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Grizzly track team expected to show improvement over last year; Grizzly golf team begins workouts; Silvertip slants

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations
MISSOULA--The Grizzly track team this season should show some improvement over last year's squad, according to coach Harry Adams.

The veteran Montana track mentor cites an improved sprint crew led by griddler Pat Dodson. Others who will aid the Grizzlies in the short races are freshman Dick Ford and junior Jim Grasky, another footballer.

Last season Dodson anchored the Montana thinline in the 100 yard dash running a 9.8 in conference meets as a freshman. This season Adams feels that Shelby lad will improve his mark and has a good chance to earn points in the Conference meet.

In the distance events Grizzly captain Gary Wojtowick, who won the Skyline Conference mile run last year, returns and should, according to Adams, break the University and Conference records in that event. Last year the Harlowton junior ran a 4:18 mile.

Wojtowick also runs the two-mile event.

In the middle distances the Grizzlies will continue to be strong as several outstanding freshmen will join an already top-flight veteran crew. Last season sophomore Phil Dwight set a University record in the half mile in winning second place in the Skyline meet with a time of 1:52.6.

In the quarter mile event Tom Simpson of Twin Bridges ran a 49.8 to lead Grizzly 440 men but will be pressed by freshman Tom Kenney of Helena. Kenney won the 440 event two years running at the state high school championship meet held annually at Missoula.

Still another top 440 man is Craig DeSilva who won fourth place in the
Conference meet in 1958. DeSilva did not don the Grizzly uniform last season.

In the field events the Grizzlies will be weak with the loss of shot putter Ken Wersland by graduation. Wersland held the University record in the shot put and picked up points for the Grizzlies in both the shot and discus heave in Skyline meets last season.

The Grizzlies only returning weight man is Harley Lewis who established a frosh record in the shot put last season with a heave of 50' 7". In the javelin event Ken Nyboe of Billings will join the Silvertip thinclads although he has yet to participate in a college meet.

The Grizzlies' first meet is with Brigham Young University at Dornblaser Stadium April 15. Two week later on April 29, Utah State journeys to Missoula to meet the Tips in a dual contest.

Then Montana goes on the road to Bozeman for a dual meet with the Bobcats May 6 and a dual meet with Utah in Salt Lake May 13. The Skyline Western Division meet is slated for 20th of May at Brigham Young University. BYU will also host the Conference finals at Provo, Utah May 26-27.

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MISSOULA--Grizzly golfers have begun workouts for their first match in mid April according to Montana's link coach Ed Chinske. Chinske said that his charges may be slightly improved over last season.

However, the Grizzlies have lost three key men from last season's squad which finished fourth in the Conference. Roger Norgaard, Ted Hodges and Bill Hodges will not swing clubs for Chinske this season.

All is not gloom in the Grizzly link camp. Chinske cited the play of returning veteran Ray Maidment in fall practice as one bright spot on Montana's golf picture. Maidment last season was one of Chinske's more consistent golfers and won several matches.
Other golfers who should aid Montana's chances in Skyline competition include newcomers Russ Conklin and veterans Jim Bryngelson. Both play a steady game and have improved over the summer.

Weather, which has so often plagued Grizzly link squads, will again play an important role in Montana's golf fortunes this spring.

"We've had one of our milder winters this year, but that doesn't mean a lot of spring practice can go out the window because of late snowstorms or those spring showers." Chinske commented.

Last year the Grizzlies were host for the Skyline championships, a fact that may have weighed heavily in their vacating their traditional cellar position in conference golf standings.

"Unless we can find a man to replace Ted Hodges who won fourth place in individual competition last spring," Chinske commented, "we'll have a tough time bettering or even keeping our standing this season."

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The first new paint job since the MSU Field House was constructed will greet high school cagers when they enter the Grizzly locker rooms to dress for the State Class AA tournament in the field house March 8-11.

Among the locker room staffers will be several Grizzly cagers including Bob O'Billovich who will hand out towels. Several Montana athletes will assist in the training room, locker rooms and on the Field House floor to help make the tourney a success.

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