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1970 season starts Sunday

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MISSOULA--

Sunday starts a new decade of football at the University of Montana and Coach Jack Swarthout admits that the finale of the 60's will be a hard act to follow.

Swarthout and staff will welcome back 57 prime prospects Sunday when the team suits up for picture day. A royal welcome is slated for the 1970 team that day with a group of Missoula businessmen called "The Grizzly Barons" hosting the ceremonies.

The UM mentor said 1969 and the perfect 10-0 record is a pleasant memory and Montana must get ready for 1970. "Everybody is going to be up for us this year," Swarthout said. "They all love to beat the champs. We'll have to be up for every game."

Swarthout isn't predicting anything for 1970, although a Northern Arizona University poll of Big Sky coaches and sports information directors have the Grizzlies favored to retain the Big Sky title. "It's a new season and we have to prove ourselves," the UM mentor said.

A survey conducted by Game Plan Football Magazine has Idaho State favored to whip Montana for the conference championship.

Montana has three All-Americans, seven All-Big Sky performers, 14 starters and 26 lettermen returning and should bolster a strong defense and offensive backfield. Nine defensive starters are back including All-Americans Karl Stein, free safety and Larry Miller, tackle, along with All-Big Sky performers Jim Nordstrom, end, Larry Stranahan, tackle and Tim Gallagher, linebacker.

The offensive backfield includes All-American Les Kent, fullback, All-Big Sky halfback Arnie Blancas and starter Casey Reilly along with first-string linemen Ray Stachnik, center, Willie Postler, guard and Jim DeBord, tight end.

The Grizzly team will begin two-a-day workouts Monday in preparation for the Sept. 12 opener against North Dakota in Billings. The morning sessions begin at 8:30 and the afternoon practices at 3.

Everyone is invited to the Press and Booster Day, Sunday which begins at 1:30 p.m. followed by a reception about 3:30 p.m.

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