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10-12-60
FROM: BOB GILLULY
SPORTS NEWS EDITOR
MONTANA UNIVERSITY

MISSOULA, MONTANA--Flushed with the type of gridiron success that hasn't been seen on the Missoula campus in the past decade, Montana's Grizzlies this Saturday face Brigham Young University in Missoula. And coach Ray Jenkins is earnestly warning his charges to guard against a letdown.

"We've got a good string going, and I think we're capable of beating the Cougars. But we still must play football like we've played in our past two games to defeat the Brigs," the coach said early this week.

The Silvertips at this point have a 3-2 record for the season--the first time Montana has been on the plus side of the ledger at midseason since the 1950 campaign. Montana's 26-12 win over Denver last Saturday in the mile-high city raised some eyebrows in Skyline circles, but Jenkins confessed no surprise at the ease with which his Grizzlies moved the ball against the Pioneers.

"I've said all along that our running and defensive games are 100 percent improved, and the men proved this against Denver. We still made some mistakes, and our second line didn't perform up to expectations. We hope to correct this before the BYU game."

Building up a second unit--a season-long problem--still plagues the Grizzlies. As long as Jenkins' first team is in the game, the Grizzlies have had few problems. But Montana's "red" team--particularly the line--has not proven itself capable of playing good defensive ball. This forces Jenkins to use his first unit almost exclusively.

Other than this, the Silvertips earned nothing but praise from Jenkins after their Denver performance. A full measure of appreciation went to the Silvertip defensive backfield of Dick Miller, Rich Birgenheier, Ron Werba and Bob O'Billovich for successfully stopping the long passing efforts of Denver. With the exception of one long-gainer late in the game, Montana's defenders limited DU quarterback Ramiro Escandon to short completions all afternoon. And one Grizzly defender, center Jim Johnson, completely