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University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Zachary remains undefeated" (1971).
University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present. 24730.
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ZACHARY REMAINS UNDEFEATED

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One of the two defending Big Sky ski champions from the University of Montana remains undefeated in downhill competition.

In 1970 Tom Zachary and Gary Keltz won Big Sky ski titles and Zachary was undefeated in downhill competition. This season Zachary remains undefeated in his specialty going into the Big Sky championships at Snow Basin near Ogden next week (Feb. 18-20).

Zachary is only a sophomore at the University of Montana and won the 1970 Big Sky downhill championship. Keltz won the conference cross country event.

The McCall, Ida., performer was far ahead of Weber's Doran Flock in last year's conference downhill. Zachary screamed down the Snow Bowl course in 115.0. Flock's second place time was 119.3.

Zachary also competed in the NCAA finals at Cannon Mountain, New Hampshire, last year. He finished tenth in the alpine combined for the nation scoring 12th in the slalom and 14th in the giant slalom.

Zachary's latest feat was an impressive downhill win at the University of Montana Invitational at Snow Bowl last weekend. The Montana skier cruised down the course in 105.5 far ahead of Idaho's Dave Kirk. Kirk's time was 108.9

Montana coach Rusty Lyons said Zachary could be the best skier to hit Montana. "He has fantastic desire, strength and quickness," Lyons said.

Zachary takes chances and has a lot of confidence in his skiing, the Montana coach said. "We're working on perfecting his technique."

Lyons said the unusual thing about Zachary is that he had a good freshman year and came back for an even better sophomore season. "Athletes have a tendency to drop-off as sophomores after a good freshman year," Lyons said.

Montana is the defending Big Sky champion team also and favored to retain that title at Ogden.