Great Falls, Billings track stars choose University of Montana

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CHOOSE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

MISSOULA --

A pair of Montana high school track stars made University of Montana track coach Harley Lewis' day a little brighter Wednesday when it was learned they plan to attend the University next fall.

Wade Jacobsen of Simms, 1967 Montana mile, two-mile, and cross country champ, and Dick Koontz of Billings, high point man in the state meet and new record holder in the low hurdles, are expected to add greatly to the University's track program in the coming four years.

"We are very pleased to have two boys of the caliber of Wade and Dick coming to Missoula to carry on the tradition established at the University in track during the past decade," Lewis said.

Jacobsen has recorded the fastest two-mile and the second fastest mile times in the state during 1967 spring competition. At the state meet in Billings, he covered the mile in 4:20.0 and the two-mile in 9:37.4, a state record. His winning time in the state high school cross country meet last fall was slightly more than 10 minutes.

"We'll definitely have Wade out for cross country competition at the University this fall," Lewis said.

Koontz, who competed for Billings West High School, flashed through the low hurdles at the state track meet in 19 seconds flat, smashing the record of 19.4 seconds set by Gary Thorne of Great Falls last year.

He tallied 22 points by winning firsts in the low hurdles, the broad jump (more)
and the triple jump, and fourths in the 100 and 220-yard dashes.

"We plan to use Dick in the low hurdles and the jumps next spring, as well as trying to develop his abilities in the high hurdles," Lewis explained.