

Columbus exhibit lands in EMU

By Chester Allen
Emerald Reporter

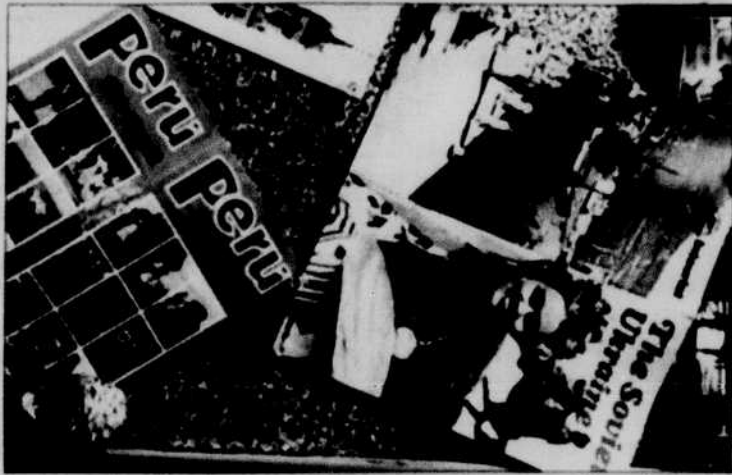
An exhibition covering 500 years of cultural and biological exchanges between the Americas and Europe since Columbus' voyage in 1492 is visiting the University this week.

A representative of the Native American Student Union said the exhibit's brochure fails to show the viewpoint of Native Americans.

"Seeds of Change," a 30 poster-panel exhibit sponsored by the Latin American and Caribbean Student Organization, is showing in the EMU Taylor Lounge today through Friday.

The Smithsonian Institute and the U.S. Information Agency's Exhibits Service created the exhibition. The Oregon Council for the Humanities is coordinating the exhibit's tour through Oregon.

LACSO is also sponsoring a lecture by Professor Stephanie Wood of the University Department of History. The lecture, "Aztec, Maya and Inca Views of the Spanish Invasion," is



The Native American Student Union believes that the Columbus exhibit being shown in the EMU this week does not accurately illustrate how explorers affected Native Americans.

uled for 6 p.m. Tuesday in the EMU Maple Room.

Wood said her lecture presents the Native American's reactions to the European explorers and conquerors.

"I'll be using texts written by the three largest, most populous indigenous groups," Wood said. "These texts reflect

the intensity of the exchange with the Europeans."

Wood said native peoples were not united in opposition to the Spanish conquerors.

"While I will reflect on the disease and destruction from warfare that the indigenous

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NASU hopes to teach from film

By Tammy Batey
Emerald Associate Editor

The EMU Cultural Forum and the Native American Student Union are sponsoring a showing of *Incident at Oglala* tonight in conjunction with Columbus Day.

The documentary, which is narrated by Robert Redford, describes a shoot-out between Native Americans and FBI agents in the late 1970s that left two agents dead.

Lakota Sioux activist Leonard Peltier remains in prison after being convicted of the murders, which NASU members and many other Native Americans say he didn't commit.

NASU co-director Geo Ann Baker said she hopes University students learn something from the film.

"It's the story of Leonard Peltier's alleged shooting but it could be the story of any person of

color," she said.

After the film, a panel of Native American community members and University associate professor Rob Proudfoot will answer questions from the audience, Baker said.

Baker said films like this are still needed to increase people's understanding and respect of Native Americans and other people of color.

"If other people were more accepting of races, we wouldn't have to do stuff like this," she said.

Many people are discussing Christopher Columbus' voyage to the Americas because this year marks the 500th anniversary of that voyage, said Kevin Tripp, Cultural Forum contemporary issues coordinator. He said he believes it is timely to show a documentary focusing on an incident that represents the prejudice Native Americans face.

The Cultural Forum is picking up the \$400 tab to show the film, which will be shown at 7 p.m. in Room 180 PLC with a panel discussion to follow.

PARK

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lumbus Day, but organizers said it wasn't intended as an antidote to today's holiday.

"Columbus Day is a time of mourning," said Twila Souers, director of District 4J's Indian education program and a Lakota Sioux. "If we celebrate anything, it's 500 years of resistance and survival."

Nearly 6,000 people attended the event over two days, raising almost \$10,000 for the Museum of Natural History. Proceeds from the fried bread and Indian taco sales went to the Eugene, Bethel and Fern Ridge school districts' Indian Education Program; the Springfield Indian Education Program; and the Siletz program.

Terry is one-quarter Seminole and has spent his life studying and teaching about Plains Indians. His face painted red and dressed in 1840s Blackfoot regalia he made from deerskin, Terry dispelled many myths people have about Native Americans.

On Native American women:

"People think women were like slaves," Terry said. "But women thought what they did was really honorable, and it was."

Among women's duties were tanning hides, beadwork, quillwork and toolmaking, Terry said. However, no woman could touch a weapon; her "essence" might contaminate it.

On savagery:

Plains Indians mutilated their enemies' dead bodies to "prevent them from bothering you in the next world," Terry said. For example, cutting off a man's hands would keep him from grasping a

spear.

Terry said scalping was just a variation on the worldwide tradition of cutting off enemies' heads. "But if you're traveling 300 miles on foot, you don't take the whole head," he said.

On Custer's defeat at the Battle of Little Bighorn:

"It's so obvious: His horses were totally played out," Terry said. "If your horses are played out, there's no way you'll make it. Horses were everything, and Indians knew that."

While Terry talked, Native Americans danced around black T-shirted drummers. Courtney was among the performers, her otter pelts swinging as she danced.

Artists demonstrated drum-making, beadwork and crafting ornaments from feathers. Children squealed with delight as they explored Terry's teepees.

Members of the mostly white crowd said they came to the celebration curious about Native American culture.

"This is a chance to learn a little about this country's heritage that historically we haven't been taught much about," said Eugene resident Shawn Boles, 49, who brought his 6-year-old daughter, Darcy. "A lot of what we learn about Indians is unfortunately from old 'B' movies."

Springfield area resident Cynthia Zorich, 47, said she thought her 7-year-old daughter would find the encampment interesting.

"It's great to have a semi-hands-on experience for her to see these things," Zorich said.

Perhaps the celebration gave Courtney her wish, that people know Indians are for real.

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