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NEWS RELEASE

April 12, 2006

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**EARTH DAY SPEAKER TO DISCUSS
HISTORY OF ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT**

MISSOULA —

Wisconsin Secretary of State Doug LaFollette, an organizer of the first Earth Day, will give a lecture about environmental progress during the last 40 years on Wednesday, April 19, at The University of Montana.

LaFollette, a national Sierra Club board member, will present "Black Smoke to Backlash: 30 Years of Earth Days ... What Now?" at 7:30 p.m. in the North Underground Lecture Hall.

He will describe the history of environmental activities during the last half century, as well as discuss how consumption, technology and booming human populations are affecting the Earth. He also will comment on the anti-conservation policies of the current federal administration and Sierra Club plans for the next five years.

"I believe that public officials, scientists and scholars hold a special responsibility in today's world of dwindling resources, environmental crises and an uncertain economy," LaFollette said. "We must speak out on the impact of science and technology in society."

A former Wisconsin state senator, LaFollette holds a doctorate in organic chemistry from Columbia University. He was a 2003 Fulbright Scholar to New Zealand and is author of

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“The Survival Handbook.” He helped organize the first Earth Day as a professor at the University of Wisconsin, as well as the first environmental/political non-governmental organization in that state.

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