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UM CAGER
RECOVERING FROM
FREAK ACCIDENT
Brunell/rv
1/16/70
Sports one

um sports

MISSOULA---



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by Don Brunell
UM Sports Publicist

Last January Mike Judd thought only of saving his left arm after a freak summer accident. However in the back of his mind he had thoughts of returning to the basketball court to continue his cage career.

Judd was working for a Butte firm on a summer construction project when one day his arm became trapped and crushed in a hydrolic press. The press engulfed his arm cutting tendons, severing nerves, tearing muscles and smashing bones.

His case was referred to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., where doctors performed surgery twice on the mutilated limb. One operation involved removing a segment of hip bone and grafting it to the upper arm. The other operation was to insert 12 screws throughout the lower arm region to hold the arm together. However, the surgeries left Judd without some muscle tissue in his lower arm and nerves severed throughout the limb.

Today Mike Judd has 75 percent use of his left arm and is continuing his basketball career at the University of Montana. His determination and love of the game have earned him a place on the Grizzly varsity, however, Judd might redshirt this season to strengthen his arm for the next two years. He is a junior in eligibility.

Judd is a product of Butte Central High School where he earned All-State honors in basketball his junior and senior years and in football his last year for the Maroons. He averaged 22 points per game under Coach Otto Simons and was selected to the 1966 All-Big 32 Tourney Team.

He then enrolled at Palomar Junior College in San Marcos, Calif. and played two years for former Grizzly cager Joe Brennan. At the California school Judd averaged 23 points per game.

Judd is a liberal arts major at Montana. His older brother Steve graduated from the University in 1967 as the Outstanding Foreign Language student at UM. One of his younger brothers, Marty was the starting freshman quarterback on the Utah State University frosh team last fall. Judd is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Judd, Butte.

Montana coach Bob Cope said, "Mike's determination and love for basketball has helped him make a remarkable recovery following a tragic accident. Guys who love the game as much as Mike does are hard to find--- he is a fine young man."

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