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# The University of Montana

## NEWS RELEASE

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Missoula, MT 59812  
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Dec. 18, 1992

### **BEAR DON'T WALK WINS MANSFIELD INTERNSHIP**

#### **MISSOULA --**

Scott Bear Don't Walk, a University of Montana senior majoring in philosophy, has been selected as the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center's Mansfield Intern of Ethics and Public Affairs for spring semester 1993, Mansfield Center Director Martin Weinstein announced.

Bear Don't Walk, who was named UM's 27th Rhodes Scholar earlier this month, will work with Native American legislators during the upcoming 1993 legislative session as part of the Mansfield internship. He also will perform related course work during the internship, which carries a \$1,000 stipend, Weinstein said.

Candidates for the internship were nominated by UM deans and department heads, Weinstein said, adding "We had a number of really top-flight people to choose from." Bear Don't Walk, who grew up in Missoula and Billings, was nominated by the philosophy department.

The internship was awarded on the basis of past academic performance, faculty recommendations and "the coherence and purposefulness of the proposals they made for how they would conduct the internship," Weinstein said.

In his successful proposal, Bear Don't Walk said he wants to investigate how public officials balance "concern for their local community and culture with the well-being of the whole state. ... I would examine the question of whether Native American state legislators have special ethical concerns in serving the interest of their tribal community and the interests of the state."

Weinstein said he and Mansfield Professor of Ethics and Public Affairs Deni Elliott were

both very impressed by Bear Don't Walk's proposal and qualifications. Elliott will serve as Bear Don't Walk's adviser during the internship.

The internship is part of the Mansfield Center's emphasis on ethics and public policy, particularly "the morality and integrity of political leadership in the conduct of government affairs," Weinstein said.

Bear Don't Walk is a philosophy major with a minor in Native American Studies. A teaching assistant for philosophy courses on ethics and perspectives on women, he plans to graduate from UM this spring. In October he will travel to England's University of Oxford for two years of all-expenses-paid education as a Rhodes Scholar.

A member of the Crow and Salish-Kootenai Confederated tribes, Bear Don't Walk is active in the traditional cultural activities of the Crow and Salish peoples. He is a past executive council officer for Kyi-Yo, a UM Native American cultural organization, and served as volunteer producer of "The Medicine Wheel," a cable access television show dealing with Native American health and community issues. He is a founding member of the Antigone Project, a Native American theater group.

He is active in campus organizations including the President's Cultural Diversity Task Force and the Davidson Honors College Steering Committee. He served two years as a peer mentor for first-year Native American students and two years as a registration and orientation peer counselor for incoming Native American students. His ties to the University are long-standing: Both of his parents are UM graduates, and he began his education at the campus pre-school in McGill Hall while his parents were attending classes.

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