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Montana Grizzlies end season with University of Idaho loss

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MISSOULA, MONTANA—Montana University closed out its football season last Saturday with a not-unexpected 9-6 loss to Idaho. Despite a 1-8 record for the season, however, coach Ray Jenkins notes some improvement in the Grizzly grid picture, and the hard-working mentor feels that the 1960 Montana outfit will be considerably tougher.

"We'll have 31 of our present 34 squad members back next season, and we also will have about 25 top sophomores who turned in a good season on our freshman squad this fall," the mentor comments.

Graduation losses will take two top Grizzlies from the fold—All-Skyline end John Lands and halfback Henry Greminger. The third senior is fullback Russ Grant, who saw intermittent action this season.

Returning next season will be Grizzlies who led the team in virtually every category but pass receptions. Quarterbacks Bob O'Billovich and John Lands combined this year to give Montana its best passing attack in 10 seasons. Halfback Jerry Dotson had a good afternoon against Idaho to win the team rushing lead. Five of the top seven pass receivers will return. Montana's great punter, Paul Gustafson, also has another two seasons of competition.

In the line, standouts John Gregor and John Matte will be back for another campaign, aided by Mike Emerson, Jim Johnson, John Meese, Larry Beddes, Mike Thomas and Gary Schwertfeger. At the wings, ends Jim Harris, Howard Schwend, Dale Berry and Glenn Sorenson will be back. Seven other linemen also will return.

Fullbacks Gary Smith and Gary Ekegren had good sophomore years, as did halfbacks Rich Birgenheier and Jim Grasky. All of which adds up to a bright 1960 picture—length and manpower.

(more)
"This isn't to say that we'll be Skyline contenders next season," Jenkins cautions. "But we showed solid improvement this season, and more can be expected in coming years."

Freshman coach Hal Sherbeck named about 25 yearlings who stand a good chance to earn varsity jobs next season. These include Paul Miller and Bill Stack, quarterbacks; Pat Dodson, Steve Wood, Dick Miller, Terry Dillon and Ron Werba, halfbacks; Don Shotliff and Eric Larsen, fullbacks; Ed Whitelaw, Gene Moe, Bill Ellison, Jim Bansamer and Bill Bouchee, ends; Ed Flynn, Gerald Gaboda, Dan Peters and Don Stevlingson, tackles; Jack Shevalier, Jim Bartell, Paul Ricci, Larry Jones, Frank Herbig and Tim McHenry, guards, and Dick Huse, center. Several others may win spots if they show improvement in spring training.

Jenkins says the grid staff "won't be on vacation" during the winter months. Recruiting will start almost immediately, with staff members slating trips to virtually every school in the state.

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MISSOULA—One of the Skyline Conference's leading figures, Clyde (Cac) Hubbard, is leaving Missoula this week to establish a pharmaceutical business in Portland, Oregon. Hubbard, who holds a pharmacy degree from Oregon State College, said he is going back to his "first love" after some 30 years of sports activity.

Hubbard was MSU Athletic Director from 1949 to 1953, and previously was a successful grid mentor at Denver University. He started his coaching career with a number of successful seasons at College of Puget Sound before taking the Denver job.

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