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PLEASE DO NOT RELEASE BEFORE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Thirty Montana State University coeds are launched on a course that may lead to Atlantic City and the 1961 Miss America Pageant for one of them.

They have been nominated by campus living groups to contend for the title of Miss MSU, which will be conferred at a special program in the University Theater Jan. 7. The program and the events leading to it are under the direction of Louis Garcia of Anchorage, Alaska, chairman, and Margie Loyall of Missoula, co-chairman. Working with them are committees from Associated Women Students, sponsoring organization of the University's official preliminary of the Miss America Pageant.

Girls who survive the preliminary screening process, in which they will be judged on appearance, talent and individual interviews, will enter the semifinals, Garcia said. Five finalists will be chosen at the program Jan. 7 and one of their number named Miss MSU in the coronation ceremony capping the show.

Miss MSU will compete in the Miss Montana Contest, which will select the state's entrant in the 1961 Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City, N. J.

Vying for the Miss MSU title are Pat Bumgarner, Belt; Marti Hasper and Judy Lito, both of Billings; Judy Dean and Jurine Landoe, both of Bozeman; Dorothy Pemberton, Broadus; Sherry Griswold, Butte; Carol Dale, Choteau; Mary Lou Collins, Columbia Falls; Mary Petterson, Columbus.

Autumn Holtz, Floweree; Diane Olson, Glasgow; Judy Carter, Glendive; Gwen Calvin, Kalispell; Ann Wolhowe, Miles City; Diane Boyer, Joanna Lester, Linda Porter, Leslie Shallenberger and Roberta Tarbox, all of Missoula; Connie Jens, Roundup; Diane Stokes, Valier.

Joyce McGuin, Anchorage, Alaska; Virginia Averill, Casa Grande, Ariz.; Karen Holst, Sand Point, Idaho; Sherry Kimball, Wallace, Idaho; Martha McBurney, Wadsworth, Ill.; Sally Cobb, Winnetka, Ill.; Kathy Joseph, Old Bend National Park, Tex.; Sherry Davis, Brigham City, Utah.

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