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DORNBLASER STADIUM HAS HISTORY OF KELLY'S;
WILD BILL IN 1925, JIM IN 1967

MISSOULA--

In 1925, when Wild Bill Kelly was in his second season as University of Montana quarterback, the west bleachers were erected at Dornblaser Stadium.

On October 28, 1967, Dornblaser Stadium will see its last football game, and the first Kelly since Wild Bill is playing for the Grizzlies. This one is end Jim Kelly of Seattle, a standout in his own right.

Wild Bill is generally considered to be the best football player ever to play at the University. As a freshman, he scored 193 points, and is often given credit for being the main reason the University was admitted into the Pacific Coast Conference in 1924.

As a varsity performer, Kelly tallied 31 touchdowns, including at least one against every PCC team Montana met. He was also a standout performer in basketball and baseball, and once boxed an exhibition match against heavyweight contender Tommy Gibbons.

He played in the first East-West Shrine game in 1926 and tossed the game-winning touchdown pass to Montana teammate Russ Sweet. He played professional football with Brooklyn, but died of a heart attack in 1931 while watching a college football game in New York City.

Jim Kelly is currently a junior at the University, playing at tight end as an offensive starter. As a lineman, Jim doesn't get the opportunity to stand out like the backs do, but coaches at UM will tell anyone that Kelly is an outstanding blocker and a good receiver when necessary (he grabbed a 32-yard aerial one-handed against Idaho State last week).

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Jim moved to tight end, where he originally was stationed during spring ball, when regular Gib Brumback was injured against South Dakota. Kelly had been playing at quick tackle, and doing a great job. He's the kind of player that will do the job wherever he plays.

As for Dornblaser, it has seen its better days since being built in 1920.

When Wild Bill played his freshman year at the University in 1923, only the east bleachers stood at Dornblaser Field, so dedicated in 1920 and named after a former Grizzly tackle (Paul Dornblaser, 1910-13) who had been killed in the First World War.

The west bleachers were added in 1925, and renovated during the 1950s. The east stands were burned in 1965 to make room for the road which now runs behind the main campus. A new library will eventually be built on the site of Dornblaser Field.

A new stadium is being constructed several blocks southwest of the main campus near the University golf course.

What will its name be?

Apparently it will also be called Dornblaser Stadium, but some people have argued against this title. They say Dornblaser Stadium is next to Mt. Sentinel, and could never be anywhere else.

Others have said the same thing, adding that there have been other University notables worthy of having a stadium named after them. Names mentioned have included Terry Dillon, Ed Chinske and Paul Weskamp, just to name a few.

Whatever the name of the new stadium, it is certain that Dornblaser Stadium will never be forgotten as the birthplace of "new look" Grizzly football.