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fultz/bb 5-22-73 sports local +

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Information Services • University of Montana • Missoula, Montana 59801 • (406) 243-2522 MISSOULA....

Gordon Darby, an all-league center for North Vancouver High in Vancouver, British Columbia, has inked a national letter of intent to attend the University of Montana next fall.

Darby, who stands 6-10, averaged 17 points and 12 rebounds last season. In announcing the signing, UM basketball coach Jud Heathcote said that, "We feel Gordon is an outstanding prospect for the future at either center or forward, He runs and moves well for a youngster of his size."

Heathcote added that, "He is the big man that we were hoping to get to round out our recruiting."

He is the brother of Jim Darby, a 6-11 center, who redshirted for the Grizzlies during the 1972-73 collegiate season.

The younger Darby is the fifth high school senior to sign with the University.

Previously, Heathcote signed three guards, Ben DeMers of Missoula, Tom Rondeau of Corvallis,

Oregon, and Bruce Groesbeck of Spokane, Washington. Mike Richardson, a forward from

Denver, Colorado, has also signed with the Grizzlies.