



**MONTANA'S ALL-TIME COACHING RESULTS 1897-2024**

	Head Coach	Alma Mater	Years	Wins	Losses	Ties	Win Pct.
1	Fred Smith	Cornell	1897	1	2	3	.417
2	Sgt. F.B. Seabright	Stanford	1898	3	2	0	.600
3	Guy Cleveland	Montana	1899	1	2	0	.333
4	Frank Bean	Wisconsin	1900-01	2	4	0	.333
5	Dewitt Peck	Iowa State	1902	0	2	0	.000
6	H.B. Conibear	Illinois	1903-04	5	7	0	.417
7	F.W. Schule	Wisconsin	1905-06	4	7	0	.364
8	Albion Findley	Wisconsin	1907	4	1	1	.750
9	Roy White	Iowa	1908-09	7	2	2	.727
10	Robert Cary	Montana	1910-11	5	3	1	.611
11	Lt. W.C. Philoon	West Point	1912	4	2	0	.667
12	A.G. Heilman	Franklin-Marshall	1913-14	8	4	1	.654
13	Jerry Nissen	Washington State	1915-17	7	7	3	.500
14	Bernie Bierman	Minnesota	1919-21	9	9	3	.500
15	J.W. Stewart	Geneva	1922-23	7	8	0	.467
16	Earl Clark	Montana	1924-25	7	8	1	.469
17	Frank Milburn	West Point	1926-30	18	22	3	.453
18	Bernard Oakes	Illinois	1931-34	8	22	1	.274
19	Doug Fessenden	Illinois	1935-41	32	25	4	.557
20	Clyde Carpenter	Montana	1942	0	8	0	.000
21	George Dahlberg	Montana	1945	1	4	0	.200
	Doug Fessenden*	Illinois	1946-48	14	15	0	.483
22	Ted Shipkey	Stanford	1949-51	12	16	0	.429
23	Ed Chinske	Montana	1952-54	8	18	1	.315
24	Jerry Williams	Washington State	1955-57	6	23	0	.207
25	Ray Jenkins	Colorado	1958-63	14	43	0	.246
26	Hugh Davidson	Colorado	1964-66	8	20	0	.286
27	Jack Swarthout	Montana	1967-75	51	41	1	.554
28	Gene Carlson	Montana	1976-79	16	25	0	.390
29	Larry Donovan	Nebraska	1980-85	25	37	1	.405
30	Don Read	Sacramento State	1986-95	85	36	0	.702
31	Mick Dennehy	Montana	1996-99	39	12	0	.765
32	Joe Glenn	South Dakota	2000-02	39	6	0	.867
33	Bobby Hauck	Montana	2003-09	80	17	0	.825
34	Robin Pflugrad	Portland State	2010-11	13	6	0	.684
35	Mick Delaney	UM-Western	2012-14	24	14	0	.632
36	Bob Stitt	Doane College	2015-17	21	14	0	.600
37	Bobby Hauck	Montana	2018-Present	58	24	0	.707
<b>Total</b>			<b>128 Years</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>.554</b>

*Editor's note: The Redbook is The University of Montana Athletic Department's handwritten history by George "Jiggs" Dahlberg dating from 1897 through the 1980 season. (All photos from Sports Information archives)*

\* Doug Fessenden left Montana to serve military duty in 1941, but returned to his job post-war in 1946. As his departure was involuntary, he is not considered to have coached at Montana on two different occasions.



**Fred Smith  
1897**

"Two years after The University of Montana opened its doors to students, the first football team was organized.

Professor Fred D. Smith, chemistry professor and former football player at Cornell University, volunteered to coach the football team. Twenty-four men turned out. No uniforms were available so many of the players used makeshift clothing."

-- *The Redbook*



**F.B. Seabright  
1898**

"Sgt. B.F. Seabright, a graduate and former player at Stanford, was a coach in 1898. He was engaged by the university as instructor in general athletics.

Students raised an initial \$110 to help pay the coach's salary.

Charles Allard kicked the first field goal in the state of Montana at the Thanksgiving game vs. the Montana State College Aggies in Missoula. Montana won 16-0." -- *The Redbook*

**Guy Cleveland  
1899**

"Prospects for a first class team were not very bright at the start of the 1899 season when Guy Cleveland took over the team. Scarce any of the old players were back and positions had to be filled with untried material."

"In the first game against the Anaconda Athletic Club, Coach Cleveland played right half-back. He made the two touchdowns and kicked goal both times to win for the varsity."

