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Game Day Kaimin, August 31, 2013

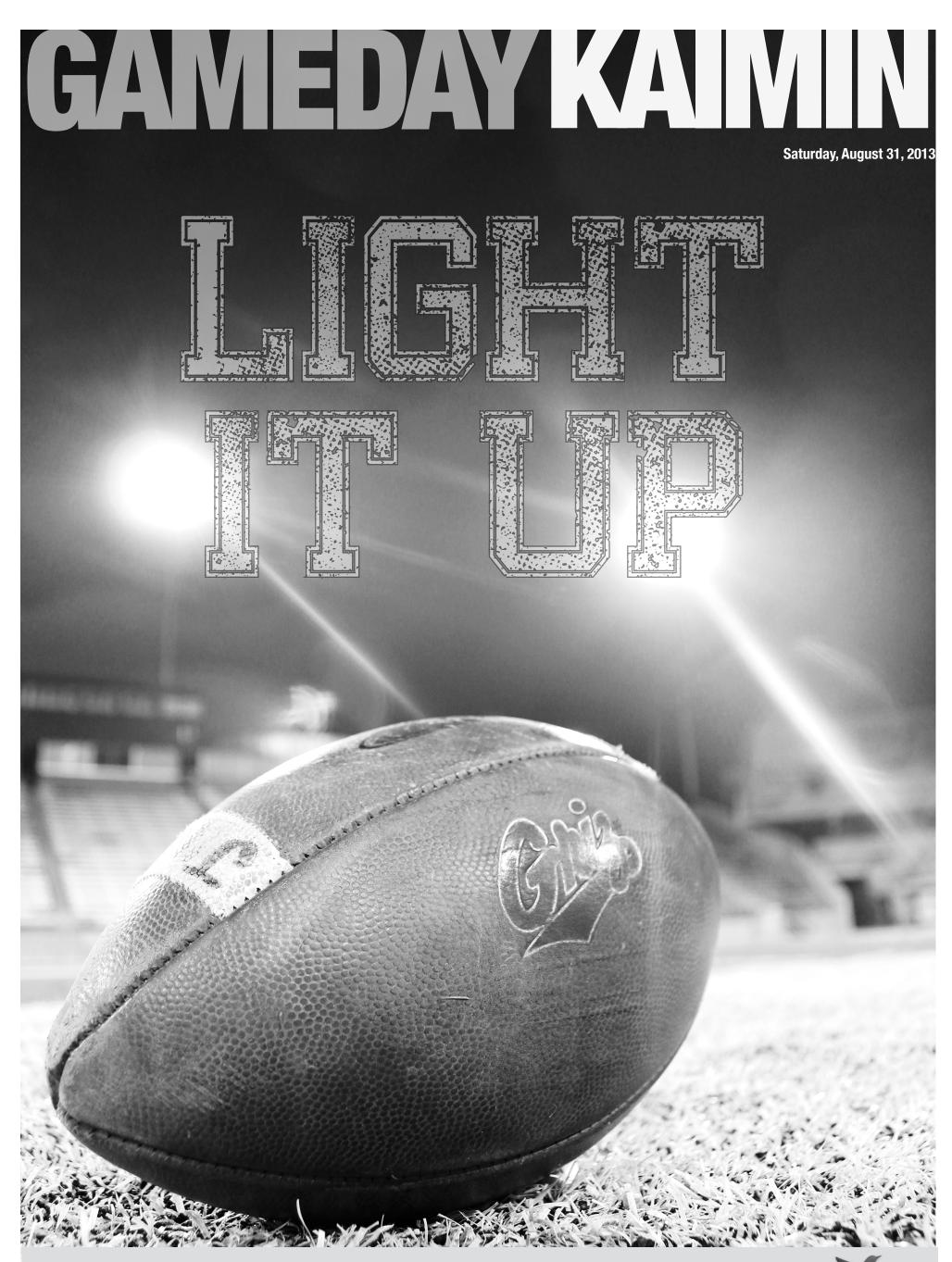
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Montana Kaimin GAMEDAY Saturday, August 31, 2013



Montana's Peter Nguyen, Brock Coyle and Jordan Tripp reflect moments after Eastern Washington's 32-26 victory over Montana on Sept. 29.



