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Big Sky nixes video charge; expands varsity basketball

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University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Big Sky nixes video charge; expands varsity basketball" (1966). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 2255.
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11-23-66

BIG SKY NIXES VIDEO CHARGE;
EXPANDS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Big Sky athletic conference members reversed Tuesday (Nov. 22) a six months old decision to charge \$2,500 for live video broadcasting rights of each conference athletic event.

All six members of the conference were represented on the University of Montana campus Monday and Tuesday. The Big Sky members, in addition to Montana, are Montana State in Bozeman, University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho State University in Pocatello, Weber State in Ogden, Utah, and Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington.

Dale Moore, president of KGVO AM-TV in Missoula, led the delegation representing Montana and Idaho Broadcasters Associations. In his presentation, Moore said the \$2,500 charge would make it financially impossible for television stations to carry live video broadcasts of the games.

Other broadcasters present were Jim Brady of KIFI, Idaho Falls; Shag Miller, KBOW, Butte and president of the MBA, Earl Morgenroth, KGVO, Missoula; and Don McClintock, KFBB, Great Falls.

Dr. Earl C. Lory, UM faculty representative to the Conference, reported the Big Sky Conference plans no expansion of the conference membership at the present time.

He said freshmen football schedules were expanded with the University of Montana Cubs slated to play the University of Idaho, Idaho State University and Montana State University frosh next gridiron season.

The varsity basketball schedules have also been expanded beginning the 1967 season. Each conference member will play every other member three times instead of the current two games. This plan will increase Conference basketball conflicts from 10 to 15 for each school.

(more)

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Conference meets in winter and spring sports also were set, according to Lory. Big Sky skiing championships are scheduled at Montana State University in Bozeman, on Feb. 17, 18 and 19, 1967.

Wrestling conference champs will be determined at Gonzaga University in Spokane on Feb. 24 and 25.

Swimming conference championships also at Gonzaga are set for March 3 and 4.

Weber State College in Ogden, Utah, will be the site of the Big Sky Conference championships in golf, tennis, track and field, May 18 and 19.