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### Berkeley Pit watchdog to speak at UM

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# The University of Montana

NEWS RELEASE

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Dec. 4, 1995

## BERKELEY PIT WATCHDOG TO SPEAK AT UM

MISSOULA --

A Butte educator and former state representative well-versed in the environmental issues surrounding the degradation of Butte's Berkeley Pit will share his views in a public lecture Friday, Dec. 8, at The University of Montana.

Fred "Fritz" Daily will discuss "Berkeley Pit: Environmental Countdown" as guest speaker in a Montana history class starting at noon in the Music Recital Hall.

History Professor Harry Fritz, who teaches the class, said Daily monitors the pit only as an avocation and yet has kept closer tabs than anyone in Montana on the situation there.

"He's been one of the most vocal critics of the EPA for not doing anything about it," Fritz said. "And every year his view gets a little more apocalyptic because the water is rising."

When the water reaches the "alluvial bedrock interface," Fritz explained, it will begin polluting the groundwater.

"It's potentially the biggest environmental disaster in America," he said. "It will make Love Canal look like a picnic ground."

UM's Center for the Rocky Mountain West is sponsoring Daily's talk as part of its Works in Progress lecture series.

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