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Grizzly swim team opens season with meet against University of British Columbia

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MISSOULA ---Coach Bud Wallace's tank men open their season this weekend when the University of British Columbia visits the Grizzly pool.

The Grizzly fin men, who have the potential to take everything in sight in Skyline competition this season, see their opening match as a warm-up for stiffer matches later on.

Grizzly tank hopes have been bolstered by a Skyline ruling that will permit freshmen to swim in league meets. Ray Ellis of Deer Lodge and Gaylon Kipp of Billings, both first year students, may mark up some new conference records this season.

Ellis has already unofficially smashed the NCAA freshman mark in the 100 yard butterfly and Kipp was ranked as one of the nation's top breaststrokers last year in prep circles.

Other tank men on hand this season include veteran Wayne Veeneman, who boasts one Skyline record, diver Bill Brubaker, a strong contender for this year's Skyline honors, coach Wallace's ace-in-the-hole, sophomore Glenn Jones who last year beat six loop swimmers in exhibition matches as a freshman.

Wallace is pointing toward the national championships in late March when he hopes to enter five or six Grizzlies in NCAA swimming title events for the first time.

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