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SPECIAL TO: Southfield News

HARTMAN'S COMEBACK HELPS STATE

East Lansing, Mich. -- Some people thought Southfield's Kim Hartman would never run again after an auto accident last fall, but the Michigan State senior proved them wrong by finished 11th in this year's Big Ten cross country meet, to help the Spartans to their 13th conference title in 20 years.

Hartman was hit by a car while returning to campus after practice Nov. 23, 1969. He suffered torn knee ligaments which required corrective surgery.

The injury appeared so serious that it threatened to end his brilliant career in track and cross country. But the plucky youngster never gave up hope, exercising his knee daily and trying to run despite the pain.

The senior Co-captain's progress this season was slow, but each week he kept improving. Toward the end of the season he had moved up among the Spartans' top five men.

In the Big Ten Meet, Hartman was the fourth Spartan across the line as State came up with a great team effort, placing five men in the top 12, to upset defending champion Minnesota.

"I can't say enough for Hartman," said coach Jim Gibbard. "He put it all together in the meet that counted."

Hartman's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hartman of 20365 Norwood, Southfield.

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