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# University of Montana

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### CONFLICTS OF RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT IS FOCUS OF ANNUAL KYI-YO POW-WOW

MISSOULA--

"Mother Earth: Times are Forcing a Decision," is the theme of the 14th annual Kyi-Yo Indian Youth Conference and Pow-Wow slated April 29 through May 1 at the University of Montana.

The Pow-Wow marks the kick-off of the summer pow-wow season for tribes west of the Mississippi and is expected to attract over 5,000 Native Americans, mostly from the Northwest. Over \$3,000 in prize money is being offered in competition for fancy and traditional dancing.

In addition to contest dancing, which begins Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m. at the UM Field House, panel discussions all day Friday will focus on the spiritual, legal and ecological issues concerning resource development of tribal lands. Thursday's sessions will deal with alcohol education and prevention and are being led by the Missoula Indian Alcohol and Drug Service (MIADS) and Teacher Corps.

Other featured events will be an original play written by a UM junior majoring in journalism, a traditional Indian feed, a softball tournament, and a five-mile run in honor of John Wooden Legs, a Northern Cheyenne medicine man from Lame Deer to whom the conference is dedicated.

Wooden Legs was the first Native American to receive an honorary doctorate from the UM. He was active in tribal and community affairs all his life and was the only Indian member appointed by President Lyndon Johnson to a 25-member national advisory commission on rural poverty. He died in December 1981.

(over)

The play is a comedy written by Bill Yellow Robe of Wolf Point and is titled "Native American Television Network (NATN)." It will be presented free of charge Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Main Hall theater.

A softball tournament will be held Friday at 4 p.m. on the UM playing fields in front of the field house. Those wishing to participate in the five-mile run should report to the field house Saturday at noon.

The feed, the traditional way of honoring people who attend the pow-wow, will be held at Greenough Park Saturday from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Arts and crafts also will be set up and open to the public Friday and Saturday in the lobby of the field house.

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