

## Keillor brings humor to Missoula

MISSOULA (AP) — Humorist Garrison Keillor brought his Prairie Home Companion here Saturday to the pleasure of many longtime fans.

Bill Macgregor of Butte was teaching at the University of Hawaii when he first heard the radio program. He continued to tune in after taking a teaching job at Montana Tech. Saturday, at the University of Montana's Adams Center, Macgregor was wearing the shirt commemorating Keillor's last visit to Montana at Butte in 1999.

"It was a pretty amazing show," he said, as he awaited the performance. "I was just flabbergasted at how much local color there was. I think people tune in to his show because they like to hear about Middle America. I don't think you'd find that this is a blue

crowd or a red crowd. I think it would be profoundly purple."

Keillor arrived in Missoula a day earlier and was working on some songs for the program, including a flatlander's view of living in the mountains with threatening rocks perched above.

"It's an anti-mountain song," he said Friday.

Then he was working on a jingle about a pair of politicians named Clinton Nimrod and Florence Lolo running for the prestigious dam inspector's post. "She's got photographs. She's going negative. It has to do with fishing," he said.

Saturday's performance offered a glimpse back to a simpler time and gave radio listeners a peek at Missoula.

"Missoula — it's Montana, but it has feng shui and herbal tea," Keillor said.