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Eight former Grizzlies hope to make the pros

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EIGHT FORMER GRIZZLIES
HOPE TO MAKE THE PROS

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MISSOULA--



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Eight football players from the 1969 and 1970 undefeated University of Montana teams will report as free agents to pro teams this July.

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Coach Jack Swarthout said the Philadelphia Eagles invited two-time Grizzly All-American tackle Tuufuli Uperesa and reserve center Dave Urie back to tryout for the 1971 team.

The two, along with Roy Robinson, a cornerback, were members of the 1969 Big Sky championship team. Robinson was drafted by Atlanta of the National Football Conference, then traded to Denver of the American Conference. Denver released Robinson and the former Grizzly sprinter will report to the Kansas City Chiefs this summer.

Five members from the 1970 titlewinning team will report to pro teams as free agents, Swarthout said.

Karl Stein, the San Anselmo, Calif., free safety that set more than a half dozen UM records and the Big Sky pass interception record with 11, will report to the Los Angeles Rams. He was twice All-Big Sky and selected to two Kodak All-American teams.

Arnie Blancas, the Summer, Wash., halfback that became the all-time top UM rusher with 1,601-yards, will report to the Kansas City Chiefs with Robinson. Blancas also was All-Big Sky both years and honorable mention All-American last fall.

Tim Gallagher, the Kalispell outside linebacker, and Lonzo Lewis, a reserve defensive tackle from Rockford, Ill., will report to the Dallas Cowboys in July. Gallagher started for two straight years for Montana and was All-Big Sky in 1969. Lewis decided to give football a try last spring and^{also} was the starting center on the Grizzly basketball team.

Jim Nordstrom, twice defensive captain at an end slot, will report to the Vancouver Lions of the Canadian Football League in Vancouver, B.C. He is a native of Vancouver, Wash., and was a 1969 All-Big Sky first teamer.

At least two other Montana players are looking for pro bids. Kicker Dan Worrell, who set the UM scoring record and broke every school place-kicking record, and two time All-American third teamer, Larry Miller, defensive tackle, are waiting for pro bids. Both indicated interest in professional football and are contacting teams.

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EIGHT FORMER GRIZZLIES AIM FOR PROS--2

Currently, Montana's only active player in the pros is Mike Tilleman with the New Orleans Saints. He is the starting defensive tackle.

Swarthout said some of the players on the 1971 team could be pro prospects. "It takes a lot of talent and dedication to become a pro and I hope our former players can continue their football careers as professionals," he said.

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