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Harley Lewis proud of Fred Friesz's effort in six mile: Billings athlete qualifies for All-American honors

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LEWIS PROUD OF FRIEZ'S EFFORT IN SIX-MILE:
BILLINGS ATHLETE QUALIFIES FOR ALL-AMERICAN HONORS

PROVO, UTAH--

University of Montana track coach Harley Lewis was filled with pride Thursday night
when he phoned to Missoula to announce that Fred Friesz, a UM junior, had finished fourth
in the six-mile event at the NCAA Track and Field Championships in Provo and earned All-
American honors.

Friesz bettered his previous mark in the event by 26 seconds when he reached the
finish line in 29:33.6 behind Gerry Lindgren of Washington State, who won with a 28:44.0
clocking; Oscar Moore of Southern Illinois, and Tom Heinonen of the University of Minn.

"Fred ran exceptionally well," Lewis said. "His times for each lap never varied more
than two seconds for the entire six miles."

Lewis said Friesz ran in 10th or 11th for the first two miles before moving up to
third place, where he ran for about one and one-half miles.

"Heinonen passed him at the start of the last mile," Lewis said, "and at the begin­
ning of the last lap, Dick Sharkey of Michigan State passed Fred and opened up a lead of
about 10 yards."

With about 220 yards to go, Friesz opened up with a blistering kick to pass Sharkey
for his fourth-place finish.

After the finish, Friesz told Lewis, "I don't know where I found that kick."
Friesz's time at Provo, although nearly three minutes slower than the world's record
held by Australia's Ron Clarke (26:40.7), qualifies him for an invitation to the National
AAU Track and Field Championships at Bakersfield, Calif. next weekend.

Oddly enough, the NCAA record for the six-mile run is held by Friesz's former Montana
teammate, Doug Brown, a past All-American who covered the distance in a blistering 27:59.8.

"Fred has been running in Doug's shadow since he came to the University three years
ago," Lewis said. "It's about time he was given his chance for glory. I'm extremely
proud of him!"