Montana defeated by Oregon State University

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

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MISSOULA--"We solve one problem and then come up with a batch of new ones" was coach Frosty Cox's summary of Montana's two defeats last weekend at the hands of Oregon State. While the Grizzlies did a fair job in the rebounding department, their shooting suddenly went cold.

All of which adds up to the same early-season problem that has plagued the Silvertips for three seasons--inconsistency. At this point last season the Grizzlies had a 2-5 record, but later found themselves and made a good Skyline showing. And it appears that the same script is being written this year, since Cox feels that his cagers are capable of playing much better ball.

With Nebraska's tough Cornhuskers due in Missoula for a Dec. 23 engagement, the Grizzlies have their work cut out for themselves. Aside from a shortened schedule early this week to concentrate on final exams, the Grizzlies are slated for plenty of work on the practice court, concentrating mainly on improving their shooting and defensive play.

"If we don't improve, Nebraska will run us out of the Fieldhouse," is Cox's warning.

Against Oregon State, the Grizzlies hit only 25 per cent of their shots. Even All-Skyline guard Dan Balko found a lid on the basket, hitting but one of 14 tries in the second contest. The most consistent scorer was guard Vince Ignatowicz, while forward Terry Screnar had one good game. Among the bench candidates, sophomore Jim Harris did a good job of filling in, and soph guard Bob O'Billovich also saw considerable action.

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