



University of Great Falls
ARGONAUTS

SPORTS INFORMATION * NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Great Falls Cross Country and Track Ink Two Runners

Great Falls, Mont. – The University of Great Falls head cross country and track coach Jim Brewer announced the signing of Ricky Avila and Austin Morgan to a Frontier Conference Letter of Intent today. Both runners will be joining the Argos' program this coming fall.

Ricky Avila is a transfer from Glendale Community College in California where he was a 2010 cross country All-American. He also earned 2010 Western State Conference cross country First Team honors. Avila has ran a personal best of 14:55.83 in the 5000 meter run and 9:28 in the steeplechase this year which both would be good enough for NAIA National Championship qualifications.

"Ricky is both a talented runner and hard worker," stated Brewer. "He will bring some great leadership to our program and could very well be our best performer next year. The thing I look forward to the most is that he relatively new to both cross country and track yet, has exceptional versatility as he is capable of running a solid 800 and 10k."

Avila says he is excited on becoming an Argo and plans to major in criminal justice while attending UGF.

Austin Morgan is currently a senior at Walla Wall High School in College Place, Washington where he was a First Team All-Conference runner for the Blue Devil cross country team.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to participate at a high level while improving as a runner," said Morgan about coming to UGF. "I like the small classes and UGF has my areas of interest.

Morgan is looking to major in criminal justice, psychology, or sociology at Great Falls.

"I am happy to have Austin join our team as he demonstrates some great versatility as well," commented Brewer. "He runs everything from the 400 to the 5k and will add some great depth to our middle distance program that is really flourishing."