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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROSH, VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAMS OPEN DRILLS;
THIRTY-TWO PLAYERS TOTAL OUT FOR BOTH

MISSOULA---

Bob Cope and Lou Rocheleau will be busy men for the next few weeks as they work with both frosh and varsity basketball teams in preparation for the upcoming seasons.

The two varsity coaches will be watching 17 players trying to make the varsity squad and the 15, with three more to come after football season, who are trying for frosh cage spots.

The two will be extremely interested in their varsity squad, which Cope, the head mentor, says should be "better than last year's."

The Grizzlies will boast more size, but will still lack depth along the front line. Biggest man will be JC transfer George Yule, 6-8, 220-pound junior from Newport Beach, Calif. Yule was starting center for strong Orange Coast, Calif. College last season.

Other transfers who should help include 6-5 forward Howard Clark of Kansas City, Mo. who played at Everett, Wash. College; 6-2 guard George Demos of Chicago, Ill. who played at Peninsula, Wash. College, and 5-11 guard Harold Ross of Seattle, Wash. who played at Highline, Wash. College.

Another transfer guard, 6-2 John Simmons of Big Timber, played at Custer College in Miles City and is trying out on his own.

The Grizzlies return nine lettermen from the 8-17 squad of last season.

Returning at forward are 6-5 junior Mark Agather of Libby; 6-4 junior Max Agather of Libby; 6-6 senior Steve Brown of Corvallis, and 6-5 senior Ray Dirindin of Lowell, Ind.

Guard returnees are 6-1 junior John Cheek of Anaconda; 6-2 junior Dave Gustafson of Vaughn; 6-4 senior Ron Moore of Indianapolis, Ind.; 6-3 junior Sid Rhinehart of Missoula,
FROSH, VARSITY BASKETBALL--2--

and 6-2 senior Stan Yoder of Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Sophomores turning out are guards Mike Heroux, 5-10 from Menasha, Wis., and Don Wetzel, 6-1 from Cut Bank. They were the top two scorers for last year's frosh team.

Cope believes that the health of Ron Moore will be a key factor in the Grizzly season. Moore injured a knee midway through last season, underwent surgery, and is giving it his first full-speed try this winter. When he was injured last season, he was the team's leading scorer with a 19.8 average.

The Grizzlies open in Missoula Nov. 30 against Seattle Pacific College.

Both Cope and Rocheleau will spend plenty of time with the frosh squad, which looks like it could be the strongest in the school's history. Size isn't lacking, with 8 of the 15 players currently out standing 6-3 or over. Four of the freshman are 6-7.

The tall men are Strett Brown, 6-7, 208 from Seattle, Wash.; Ray Howard, 6-7, 215 from Great Falls; Scott Stetson, 6-7, 190 from Spokane, Wash., and Earl Tye, 6-7, 214 from Central Point, Ore. All can play either center or forward.

Other big men include Willie Bascus, 6-5, 210 from Brawley, Calif.; Steve Dethman, 6-3, 180 from Wolf Point; Bob Howard, 6-3, 180 from Cut Bank, and Terry Waltman, 6-4, 195 from Crete, Neb.

Rounding out the current hopefuls are John Davis, 6-1, 190 from Chicago; Jim Duncan, 6-1, 165 from Seeley Lake; Chris Green, 5-11, 160 from Cashmere, Wash.; John Harper, 6-1, 170 from Lewistown; Kirk Johnson, 6-0, 165 from Helena; Pete Martin, 6-2 1/2, 195 from Sacramento, Calif., and Steve Sullivan, 6-2, 170 from Butte.

Bascus and Ray Howard were prep All-America selections last winter, Johnson led Montana Big 30 scoring, Stetson played for the Washington AA champion Central Valley team, and Dethman played for the Montana state champs from Wolf Point.

The three football players who will turn out later include Bob Fisher, 6-1, 180 from Aberdeen, Wash.; Jim Schillinger, 6-2, 180 from Circle, and Craig Stoenner, 5-10, 170 from Hamilton. All were All-State or All-Conference selections in high school.

Regular frosh coaches will be Del Carroll and John (Doc) Holliday, who coached last year's frosh squad.