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1972 BOBCAT--GRIZZLY GAME
MAY BE ONE OF THE SERIES' BEST

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MISSOULA.....

The emotion packed Bobcat-Grizzly football rivalry has an added attraction in 1972, a possible Big Sky Conference Championship may ride on the outcome of the game, and as a result this Saturday's game may emerge as one of the finest ever played in the 75 year series.

The game is well known for its ferocious and inspired play, and this year's game will pit two hard hitting defensive units against ground-oriented offensive attacks.

Both teams have young defensive units that have come into their own of late, the Bobcat defense has been allowing only nine points per game in its last five outings and the Grizzly defense has been coming up with big plays and crushing tackling ever since two lopsided losses to start the season. The Bobcats start four seniors on defense, the Grizzlies five.

The pass has been used mostly on a diversionary basis by both teams in 1972. The 3-5 Grizzlies have put the ball in the air an average of 11 times per game, while averaging 56 rushing plays per game. The 5-3 Bobcats are averaging about 60 rush plays per outing and they go to the air about 15 times each contest.

When the two teams have gone to the air they have not been very successful percentage-wise. UM connects on 34% of its passes and MSU on 39%, but the Bobcats have capitalized with ten TD tosses, as compared to the Grizzlies' total of three touchdown aerials.

With the rush being the bread-and-butter play for both squads it seems likely that Saturday's game will be won in the trenches. The line play will be the decisive factor.

The Grizzlies have been averaging 234 rushing yards per game with an offensive line that averages 235 pounds per man. The Bobcat's counter with a front four that tips the scales with an average weight of 224 pounds, but the Bobcat tackles weigh in at 236 and 246 pounds respectively.

The Montana defense averages 230 pounds per individual and the Cat offensive line average is 229 pounds per man. The Cats are averaging 246 yards per game on the ground.

If the combatants physical measurements and the hard-hitting reputations of the two teams are any indication of what type of football game is in store this weekend, the 72nd meeting of the University of Montana Grizzlies and the Montana State Bobcats may indeed