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University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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WSU RUNNERS ALSO TO
COMPETE SATURDAY

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MISSOULA--

Montana's cross country harriers will compete among the best Saturday when they meet Idaho, Whitworth and Washington State in a cross country meet in Moscow.

Grizzly coach Harley Lewis announced Friday that Washington State will be at the meet, which originally pitted Montana runners against Idaho and Whitworth.

"This adds a new prospective to the race," Lewis said. Washington State has some of the best runners in the nation and Montana will relinquish its role as the meet favorites to the powerful Cougars.

Last weekend in Pullman, Washington State cruised to a 24-point first place total while five other teams fought it out for second. Eastern Washington ended up second with 83 points followed by Idaho with 84, Washington State JV's with 90, Whitworth with 97 and Whitman with 155.

WSU's Mark Hiefield won the four mile race with a 19:59 clocking, and teammate Graham Hutchison took second with a 20:33 timing.

Other Washington State finishers include Dean Clark, fourth at 20:49; Tom Robinson, eighth at 20:54; Richard Gazal, ninth at 21:00, and Dave Francis; eleventh at 21:14.

Lewis said that Montana would stand a good chance to beat WSU if the same team competes this weekend; however, the Cougars did not run their number two man, Don Smith, a freshman from New Zealand and Wayne Risteau, a senior and number four man. Smith has defeated Hiefield already this season.

Lewis said the individual race between Wade Jacobsen, Montana's two time conference champion, Hiefield and Smith should be a good one. Hiefield barely defeated Jacobsen last year in Pullman and both are in excellent shape this season.

Lewis also said the Grizzly's George Cook and Wes Priestly will be in the thick of things for the top five spots.

The Montana coach said the five mile race starts at 11:30^{a.m.}/PDT in Moscow at the University of Idaho Golf Course.