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Montana University spring sports outfits preparing for game seasons

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MISSOULA—Although several inches of snow on the ground supports the fact that winter has not yet left the Hellgate, several Montana University spring sports outfits are preparing to swing into action soon.

Hal Sherbeck’s baseball crew is scheduled to move into the Fieldhouse late this week for 10 days of diamond preparation. The Silvertip baseball crew plans to go to Lewiston, Idaho, from March 19 to 26 for spring training sessions with Idaho, Washington State and Oregon State.

Sherbeck has five lettermen and a host of newcomers on hand. Veterans include pitcher Ken Wimmett, catcher Floyd Ayers, infielders Terry Sorenar and John Matte, and outfielder Jim Johnson. Others who may win team spots are pitchers Mike Dishman and Joe Farrell, infielders Bob O’Billovich, Jim Bartell, Tom Peterson and Dick Held; outfielders Glenn Sorenson, Ron Quilling and Al Craig, and catcher Chuck Miltenberger.

On the track scene, coach Harry Adams has one of the most promising freshman crops in years. "And it’s a good thing, too, since we only have seven lettermen in camp," the mentor comments. Veterans include weightman Ken Wersland, 440 ace Ken Nelson, pole vaulter Chuck Nelson, quarter-miler John Datsopoulos, 880 star Bill Anderson, and distancemen Gary Wojtowick and Art DeVries.

Newcomers expected to win jobs are shotputter Harley Lewis, distancemen Glynn DeVries and Phil Dwight, high jumper Chuck Miller, sprinters Pat Dodson and Larry Lewis, hurdler Ed Whitelaw, hurdler Gordon Pagenkopf, handyman Sterling Wetzsteon, and broad jumper Jerry Bjork. All of these, with the exception of out-of-stater Whitelaw, won individual titles in the 1959 Montana Interscholastic meet.

(more)
Golf and tennis teams probably won't swing into action until the first week in April, since their practice depends to a greater extent on the vagaries of weather.

Golf coach Eddie Chinske has a healthy balance of lettermen and promising newcomers. Among the veterans are three juniors who should show improvement—Roger Norgaard, Ray Maidment and Fred Jewell. New men on the scene are the 1959 Montana Interscholastic champion, Jim Bryngelson, as well as two cousins from well-known Great Falls golfing families—Bill Hodges Jr. and Ted Hodges Jr.

Tennis coach John Love has two proven racket-wielders in sophomores Mike Hogarty and Don Hubbard. Beyond this, however, the talent is unsure. Veterans Nick Darling and Steve Kirk may be on hand, and the fifth spot will be a battle among newcomers Bill and Dick Brown, Bill Corette, and Carl Lehrkind.

The tennis and golf teams open competition in mid-April, meeting Utah, Utah State and BYU on a four-day tour in Utah. Then they return to Missoula to meet the same teams on successive weekends in late April and May.

The Missoula Country Club will be the site of the Skyline golf championship meet, scheduled May 25-26 in Missoula.

Adams' tracksters open their schedule with an April 30 date with Utah in Missoula, and also have Montana State College on the home schedule May 14. Road meets will be against Brigham Young and Utah State, with the conference match slated May 27-28 at Fort Collins, Colo.

The diamond squad will play round-robin games against Idaho, Oregon State and Washington State at Lewiston, and also have a doubleheader slated against Yakima Junior College on March 22. Their regular season opens April 8, with two games on the slate against Montana State in Missoula. The baseballers take a 10-day trip to Utah in mid-April, then return to Missoula to meet the three Skyline teams here in May.

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