80 University of Montana grid prospects turn out Friday for spring drills

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MISSOULA—Nearly 80 football hopefuls hit the practice field yesterday for the opening day of spring drills for the University of Montana Grizzlies under head coach Jack Swarthout.

Swarthout, who led the Tips to a 7-3 season in 1967 in his first year at the Missoula school, is anxious to see how newly-recruited transfers and a flock of freshmen will fit into the Grizzly program in 1968.

"We have felt that on paper we are much stronger and deeper than we were last year," Swarthout said Friday. "Now we'll find out if we were right."

Thirty-two of the prospects are returnees from the 1967 squad, while nine are new transfers and the rest are either freshmen or others turning out for the first time.

Not included are five veterans who will not be out in the spring for different reasons.

Roy Robinson, sophomore tailback from Glasgow, and Ron Baines, junior split end from Tacoma, Wash., are competing in track this spring and will be out next fall. Tom Lavery, junior guard from Chicago, Ill., Rick Sparks, junior center from Butte, and Karl Fiske, junior defensive back from Laurel, are still recovering from injuries and operations as a result of last season.

The list of turnouts, with one star (*) after returnees, two stars (**) after transfers, and three stars (***) after freshmen or others, follows:

Offense

TIGHT ENDS—Jim Kelly*, Seattle, Wash. senior; Mark Mochel*, Seattle senior, and Tony Bertuca***, Chicago, Ill. sophomore.

STRONG TACKLES—Dell Hayden***, Moses Lake, Wash. junior; Kirk Bergeson***, Dillon sophomore; Mike Grunow*, Monroe, Mich. senior; and Cliff Sandberg***, St. Charles, Ill. sophomore.
80 GRIDDERS—2—

STRONG GUARDS—Butch Ortiz*, Monterey Park, Calif. senior; Mike McCann*, Renton, Wash. junior; Rick Harber**, Fuyallup, Wash. junior; Willie Postler***, Vancouver, B.C. sophomore, and Jim Wier***, Lewistown sophomore.

CENTERS—Dave Urie**, Chico, Calif. junior; Byron Lovell**, Honolulu, Hawaii junior; Ron Remple***, Alta Loma, Calif. sophomore, and Joe Niman***, Miami, Fla. sophomore.

QUICK GUARDS—Lon Howard*, Centralia, Wash. senior; Bill Waters*, Troy junior; Joe Lyons***, Kalispell sophomore; Ray Stachnik***, Chicago sophomore, and Sandy Cordova***, Miami sophomore.


SPLIT ENDS—Al Luis**, Redding, Calif. junior; Jim Enos*, Port Angeles, Wash. junior, and Bob Guptill***, Great Falls sophomore.


HALFBACKS—Ron Bain*, Kalispell junior; Mike Buzzard**, Mt. Vernon, Wash. junior; Steve Ogilvie***, Spokane, Wash. sophomore; Gartha Morgan*, Seattle senior; Rick Strauss*, Polson senior, and Pat Schruth***, Billings sophomore.


Defense


TACKLES—Fred Tubbs*, Honolulu senior; Stachnik; Grunow; Larry Stranahan*, Missoula junior; John Stedham*, Chehalis, Wash. junior; Postler; Bruce Nordstrom*, Vancouver, Wash. senior; Gutman and Rusty Wells, Denver, Colo. sophomore.

GUARDS—Ole Hedstrom*, Laurel junior; Jeff Baglio***, Bellingham, Wash. sophomore, and Dan Jacques***, Helena sophomore.

LINEBACKERS—Bob Beers*, Beaverton, Ore. senior; Glen Wyse***, Lewistown sophomore; Dave O'Meara***, Miles City sophomore; Ron McGucked*, Boulder, Colo. junior; Greg Paresa*, Kahului, Hawaii senior; Ken Jernberg*, Sunnyvale, Wash. junior; Mike Nicosia*, Scranton, Pa. junior; Jim Semansky***, Butte sophomore, and Steve Boosinger***, Couer d'Alene, Idaho sophomore.
BACKS—Maceo Gray*, Baltimore, Md. senior; Rich Unruh*, Everett, Wash. junior; Stimac; Luis; Pat Dolan***, Great Falls sophomore; Mike Dolan***, Great Falls sophomore; Gary Freshour*, McMinnville, Ore. junior; Guptill; Schruth, and LaRue Nelson*, New Orleans, La. senior.

Also turning out will be sophomore kicking specialist Dan Worrell of Great Falls.

Swarthout expects to trim the squad to some 55 to 60 players for next fall's nine-game schedule which opens with a night game in Billings Sept. 14 against the University of North Dakota Sioux.

Spring drills will close May 4 with the annual intrasquad game at Dornblaser Field.

The head mentor said that scrimmages will be used much more this spring and fall than they were in preparation for last season.

The entire schedule for this season:

Sept. 14—North Dakota at Billings; Sept. 21, South Dakota at Vermillion; Sept. 28, Portland State in Missoula; Oct. 5, Utah State in Missoula (Homecoming); Oct. 12, Idaho at Moscow; Oct. 19, Idaho State at Pocatello; Nov. 2, Montana State in Missoula; Nov. 9, Weber State in Missoula, and Nov. 16, Northern Arizona at Flagstaff.