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# NEWS

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### BIG SKY CROSS COUNTRY TITLE TO BE DECIDED SATURDAY NOON

MISSOULA---

The 1967 Big Sky Conference cross country championship will be decided by about 12:25 p.m. Saturday after thirty-two runners from five league teams race over the four-mile course at the University of Montana Golf Course.

Idaho State will be back to defend its 1966 title, with Idaho also looming as a strong contender, but Montana appears as the favorite this year based on dual meet performances.

The Grizzlies are undefeated in dual meets, and have beaten both Idaho and Idaho State. The Idaho schools have won two titles apiece during the first four years of league competition in the sport.

The only conference school not being represented Saturday is Montana State University at Bozeman, which dropped the sport this year.

Montana's All-American Fred Friesz, a senior from Billings, holds the University course record with a time of 20 minutes, 17 seconds. He ranks as a co-favorite for the individual crown along with Idaho's Pete Whitford, a freshman, and Idaho State's Roger Maxfield, who finished second to Montana's Doug Brown last year.

Grizzly coach Harley Lewis is hoping for a good turnout of spectators for the event.

"The race will begin at noon, and I'm sure people would find it exciting to watch, especially at the finish," he said.

Scoring in cross country is rather unusual compared to other sports. The places taken by the top five runners from each school are added to find the team score; thus the team with the lowest number of points wins.

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Lewis will send his usual seven men into Saturday's race, including Friesz, sophomores Ray Velez of Highland Falls, N.Y. and Duane Spethman of Boulder, junior Mickey Harrington of Missoula, and freshmen Wade Jacobsen of Simms, Ray Ballew of Sunburst, and Steve Linse of Snohomish, Wash. Friesz was fourth last year, and Velez 10th.

Gonzaga coach Bud Presley will run five men, including sophomores John Dunn and Terry Eamon, and freshmen Jim Abbott, Pete Brieter and Ron Edwards.

Idaho State runners under coach Bob Beeten will be senior Maxfield, sophomores John McNees (sixth last year) and George Shrylock (eighth last year), and freshmen Ken Guild, Mike Isola, Nelsen Karagu and Tony Rodriguez.

Running for Idaho coach Doug MacFarlane will be senior Ted Quirk (ninth last year), sophomores Larry Bond, Vern Deahl, Gary Johnson and Fred Lake, and freshmen Whitford and Joe Ross.

Weber State coach Ed Garvanian will use six men, including senior Tony Aragon, junior Paul Bingham, sophomore Bob Wallace, and freshmen Harold McDonald, Steve Pollard and Gary Smith.