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Don Branby resigns as Montana University end coach

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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RELEASE ANYTIME AFTER 3 P.M. SATURDAY, JAN. 30

MISSOULA, MONTANA---Montana University end coach Don Branby has resigned his position to take on line coaching duties for the professional Vancouver, B.C., Lions, it was announced today by athletic director George Dahlberg. Branby will leave "within a short time" for his new duties, Dahlberg added, saying that no definite plans have yet been made for replacing the 30-year-old mentor.

Head football coach Ray Jenkins commented that he was happy to see Branby move up within his profession, but added that "we'll miss Don. He has done a wonderful job in the past two seasons, and it will be difficult to find a replacement of equal caliber."

Branby came to the University in the spring of 1958. In two seasons with the Grizzlies, one of his ends--John Lands--twice was selected on the All-Skyline football team and also led the league in pass receptions two seasons running.

Branby is a native of Glenwood, Minnesota, who played his collegiate career for the University of Colorado, winning nine letters in football, basketball and baseball. He was an All-Big Eight end in 1951 and 1952, and also earned first team All-America honors as a defensive end during his senior season. He played professional football briefly with the New York Giants, but an injury cut his career short.

After entering the U.S. Air Force, he earned his wings as a jet pilot, and also performed as a player-coach for service teams in Wiesbaden, Germany, and Hamilton Air Force Base, California. He accepted the Montana coaching job shortly after being discharged in early 1958.

Mrs. Branby will remain in Missoula temporarily to dispose of family affairs, then will join her husband in Vancouver.

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