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BIBLICAL ROCK OPERA TO APPEAR AT UM APRIL 15-16

MISSOULA--

The Program Council of the Associated Students of the University of Montana will present the Original American Touring Company (OATC) in performances of 20 of the 23 songs from the biblical rock opera "Jesus Christ Superstar" April 15 and 16 in the University Theater.

Because of several court decisions, OATC personnel cannot perform all the songs, nor in sequence, nor can they advertise their performance as "Jesus Christ Superstar."

"Program Council tried to book the original cast, the Robert Stigwood Group, Ltd., but could not come to an agreement about time and money," Jim Scott, concert coordinator, said.

Original contract negotiations would have required ticket costs of $5 and $6 to bring the Stigwood group to Missoula, Scott said.

A review in an Oklahoma City newspaper said the opera is unique because it uses a bare stage and performers dress in modern clothes.

The group will give two performances Saturday--7 and 10 p.m.--and two Sunday--4 and 8 p.m. Reserved tickets are $2.50 and $3 for UM students, $3.50 and $4 for the general public. Tickets are available at the University Center third floor ticket office. Scott said capacity audiences are expected.

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