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### California all-America prep cager University of Montana enrollee

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# NEWS

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6-27-68  
sports one

CALIFORNIA ALL-AMERICA PREP CAGER  
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA ENROLLEE

MISSOULA---

Willie Bascus, a 6-5, 195-pound forward from Brawley, Calif. High School whose athletic credentials could make a list taller than he is, has announced his intention to attend the University of Montana on a basketball scholarship this fall.

Bob Cope and Lou Rocheleau, UM cage coaches, made the announcement together Thursday morning after talking to Bascus.

Following the 1967-68 season, Bascus was selected to the nation's high school Coaches All-America Basketball Team, landing in the top 10 of the 100 prep cagers selected.

During three years of varsity competition, Bascus averaged 23 points and 16 rebounds per game. He was a unanimous selection at center for the All-Imperial Valley Conference first team as both a junior and a senior. As a senior, he was voted to the California AA All-State first team.

The Brawley team won 21 of 24 games last season enroute to conference and divisional titles.

As a senior, Bascus was named to the Elks All-Tournament first team in Southern California, and led the Imperial Valley league in scoring with 21.5 points per game. He was voted to the California Interscholastic Federation team as a forward, and was given a Southern California Helms Athletic Foundation Award as a forward.

As a junior, he shot a fine 62.9 per cent from the field and pulled down 326 rebounds in 21 games.

more



As a split end in football, he was the leading receiver for Brawley High and the leading scorer for the Imperial Valley Conference with 52 points on six touchdowns and 16 extra point kicks.

He recorded a 55-yard field goal and a 67-yard punt during his prep football career, and was selected as an All-Imperial Valley end for his junior and senior seasons.

In track, he ran the 100-yard dash in 9.9 seconds, broad jumped more than 22 feet, and high jumped 6 feet, 5 inches. He also competed in the triple jump.

According to Cope and Rocheleau, the person chiefly responsible for the signing of Bascus was Mark Hammerness, a graduate of UM who is a counselor and teacher at Brawley High.

"We have to give Mark most of the credit for this one," Cope said. "And what can you say when you sign someone like Bascus except that you're real happy. He's just a great one."