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Grizzly Sports Column

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MISSOULA---The only Montana University athlete ever to compete in the Olympic Games---former MSU swimming ace Jack Daniels---will enter the 1960 Olympic pentathlon trials in San Antonio, Texas, in late July. Daniels, who finished 13th in the 1956 Olympic Pentathlon event in Australia, currently is enrolled in graduate studies in Stockholm, Sweden.

"I have been training lightly all year--especially in fencing and running," Daniels commented in a recent letter. "My chances of making the four-man team which will go to Rome depend a great deal on what I've learned this year in fencing and what kind of performance I make in riding," he added.

The Pentathlon--one of the most demanding of all Olympic events--consists of swimming, horseback riding, fencing, cross-country running and pistol shooting. Daniels says he will train for about a month in Texas before taking part in the Olympic trials.

"I hope to make the trip to Rome as a spectator if not as a competitor. My wife has already ordered her tickets, and we will be in Rome regardless of my success or failure," the former Grizzly athlete commented. Another MSU figure who plans to attend the 1960 Olympics is Grizzly swimming coach Bud Wallace.

Daniels added in his letter that his studies at the Swedish school recently have taken him skiing near the Arctic Circle. "As yet, my bones are still all intact," he comments.

Daniels is a 1955 graduate of MSU who participated in the 1956 Olympics while serving in the U.S. Army. His wife is the former Muriel Griffin of Missoula.