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Football vault takes readers through UM's gridiron history

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NEWS RELEASE

Oct. 2, 2009

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FOOTBALL VAULT® TAKES READERS THROUGH UM'S GRIDIRON HISTORY

MISSOULA—

Today, The University of Montana boasts an elite college football program and is this millennium's winningest Division I program in the country.

The road to the top was a difficult one, paved with pitfalls and detours, and after a humble and often disappointing beginning, the program has endured and prospered.

Mick Holien, the longtime voice of the Grizzlies, recalls that long journey to the top in "The University of Montana Football Vault®: The History of the Grizzlies," taking readers from the first step – and the first victory over archrival Montana State in 1897 – to today, when the Grizzlies regularly contend for the national championship.

This history follows the road from Teddy the bear doing a cakewalk on the sidelines in 1904 and Will Bill Kelly, the Hall of Fame quarterback, to Jack Swarouth's two Camellia Bowl teams, Don Read and the magical year of '95, and the current reign under head football coach Bobby Hauck.

"Let all those who are hardcore Grizzlies be proud," writes Read in the book's foreword, "for these pages ... tell a fascinating story of the development of football at The University of Montana. This book is a factual account of an institutional family that forged its way to a unique place in history."

While looking at the rarely seen photographs, readers can explore the Vault's dozens of pockets to get their hands on memorabilia such as a 1914 Montana football card, a 1937 San Francisco game ticket, a 1970 Camellia Bowl letter from California Gov. Ronald Reagan, a 1984 Mirage Bowl poster, a 1995 championship game ticket, a 2000 poster and a 2008 championship game ticket.

"The University of Montana Football Vault®" is part of the College Vault Books series from Whitman Publishing of Atlanta. The 144-page hardcover 12-by-10-inch book with slipcase goes on sale for \$49.95 at bookstores throughout Montana the week of Oct. 4 and can be ordered online at <http://www.CollegeVaultBooks.com>.

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