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## Bill Anderson to race a horse from Missoula to Polson

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FROM: BOB GILLULY

SPORTS NEWS EDITOR MONTANA UNIVERSITY

6/4/60

MISSOULA---Bill Anderson's celebrated race against a horse from Missoula to Polson is about a week in the future, and the slender MSU track ace says he's more confident every day.

Starting gun for the unique contest will be about 5:30 in the morning of June 16 at the west city limits of Missoula. Both man and beast expect to cover the 72-mile uphill distance in 10 to 12 hours.

The race is a feature event planned in conjunction with an anniversary being celebrated this summer by the city of Polson. Sponsoring organization is the Flathead Reservation Pioneers, under the direction of J. F. McAlear of Polson. The horse will alternately be ridden by Donald Olsson of Ronan and Slim Coppedge of Polson, with Dan Seery of St. Ignatius as relief jockey.

Anderson graduated from MSU Monday after a four-year track career under veteran mentor Harry Adams. Prior of this spring's Skyline Conference meet, Anderson had held the University record in the 880-year run. This year, freshman Phil Dwight nosed out Anderson in the Skyline half mile and also set a new MSU record in the process.

Andy explains that he's quite sure that he can finish the race. "Seventy-two miles actually isn't a long distance for a man. But I seriously doubt if the horse can finish," he added.

Anderson doesn't plan any tough training between now and June 16. He reported to work at a lumber mill in Bonner last weekend, and will keep in shape by working and running after supper. "I may jog several miles on the highway this weekend, but I don't plan anything special," he says. "My wind is good and I'm in good shape from the recent track season."

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