-- *The Redbook*



**Frank Bean  
1900-1901**

"Frank Bean from the University of Wisconsin was selected as coach. A game with Anaconda failed to materialize, therefore, the only game scheduled in 1900 was with Montana State College."

-- *The Redbook*

"The unsuccessful season was due to the lack of experienced players. We had no experienced quarterback." -- *Kaimin, student paper*

**Dewitt Peck  
1902**

This season saw the organization of the Northwest Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Nine Northwest colleges were represented at a meeting which was held in Spokane.



**H.B. Conibear  
1903-1904**

"Hiram Conibear coached at Illinois University before coming to UM.

The 1903 team was the first university football team to be sent out of the state to

compete in an athletic contest.

Coach Conibear will be remembered by University of Montana fans for at least one contribution, his 1904 team ran up the biggest score in football history against Montana State College, 79-0."

-- *The Redbook*



**F.W. Schule  
1905-1906**

A writeup of the 1906 season by Coach Schule in the yearbook says, "as interesting and as spectacular a game of football as the writer has seen in the far west was played on the Montana field on October 19th. Our men succeeded in holding Washington State's undefeated team to the closest score made against them this season."

-- *Montana Sentinel*



**Albion Findley  
1907**

“Coach Findley had been a member of the All-Western Conference team while attending the University of Wisconsin.

This was the first year that letter sweaters were awarded. University sweater awards were donated by Missoula Mercantile.” --*The Redbook*



**Roy White  
1908-1909**

“Roy “Cupid” White, All-Western tackle at the University of Iowa in 1905, was selected to coach the Montana team.

The 1909 team was the first Montana football team to be undefeated.” -- *The Redbook*

**Robert Cary, 1910-11**

“Montana was very successful using the forward pass in 1910.” -- *The Redbook*

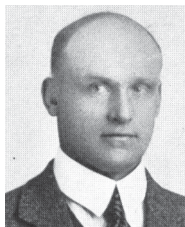
**Lt. W.C. Philoon, 1912**

Lt. Philoon was an All American player (center) at West Point.

**A.G. Heilman, 1913-14**

“This was the best team that Montana had yet produced, and Montana was undefeated and had one scoreless tie with Idaho in 1914.

Richard Howell of the Law School wrote the song: “Up With Montana” (UM’s fight song) in 1914.” --*The Redbook*



**Jerry Nissen  
1915-1917**

“The biggest game of the season and one of the biggest in Montana history came Thanksgiving Day 1915 when the powerful Syracuse University team invaded Missoula for the

first intersectional game in the state.

Coach Jerry Nissen returned from the Northwest Conference meeting at Seattle in 1916 with the news that Montana had been admitted to the conference.

Coach Nissen resigned at the end of the 1917 season to join the Army. The coach had compiled a record of 14-7-4 in three seasons.”

-- *The Redbook*



**Bernie Bierman  
1919-1921**

“Bernie Bierman, the new coach, was an All-America halfback at the University of Minnesota in 1915.

Probably no season up to this time saw more “firsts”

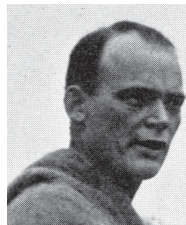
than in 1920. The Grizzlies beat the University of Washington for the only time in history. Montana’s football field was moved and named “Dornblaser Field” in honor of Paul Dornblaser, the great Grizzly tackle, who was killed in action in World War I. Finally, the Grizzlies ran up their biggest score in history, a 133-0 pasting of Mount St. Charles.” (Carroll College) -- *The Redbook*



**J.W. Stewart  
1922-1923**

“John W. Stewart, a graduate of Geneva College, Penn., was selected from a list of 50 candidates to succeed Bernie Bierman.

He was to be head coach of the football, basketball and track teams.” -- *The Redbook*



**Earl Clark  
1924-1925**

“Earl “Click” Clark became the second Montana graduate to coach a Grizzly team in 1924.

Coach Clark resigned at the end of the 1925 season to accept the position of trainer at the University of Washington. He held this position until his retirement.” -- *The Redbook*



**Frank Milburn  
1926-1930**

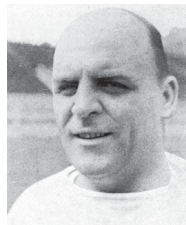
“Major Frank Milburn, a West Point graduate and winner of the Athletic Saber, emblematic of the best athlete at West Point, became head of the R.O.T.C.

and head football coach.

