucinating from heat-related ailments," Shelli wrote. A year ago they ran the Run to the Sun, up Haleakala Volcano in Maui, some 36.5 miles and 10,000 feet of gain. They also did a 33.5-mile run in the Big Horns.

"Since becoming parents, we have called these athletic endeavors part of our 'We can still do these things' campaign," she said.

Shelly and Jerry have two sons, Wolf, and Hayden.

Elizabeth "Libi" Sundermann '94 is working on a dissertation in modern European history at the University of California, Davis. It is a cultural interpretation of British/English primary school materials and education policies related to constructions of race, citizenship, and nationalism in the post-war period. After graduation from the J-School, Sundermann worked at the Missoulian, first as a copy desk intern and then as a copy desk and design editor. In '96 she returned to UM to earn a B.A. in history, then moved to Kumamoto, Japan, in '98 with her husband, where she spent a year teaching English at Aso High School. She has a daughter, Hayes Sundermann Kohler, who turns 2 in July.

Michele Troxel '98 is unit manager/show producer for Seattle-based KING TV's "Evening Magazine," "Northwest Backroads," "Gardening with Ciscoe" and various other station projects. She is in her ninth year at KING TV, an NBC affiliate. She reports that Evening Magazine is in its 18th year and is the nation's highest-ranked, locally produced news magazine program.

Michele says her affinity for the Griz football brings her home in the fall. She can be reached at mtroxel@king5.com.

André Verlöy '95 spent three years as an assignment editor at a television station in Seattle before he enrolled in graduate school at American University in Washington, D.C. Since 2000 he has worked as an investigative reporter at The Center for Public Integrity, a non-partisan, non-profit organization where he has been mostly working on long-term international projects. A native of Norway, he has worked on several award-winning Center projects ranging from private military companies and international arms traffickers to the privatization of water. He was part of a team of reporters that received the George Polk Award for online reporting in March 2004 for their reports on the reconstruction of Afghanistan and Iraq.

Ibon Villelabeitia '93 is working for Reuters and has been based in Amman, Jordan, since November, where he is

studying intensive Arabic. He was based in Colombia for four years, but spent much of last year in Haiti and Iraq reporting stories. He says his family is living in a house with lemon trees and bougainvilleas and he is learning how to play the oud (a peach-sized guitar), and spending weekends diving in the Red Sea.

2000s

Josi Carlson '04 has accepted a job with the Ivy League Office, which is based in Princeton, N.J., and covers Ivy League sports teams.

Garrison Courtney '00 was promoted in September 2004 as the new — and first — press secretary for the Border and Transportation Security Directorate under Asa Hutchison in Homeland Security in D.C. He works with more than 100,000 law enforcement employees in TSA, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. “I think I am going to be very, very busy,” he says. “But, I love it; it proves to be a daily challenge.”

Garrison worked as a weatherman at KPAX in Missoula, and in Eugene, Ore., and then got into government public relations, first with INS and then Homeland Security.

Candy Buster '02 recently moved to Chicago to work for the Northwest Herald in Crystal Lake, Ill. She will design pages and copy edit. Buster previously worked for the Anderson (S.C.) Independent-Mail.

Brenna Chapman '02 is working as a photographer and writer with Shoreline Publications, newspapers that cover the Connecticut shoreline. Chapman and her colleagues have the job of revamping the publication.

Chapman theorizes that what sold her boss on hiring her was when he saw just

how excited she was about buoys frozen solid in the bay. “I guess if that can excite me, he figured anything can,” Chapman said.

Garrett Cheen '04 had a photograph published in the New York Times on Oct. 22, 2004. He is photo editor at the Livingston Enterprise.

Ryan Divish '00 is sports editor at the Havre Daily News.

Chad Dundas '00 is in the creative writing master's program at UM and also teaches composition to unsuspecting freshmen.

Matt Hayes '04 opened a month-long show with a reception at Gallery Saintonge in Missoula on Feb. 4. Hayes' project, “Lost on Route 93,” depicts life along a stretch of U.S. Highway 93 that runs through western Montana and Idaho.

Katie Klingsporn '04 is a reporter at the Daily Triplicate in Crescent City, Calif. Her most interesting recent interview, she reports, was with aviator Chuck Yeager.

Courtney Lowery '02 left her job with the Associated Press to join former Pollner Professor Jonathan Weber in his online news site newwest.net.

Kate Medley '04 held a temporary job at the William J. Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock, Ark., where she took a distinctive photo of former Washington Post reporter Carl Bernstein putting the finishing touches on his notes before delivering a keynote address at a banquet in Little Rock. She'll move to Oxford, Miss., in the fall to take classes in the Southern studies program at the University of Mississippi.

Paige Parker '00 married Ryan Frank outside of Portland on July 2, 2005. She is a reporter at the Oregonian.

Julie Sarasqueta '00 was married in May 2004 to Greg Hahn. She left her job at the Idaho Statesman to take a job in the communications office at Boise State.

Nate Schweber '01 lives in Harlem, plays with a band called Blame Hound, and in his spare time does freelance writing. He previously worked for the Herald News in West Paterson, N.J.

