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Earl Tye of Central Point, Oregon plans to attend University of Montana in fall

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Earl Tye, 6-7 center at Crater High School in Central Point, Ore., has signed a letter of intent to attend the University of Montana on a basketball scholarship this fall, Bob Cope, UM head basketball coach, announced Friday.

Tye led the Crater team in scoring and rebounding last season, averaging 17.8 points per game while hauling in a total of 296 rebounds. He shot 48 per cent from the field (144 of 300) and 70 per cent from the free throw line (105 of 150) during the 1967-68 season. He scored a total of 393 points.

Besides standing out in basketball, Tye plays a fine game of tennis, and may be called on to help the University netters next spring.

Tye is an outstanding student, having graduated in the upper five per cent of his class this spring to earn a place in Crater High's Academic Honors Group.

Dick Jewett, sports editor for the Medford, Ore. Mail Tribune, which covers Central Point, said Tye is a good outside shooter besides working well underneath the basket.

"I was amazed at his improvement between his junior and senior years," Jewett said. "His agility and control improved tremendously, and he has great potential to be a fine college player."

Tye was coached at Crater High by Lloyd Hoffine.