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Grizzlies' Ed Steiner humble; says trophy not his alone

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MISSOULA---

Ed Steiner was just as happy as anyone else Saturday when the University of Montana came from 14 points behind to defeat the University of North Dakota, 9-14 in Grand Forks.

Steiner, playing his first game at quarterback for the Grizzlies since the 1965 season, directed the Bruin attack for the entire game, picking up 31 yards on the ground and passing for 78 more, including two touchdowns.

Following the game, Steiner was named the Most Valuable Player of the second annual Potato Bowl for his offensive work.

How did he feel? Very humble indeed.

"Sure, I was happy to receive the award," Steiner said. "But I would like to have split the trophy 40 ways, because every one of the guys who went to Grand Forks, whether they played or not, was instrumental in the win."

Steiner sat out the entire 1966 season following an operation, but he thought the layoff did him some good. Before this season started, and especially during spring drills, Steiner established himself as number one quarterback, and his performances in practice and against North Dakota indicate he doesn't intend to relinquish the position.

As a sophomore, Steiner was fifth in rushing (64 carries, 123 yards); first in passing (42 for 97, 585 yards and four TD's); second in total offense with 708 yards, and second in scoring with 18 points.

"I feel older and wiser this year," Steiner said before fall practice began.

He looked wiser, but not necessarily older, in Saturday's victory over North Dakota.