Ben Shors M.A. '01 spent three months in Germany last fall on a fellowship that included giving a talk that drew 350 people to a university to hear him discuss the U.S. media and politics. He's back at this job as a reporter for the Spokesman Review.

Anne Sundberg Siess, M.A. '03, is a half-time grammar and English composition instructor at a technical college in Wisconsin. She had been a home improvement and real estate improvement reporter at the Manitowoc Herald Times in Manitowoc, Wisc. Anne and her husband, Ryan, welcomed Wyatt Richard Siess on July 2, 2004.

Matt Thompson '00 is in his second year of a two-year Peace Corps stint in Bulgaria.

Ron Tschida, M.A. '02, took a job in May as communications coordinator for the Global Environmental Management Education Center in the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Ron says, “We're excited to be going back closer to family and think this will be a great move for our little family of four.” Ron had been city editor of the Bozeman Chronicle.

Adam Weinacker '04 has left the Redding (Calif.) Searchlight to accept a job on the copy desk at the Billings Gazette.

Ann Williamson '00 is a photographer at The Topeka (Kan.) Capital Journal.



Class of 2005

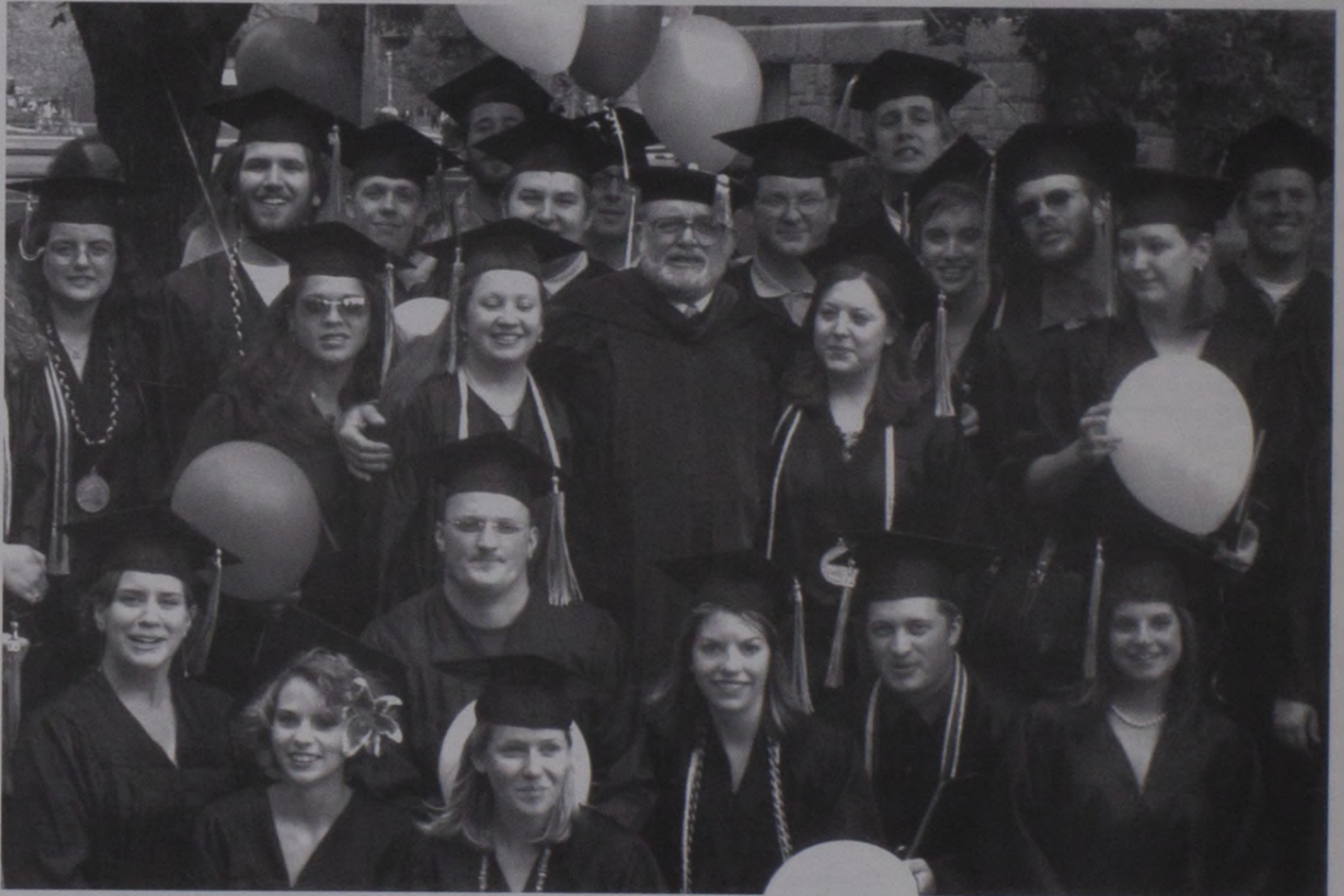


Photo does not include all 2005 Journalism graduates.

Our turn: new wave of journalists will get their chance to tell it like it is.



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