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Missouri-Rolla leads as American Solar Challenge reaches Barstow

Seven teams reached the final stage stop at Barstow, Calif., in Day 9 of the American Solar Challenge. As of 8 p.m. PDT, the University of Missouri-Rolla continued to set the pace.

As racing finished today, the University of Waterloo was second into Barstow, 2,142 miles from the race start in Chicago, with the University of Minnesota entering the checkpoint third. The 2,300-mile cross-country solar car race from Chicago to the Los Angeles area is the longest in the world. Twenty cars are participating in the race.

Overall, with today's results, Missouri-Rolla maintains its lead with the lowest cumulative time of 48 hours, 42 minutes and 27 seconds. Minnesota follows almost five hours behind at 53:31:56. The University of Waterloo, in third, is about a half hour behind, with a cumulative time of 54:54:41.

The race began in Chicago at the Museum of Science and Industry July 13 and continues to Claremont, Calif., through 13 checkpoints in cities and towns along historic Route 66. The American Solar Challenge is an educational event in which participants build and race cars whose only source of fuel is the sun. The car with the fastest cumulative time will win the race.

Official daily results will be posted at www.americansolarchallenge.org. Final cumulative times are based on actual race time, plus time penalties for race rules infractions. Photos of the race and other information also are available at the Web site.

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The race is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and its National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), BP Solar and EDS

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