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Grizzly diamondmen open season in Banana Belt Tournament

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MISSOULA--

Seventeen University of Montana baseball players will open their 1968 season Thursday at noon with their opening game in the Banana Belt Tournament at Lewiston, Idaho which runs for three days.

Ten teams will compete in the tourney, which will be divided into two divisions.

In division A will be University of Idaho, Seattle University, Lewis-Clark Normal, Montana State University and Eastern Washington State College.

Competing in division B with the Grizzlies with be two teams from Washington State University, plus Seattle Pacific College and Gonzaga University.

The Grizzlies, coached by Larry Works, will meet one of the Washington State teams for their opener, and then will battle Gonzaga Thursday afternoon at 3.

The Grizzlies will play but one game on Friday, that with Seattle Pacific.

Competition for the two games Saturday will depend on how the Grizzlies fare in the first three outings.

All games will be seven innings long, with the exception of the championship contest, which will go the regulation nine frames.

Works will start a pair of right-handed hurlers in the first two games. Sophomore John Kidd of Mountain Home, Idaho will go against Washington State, with senior Jerry Sepich of Great Falls to go against Gonzaga Thursday afternoon.

Other Grizzly starters will be catcher Brian Cloutier, Libby senior; first baseman Harry Allen, Missoula sophomore; second baseman Dewey Allen, Kalispell senior; third baseman Pat Shannon, Polson sophomore; shortstop Mike Hoonan, Aberdeen, Wash. sophomore; left fielder Sepich; center fielder Bob Glasgow, Billings sophomore, and right fielder Jim Kenyon, Missoula junior.

Others traveling to the tournament will be outfielder Bob Atchison, Sidney junior; catcher Bob Galbraith, Pasco, Wash. junior; outfielder Mike Heroux, Menasha, Wis. freshman; pitcher Gordy McManus, Great Falls freshman; pitcher Les Parks, Missoula freshman; outfielder Tim Sampson, Sidney freshman, outfielder Larry Slocum, Missoula sophomore, and third baseman Steve Wheeler, Whitefish junior.