The 1930 season highlights were victories over Montana State College, University of Idaho and Gonzaga University.

Major “Shrimp” Milburn closed his coaching career at the University of Montana due to Army orders transferring him to another station.”

-- *The Redbook*



**Bernard Oakes  
1931-1934**

“Bernard F. “Bunny” Oakes, who had been line coach at the University of Nebraska for the past five years, became Major Milburn’s successor as head coach of football for the 1931 season.

Robert Stansberry and Henry Blastic made honorable mention All Americans.

Bernard Oakes left after the 1934 season to coach football at the University of Colorado.”

-- *The Redbook*



**Doug Fessenden  
1935-1941**

“Douglas Fessenden, Fenger High School coach in Chicago, was selected as head football coach at the university in April of 1935.

“Man of the Year” was the honor accorded Douglas Fessenden by the Kaimin in 1935 for the distinguished work done by him in raising Montana to a prominent place in Pacific Coast Conference football. Fessenden proved himself to be an able mentor and won the respect and admiration of the entire school.

The 1937 season was the most successful football season since 1914. Montana won six consecutive games in 1937 which is the first time in history Montana won as many games.

The highlight of the 1939 season was the 13-0 win over the University of Idaho, smashing the Idaho jinx and giving Montana possession of the Little Brown Stein for the first time.

The 1941 football season was a successful year as well, UM going 6-3. 1946-1948 (14-15)

Douglas Fessenden returned from the Army Air Corp in time to take over his duties as head football coach.

Montana enjoyed a successful 1947 season winning 7 games and losing 4 and defeated Washington State College and the University of Idaho on their home grounds.

Fessenden resigned in 1948 and the following year received his doctors degree in Physical Education from Columbia University. Fessenden had the best win and loss record in football of any university football coach up until that time.” -- *The Redbook*



**George Dahlberg  
1945**

“George “Jiggs” Dahlberg from the University of Montana coached football for the 1945 season.

Dr. J.E. “Burly” Miller, faculty athletic representative ruled that the University of Montana, ‘must follow pre-war Pacific Coast Conference rules.”

-- *The Redbook*



**Ted Shipkey  
1949-1951**

“Ted Shipkey began his coaching stint at the University of Montana in 1949.

The passing combination of Ray Bauer (end) and Tom Kingsford (quarterback) in 1950 was one of

the best in University history. Montana withdrew from the Pacific Coast Conference and joined the Mountain States Conference which is also known as the “Skyline” Conference.

Ted Shipkey resigned as football coach in 1951.” -- *The Redbook*



**Ed Chinske  
1952-1954**

“Edward Chinske became the next UM head football coach in 1952.

Richard (Dick) Imer was selected for All-American honors in 1953. Imer and Joe DeLuca were chosen to several All-American teams in 1954.” -- *Redbook*



**Jerry Williams  
1955-1957**

“UM’s fund-raising arm, the Century Club, got its start in 1955, the same year as Head Coach Jerry Williams arrived.

Aside from the fact that Stanley Renning was considered one of the greatest sophomores to ever appear in a Grizzly uniform, the 1956 campaign was a dismal one.

Coach Jerry Williams, who had played professional football with the Philadelphia Eagles, left UM to be an assistant coach for the Eagles.” -- *The Redbook*



**Ray Jenkins  
1958-1963**

“Ray Jenkins’ first year as football coach was a poor debut with an 0-10 record, the worst in Montana history.

The Grizzlies came up with their best passing attack in 10 season during 1959, a campaign that also marked the end of a 15-game losing streak when the Grizzlies scored a 12-0 upset over Brigham Young.

Terry Dillon was selected and played in the East-West Shrine game January 1963.

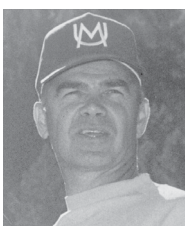
The 1963 football season was unsuccessful - winning one game and losing nine. Ray Jenkins resigned at the close of the 1963 football season.” -- *The Redbook*



**Hugh Davidson  
1964-1966**

“In 1964 Hugh Davidson become the new head coach. The Terry Dillon Award was established for the most valuable player on the football team.

Davidson resigned at the end of the 1966 football season.” -- *Redbook*



**Jack Swarthout  
1967-1975**

“Since assuming the duties of both head football coach and AD at UM in 1967, Jack Swarthout put a drive into the school’s athletic program which had

not been seen in Missoula for several years.