Griz football opens season with new mindset to move forward

Austin Schempp Montana Kaimin

The day is hot and yesterday's smoke from surrounding forest fires, which sat thick in the valley air, is gone long enough to provide relief for practice. Players with jerseys soaked in sweat line up as wide as the practice field, facing their four new captains to begin pre-practice drills.

That's when the taunts start. "Man, what did you do with all that weight?" shouts one player to last year's running back and kick returner Peter Nguyen. "You skinny, Peter," teases an-

other. Then, head coach Mick Del-

aney chimes in. Except the 72-year-old coach, wearing shorts and sporting a visor, doesn't heckle Nguyen. He invites him over the small chain link fence to lead Montana in a pre-practice chant.

In unison, players shout the four same letters. "G!" "R!" "I!" "Z!" Then faster. G,R,I,Z. The last z fades trails off into the afternoon, as sweat-covered jersevs join together in a huddle.

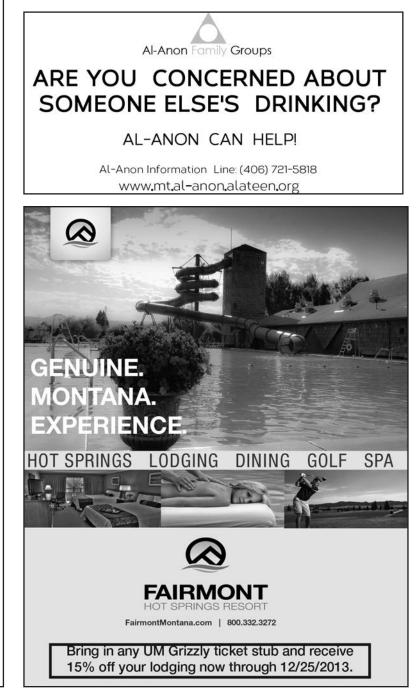
Meanwhile, Nguyen, there to watch his younger brother John, retreats back over the fence. His time is over. Last season — the first losing season for the University of Montana football program in over 25 years — is history.

DEFEAT

Eight minutes, 26 seconds remained on the clock when redshirt freshman Chris Lider connected on a 25-yard field goal at Eastern Washington University's Roos Field to boost Montana to a 26-17 lead.

Maroon-clad Grizzly fans, who made the three-hour trek

See UNITED, page 7



GRIZZLY GRUDGE M Montana aims for perfect home record against App State

Austin Schempp Montana Kaimin

It's the last time and it's in the last best place. The showdown under the lights. East versus West.

The fourth and possibly final installment of the heated rivalry between two of the Football Championship Subdivision's most storied football programs Appalachian State and Montana — takes place Saturday night at the same place it started 13 years ago, Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

Players and coaches from both teams are chomping at the bit to meet again after last season's battle in Boone, N.C., where Appalachian State won for the first time against Montana 35-27.

"This is probably as an exciting of an opening game as anybody that's involved with FCS football could ask for," said Montana second-year head coach Mick Delaney.

Appalachian State defensive end Ronald Blair said last year's matchup lived up to expectations.

"Last year, it was just a shock and a wake up call to see how big the rivalry was even though you only play each other every now and then," Blair said, who finished last year's contest with six tackles. "It's still a heated rivalry and it gains heat every time."

With Appalachian State's decision to move to college football's highest national division next season, the Football Bowl Subdivision, a future meeting seems unlikely at best.

But before the rivalry is concluded, both teams have unfinished business. For Appalachian State, the goal is to do what they haven't done before: win in Missoula

And for Montana, nothing

FREE EVENT!



Montana quarterback Trent McKinney (11) searches for room to run as App State's Demetrius McCray (10) looks on.

would be sweeter than to get revenge for last year's loss.

