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sports

GRIZZLIES TREATING
RAINBOW BLUES

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MISSOULA--

The University of Montana Grizzlies have a few days of sunshine, balmy breezes and salt water to get over the Rainbow Blues -- a result of the physical 25-11 beating at the hands of the University of Hawaii in Honolulu Saturday.

The Rainbows threw up a rugged defensive wall that the visitors from Missoula found virtually impenetrable either through the middle or around the end. The Grizzlies, now 6-4, will stay in Hawaii and lick their wounds until Friday when they travel to Portland State for a 9 p.m. MST battle -- the final one of the season.

Saturday was a day of sub-par performances by the Silvertips in every category but one -- pass completions. The quarterback team of Gary Berding and Jay Baumberger winged the ball an unprecedented 22 times and Berding connected on eight of them, a season high. Unfortunately, Montana gained only 67 yards in the air and scored no touchdowns by that route. UM also had four passes intercepted.

Former Grizzly Elroy Chong started at quarterback for Hawaii and put on a good passing performance. He opened up the Rainbow scoring with a 29 yard TD pass to tailback Larry Sherrer who also scored Hawaii's other two touchdowns and was the game's leading ground gainer. Hawaii gained 111 yards in the air and 179 on the ground.

Montana's only touchdown and best running performance came from reserve halfback Jim Schillinger, who replaced Casey Reilly in the lineup. The 6-2, 190 lb. senior from Vida rushed for 30 yards in six carries and plunged over the end line from two yards out in the fourth quarter for his first TD of the season. He then ran over the two-point conversion. UM's other score came on a 45-yard field goal by Bob Turnquist -- his longest as a Grizzly and second longest in his career. He had a 47-yarder at Billings West High.

Hawaii remains unbeaten this year on its home turf, but that streak will be tested mightily over the next several weeks. The Rainbows finish at home, in order, against California State at Long Beach, the University of New Mexico and the University of Nebraska.