Montana won the Big Sky Conference championship in 1969 for the first time since conference football began in 1963.

Coach Swarthout and his staff received considerable praise for the excellent job of coaching Montana to its second consecutive undefeated regular season play in 1970. The team played in the Camillia Bowl, losing to UND 31-16. There were several Grizzlies selected to various All-American teams in 1971.

Swarthout resigned as football coach at the close of the 1975 season. Swarthout left UM as the winningest football coach in the University’s history with a nine-year record of 51 wins, 41 losses and one tie. He won two consecutive Big Sky football championships (1969 and 1970).” -- *The Redbook*



**Gene Carlson  
1976-1979**

“The 1976 football season opened with Eugene Carlson as the new head football coach. Carlson inherited the coaching staff of the preceding administration (Jack Swarthout), as well as the offensive system (Wishbone or Texas Y). However, Gene made some changes in the offense formation.”

Carlson was an alumnus of UM and was a very successful high school coach in Great Falls prior to coming to the University of Montana. A greater success was expected by those in power so Carlson resigned at the close of the 1979 season.” -- *The Redbook*



**Larry Donovan  
1980-1985**

Larry Donovan was selected to replace Gene Carlson. Donovan was a graduate of the University of Nebraska and came to Montana from the University of Kansas where he had been an assistant coach.

The 1981 season was positive, as Donovan was rebuilding the football program, and 1982 saw the Grizzlies in a first-round playoff game at Idaho along with winning the Big Sky Conference title. However, the next three seasons had more L’s than W’s, and after the 1985 season, Donovan, and most of his coaching staff, did not have their contracts renewed for the 1986 season.



**Don Read  
1986-1995**

Don Read is Montana’s all-time winningest coach. He came to Montana from Portland State in 1986.

Read never had a losing season as head mentor to the Grizzlies. In Montana’s 96-year football

history. Also during his 10-year tenure, he was 10-0 against the MSU Bobcats. The Grizzlies advanced to the playoffs five out of the 10 years he coached, winning the Division 1-AA (FCS) national championship in 1995. He was also selected the Division I-AA Coach of the Year in 1995 and coached Dave Dickenson, the 1995 Walter Payton Award winner.

During his tenure, the Griz had an overall record of 85-36, and his 85 overall wins at UM and 54 Big Sky victories rank him second in conference history.



**Mick Dennehy  
1996-1999**

Mick Dennehy was promoted to head coach in 1996 after serving as Read’s offensive coordinator. He led the Grizzlies to the National Championship in his

first season, falling to a Marshall team led by Randy Moss to finish the season at 14-1.

Dennehy left Montana in 1999 to accept the head coach position at Utah State. In his four seasons in Missoula, he led the Griz to the playoffs four-straight years and won three Big Sky Championships. He left UM with a 39-12 overall record and a 27-5 Big Sky record.



**Joe Glenn  
2000-2002**

Joe Glenn came to Montana after a very long, successful 11-year career at Northern Colorado where the Bears won back-to-back NCAA Division II national football championships in 1996 and 1997.

In Joe’s first year as head coach at Montana, he won the Eddie Robinson Award, given annually to the I-AA (FCS) coach of the year. He was also the Big Sky Conference’s coach of the year. That year he took the 13-1 Griz to the Division I-AA national championship game, where the Griz lost to Georgia Southern, 27-25.

Glenn repeated the trip to the title game in 2001, this time winning the championship, beating Furman 13-6. The Griz were once again conference champs for the second year in a row. The Griz were co-conference champs in 2002.

Glenn was hired as Wyoming’s 30th head football coach Dec. 12, 2002 and moved on to coach at South Dakota after his time in Laramie.



**Bobby Hauck  
2003-2009**

Bobby Hauck became Montana’s 33rd head football coach in Jan. of 2003. He came to UM from the University of Washington where he was assistant coach. Hauck graduated from UM.



Hauck had a successful head coaching career at Montana, taking his teams to the playoffs all seven of his years here, appearing in national championship games in 2004 and 2008, and the semifinals in 2006.

He had 80 wins at UM. Hauck was selected the Big Sky Conference Coach of the Year in 2006, 2007 and 2009. He was a finalist for the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award in 2009. He had nine players selected to the all-conference first team in 2009, and Montana led the conference in rushing offense, scoring offense, total defense and scoring defense that season.

