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Grizzlies play in Bozeman Thursday night

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MISSOULA, MONTANA—Montana University Grizzlies take a brief breather from Skyline cage tussles this week and early next, with two rugged encounters against Montana State's Bobcats. The Grizzlies play in Bozeman Thursday night, then move back to Missoula for a rematch against the 'Cats next Monday.

Definitely missing the first fray will be Grizzly center Duane Ruegsegger, who suffered a deep cut on his left arm after the New Mexico game a week ago in Albuquerque. Montana trainer Naseby Rhinehart holds out some hope that Ruegsegger may be ready in a week, but commented that the 6-5 junior pivot man would be hampered by soreness for probably the next two weeks.

Grizzly senior John Lands performed at center for the Grizzlies in last night's game with Utah State in Missoula, and coach Frosty Cox also has 6-6 Dan Sullivan ready for duty at the post. But neither have demonstrated that they are as capable as Ruegsegger. Other Grizzly starters will be the three veterans who have carried a heavy scoring load this season—guards Dan Balko and Vince Ignatowicz and forward Terry Screnar.

'Cat coach Dobbie Lambert will probably counter with forwards Larry Chanay and John Bryant, center Bob Bradley, and guards Andy Matson and Jim Owens. Chanay, of course, is the big gun, while newcomers Bryant and Bradley have been pleasant surprises in most games this season. Chanay, a 6-4 senior now in his fourth year of Bobcat basketball, recently surpassed the all-time MSC scoring record held by Golden Bobcat J. A. (Cat) Thompson. He's averaging 22 points per game this season. Following the Bobcat encounters, the Grizzlies go on the road for two Skyline frays—against Wyoming Feb. 5 and Colorado State Feb. 6.

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