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### MEDIA RELEASE

September 18, 1986

FIRST VOLKSMARCH TO BE HELD IN MISSOULA SEPT. 27

### MISSOULA --

The University of Montana's Wellness Center, in conjunction with Hide & Sole/Birkenstock Footwear, the Missoula Downtown Association and the Missoula Sheraton, is sponsoring Missoula's first Volksmarch beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 27 at the University of Montana Oval.

Volksmarch is a German term that means "people's walk." The Volksmarch is a non-competitive outdoor walk for all ages and athletic abilities. Participants follow a marked route at their own pace, stopping at designated check points for rest and water as needed. The aim of Missoula's 4.2-mile walk is to promote good health and community involvement.

At each check point along the way, winners will be selected to receive prizes. Every participant will receive a certificate since the event is non-competitive.

The Volksmarch will start at the University of Montana Oval, accompanied by the music of a German band composed of UM faculty members. UM President James Koch will lead the walk from the Oval. Anyone can enter the Volksmarch by filling out an entry blank at Hide & Sole Birkenstocks downtown between Wednesday,

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Sept. 17 and noon on Friday, Sept. 26. Entry fees are \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children. Each entrant will receive a booklet designed specifically for participants in the Volksmarch describing historic sites along the route, as well as a special packet from Hide and Sole.

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KDH/kdh Specialized Western Montana volksmch.rl