Senior and preseason All-American candidate Jamal Londry-Jackson leads an explosive spread offense for the Mountaineers, equipped with several



weapons to throw to. In last year's contest, Londry-Jackson threw for 260 yards and two touchdowns, while also utilizing his speed for 68 yards

rushing. "We know that they have weapons," said Montana senior linebacker Brock Coyle after an August practice. "We just have to match their intensity."

Appalachian State and new head coach Scott Satterfield will travel to Missoula missing one line will have their hands full up weapon, senior wide receiver Sean Price, who will serve a suspension of an undetermined length after police arrested him Aug. 18 for being disruptive while intoxicated. Price torched the Griz secondary in last season's opener, recording eight catches for 103 yards and a touchdown.

dry-Jackson said he is confident in the team's other wide receivers, especially senior Tony Washington and sophomore Andrew Peacock.

GAMEDAY 3

"(They're) guys that can go up and get it and turn a 5-yard route into a 50-yard run," Londry-Jackson said. "Definitely, I think I have one of the best receiving corps in the nation if not the best."

The Mountaineers offensive front as the Grizzlies return all but one of their starting defensive front seven.

Redshirt junior defensive end Zack Wagenmann returns after a breakout sophomore season where he finished second in the nation with 11.5 sacks.

Behind him, senior linebackers Jordan Tripp and Brock Coyle See GRUDGE, page 7

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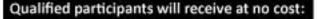
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Montana Medical Research is currently seeking volunteers for participation in a research study of an investigational medication to see if it can help control asthma symptoms. If you are a non-smoker and have a diagnosis of asthma you may qualify for participation.



