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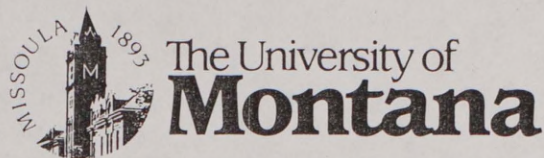
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NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 3, 2004

Contact: Mark Kayll, UM Department of Mathematical Sciences, (406) 243-5311.

LECTURER DISCUSSES CONNECTION BETWEEN MATH AND POKER

MISSOULA-

Is there more to winning a game of poker than meets the eye? Is the game really a gamble, or is it something that can be analyzed mathematically?

Brian Alspach will discuss these questions and more during "Mathematics and Poker," a public lecture of the 2004 Big Sky Conference on Discrete Mathematics. The lecture will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 9, in the Music Recital Hall at The University of Montana. The lecture is aimed at a general audience and is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served following the lecture.

Alspach is professor emeritus at Simon Fraser University and adjunct professor at the University of Regina in Canada. He specializes in discrete mathematics with an emphasis on graph theory. He has a long-standing interest in the mathematical aspects of gambling, and much of his work is available on his Web site at <http://www.math.sfu.ca/~alspach/>.

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