Along with his head coaching duties, Hauck also coached special teams. He was the AFCA Regional Coach of the Year in 2009. Hauck took over the head coaching position at UNLV in December of 2009.



**Robin Pflugrad  
2010-11**

Robin Pflugrad came to Montana from Oregon. Pflugrad was a mentor in the prestigious PAC-10 Conference for 13 seasons with stints at Oregon, Washington State and Arizona State. Pflugrad had a two-year overall record of 13-6 as head coach at Montana.

Pflugrad also coached at Montana from 1986-94, working quarterbacks, wide receivers and running backs during his first stint at UM.

He was one of 20 finalists for the Eddie Robinson Award, given to the FCS's top mentor.

**Mick Delaney**

**2012-2014**



Mick Delaney was 24-14 in his three seasons as the head coach at UM. His 2014 record was 9-5, and the Griz advanced to the second round of the FCS playoffs. Mick retired after the 2014 season.

His 24 wins were the seventh most in school history. He was the 35th head coach (since 1897) at Montana.

He completed his seventh season overall at Montana. From 2008-11 he was UM's associate head coach and oversaw the running backs. He was named a finalist for the Liberty Mutual FCS Coach of the Year in 2013.



**Bob Stitt  
2015-2017**

Bob Stitt came to Montana in 2015 after a successful tenure at Colorado School of Mines. He led the Griz to a 21-14 overall record in three years as head coach, but went just 14-10 in the Big Sky and

6-10 on the road in that time.

He led Montana to the 23rd NCAA FCS Playoff appearance in school history in his inaugural season with an 8-5 record, and finished tied for second in the Big Sky. In his first game at the helm he led Montana to one of the biggest regular-season wins in program history, upsetting No. 1 ranked North Dakota State 38-35 in front of a stadium-record 26,472 fans on ESPN.

The Grizzlies failed to make the playoffs during Stitt's final two seasons at Montana with a 6-5 record in 2016 and a 7-4 record in 2017. His contract was not renewed following the 2017 year.



**Bobby Hauck  
2018-Present**

Bobby Hauck returned to Montana as the 37th head coach in program history on Nov. 30, 2017.

He returned to his alma mater after coaching UNLV for five years (2010-14) and spending three years serving as the associate head coach and special teams coordinator at San Diego State under legendary coach Rocky Long.

In two terms coaching Montana, he's been one of the most consistent winners in the game. He is the winningest coach in Montana and Big Sky Conference history. He's also one of the winningest active coaches in all of D-I football.

In 2018 he surpassed the great Don Read in a victory at Idaho with his 86th win to set a program record.

In 2023 he set the conference's overall win record, surpassing former NAU head coach (and longtime Montana assistant) Jerome Souers' career total of 123 in a victory over Sacramento State. A game ball and his sideline gear from that win are now enshrined at the College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta.

He is also the winningest active coach in the history of the FCS Playoff Tournament and is the third-winningest overall coach in tournament history behind legendary coaches Jim Tressel (Youngstown St.) and Jerry Moore (Appalachian St.).

Respected by his peers, Hauck has served as the president of the American Football Coaches Association, the chairman of the AFCA Ethics Committee, and the FCS Executive Council. He's also served as the AFCA vice-president and served on the AFCA Board of Trustees. He was the 23rd FCS head coach in AFCA history to serve as president, and the first from the University of Montana.



**BIG SKY  
COACHES OF THE YEAR**

Year	Coach
1969	Jack Swarhout
1970	Jack Swarhout
1989	Don Read
1993	Don Read
1995	Don Read
1996	Mick Dennehy
2000	Joe Glenn
2001	Joe Glenn
2002	Joe Glenn
2006	Bobby Hauck
2007	Bobby Hauck
2009	Bobby Hauck
2023	Bobby Hauck

**D1-AA/FCS  
NATIONAL AWARDS**

**EDDIE ROBINSON AWARD**

(FCS Coach of the Year)

1995	Don Read! <sup>^</sup>
2000	Joe Glenn!
2009	Bobby Hauck*
2011	Robin Pflugrad*
2023	Bobby Hauck*

**!Award Winner**

<sup>^</sup>D1-AA Coach of the Year

\*Finalist

**AFCA FCS REGIONAL  
COACH OF THE YEAR**

2006	Bobby Hauck
2009	Bobby Hauck
2023	Bobby Hauck

**LIBERTY MUTUAL FCS  
COACH OF THE YEAR**

2013	Mick Delaney*
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\*Finalist