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1 Anthony Goodwin, Cornerback, Murrieta, Calif. 2 Taylor Walcott, Wide Receiver/Returner, Eugene, Ore. 2 Treshawn Favors, Running Back, Glendale, Ariz. 2 Ryan McKinley, Defensive Back, Anthem, Ariz. 3 Brady Gustafson, Quarterback/Holder, Billings, Mont. 4 Chris Parker, Defensive Back, Sioux Falls, S.D. 5 Chase Naccarato, Wide Receiver/ Returns, Spokane, Wash. 6 Jamaal Jones, Wide Receiver, Spanaway, Wash. 7 Ellis Henderson, Wide Receiver/Returner, Portland, Ore. 8 Travon Van, Running Back/ Returner, San Diego, Calif. 9 Addison Owen, Linebacker, Vancouver, Wash. 10 Jordan Johnson, Quarterback, Eugene, Ore. 11 Trent McKinney, Quarterback, Miliani, Hawaii 11 Nate Harris, Cornerback, Chino, Calif. 12 Matt Hermanson, Free Safety, Sioux Falls, S.D. 13 Zach Gratton, Strong Safety, Billings, Mont. 13 Josh Janssen, Wide Receiver, Missoula, Mont. 14 Joshua Dennard, Cornerback, Phoenix, Ariz. 16 Marq Roogers, Wide Reciever, Fort Wayne, Ind. 17 Makena Simis, WR, Boise, Idaho 18 JR Nelson, Cornerback/Returner, Hacienda Heights, Calif. 19 Shay Smithwick-Hann, Quarterback, Kalispell, Mont. 20 Herbert Gamboa, Strong Safety, San Clemente, Calif. 21 Joey Counts, Running Back/ Fullback, Mesa, Ariz. 24 Cam Warren, Wide Receiver/Holder, Bellevue, Wash. 24 Steven Rominger, Safety, Missoula, Mont. 25 Marlon Miles, Running Back, Portland, Ore. 26 Jordan Canada, Running Back, West Covina, Calif. 27 Nico Graham, Wide Receiver, Missoula, Mont. 28 Jamaal Anderson, Cornerback/Returner, Fontana, Calif. 29 Connor Strahm, Linebacker, Eugene, Ore. 30 Bo Tully, Strong Safety, Spokane, Wash. 31 Justin Whitted, Free Safety, Los Angeles, Calif. 32 Zach Vis, Wide Receiver, Lynden, Wash. 33 Connor Lebsock, Linebacker, Billings, Mont. 34 Jamal Wilson, Fullback, Fontana, Calif. 35 Kendrick Van Ackeren, Linebacker, Bellevue, Wash. 36 Gavin Hagfors, Fullback, Great Falls, Mont. 37 Jordan Tripp, Linebacker/Deep Snaps, Missoula, Mont. 38 John Nguyen, Running Back, Seattle, Wash. 39 Jake Dallaserra, Safety, Butte Mont, 40 Cooper Sprunk, Tight End, Portland, Ore. 41 Mick Delaney, Safety/Wide Receiver, Bozeman, Mont. 42 Kelsey Lippert, Linebacker, Fort Benton, Mont. 43 Nate Bradley, Noseguard, Billings, Mont. 44 Caleb Kidder, Defensive Tackle, Helena, Mont. 45 Jeremiah Kose, Linebacker, Oceanside, Calif. 46 Clay Pierson, Tight End, Twin Bridges, Mont. 47 Derek Crittenden, Defensive End, Whitefish, Mont. 48 Jonathan Richards, Tight End, Butte, Mont. 49 Jordan Harper, Tight End, Great Falls, Mont. 50 Aaron Held, Snaps, Sacramento, Calif 51 Tucker Schye, Linebacker, Malta, Mont. 52 John Kanongata'a, Linebacker, Bellevue, Wash. 54 Trevor Rehm, Defensive Tackle, Dillon, Mont. 56 Brock Coyle, Linebacker, Bozeman, Mont. 58 Zack Wagenmann, Defensive End, Missoula, Mont. 65 Jordan Hines, Offensive Guard, Phoenix, Ariz. 66 Logan Hines, Center, Phoenix, Ariz. 68 McCauley Todd, Offensive Guard, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 69 Kjelby Oiland, Center/Snaps, Spokane, Wash. 70 Ben Weyer, Offensive Guard, Bozeman, Mont. 71 Devon Dietrich, Offensive Line, Woodinville, Wash. 72 Trevor Poole, Offensive Guard, Spokane, Wash. 73 Samson Kaleikini, Offensive Guard, Kapolei, Hawaii 74 John Schmaing, Offensive Tackle, Billings, Mont. 75 William Poehls, Guard, Chandler, Ariz. 76 Danny Kistler Jr., Offensive Tackle, Seattle, Wash. 78 Clint LaRowe, Offensive Tackle, Miles City, Mont. 79 Max Kelly, Offensive Tackle, Spokane, Wash. 80 Sean Haynes, Wide Receiver, Los Angeles, Calif. 81 Mitch Saylor, Wide Receiver, Vancouver, Wash. 82 Noah Scarver, Tight End, Minneapolis, Minn. 83 Ryan Burke, Wide Receiver, Billings, Mont. 84 Kevin Berland, Wide Receiver, Missoula, Mont. 85 Spencer Hale, Wide Receiver, Missoula, Mont. 86 Austin Carver, Wide Receiver, Dillon, Mont. 87 Chris Lider, Kicker, Bellevue, Wash 88 Stephen Shaw, Punter, Fullerton, Calif 89 Aschan Richards, Tight End, Butte, Mont. 90 Bo Harris, Defensive Tackle, Fairfield, Mont. 91 Tyrone Holmes, Defensive End, Eagle Point, Ore. 92 Alex Bienemann, Defensive Tackle, Denver, Colo. 93 Zach Peevey, Defensive End, Missoula, Mont. 94 Ben Worst, Kicker/Punter, Twin Falls, Idaho 95 Tonga Takai, Defensive Tackle/Snaps, Honolulu, Hawaii 97 Ryan Johnson, Defensive End, Vancouver, Wash. 98 Mike Ralston, Tight End, Eugene, Ore. 99 Jesse Ginn, Defensive Tackle, Missoula, Mont.

LB JORDAN TRIPP

Donning the tradition of the No. 37 jersey, Tripp enters his senior season as an All-America and Buck Buchanan Award candidate. A junior in 2012, Tripp finished the season with 95 tackles and a team-high 13.5 tackles-for-loss. Tripp was also chosen as the Big Sky Conference's Preseason Defensive Most Valuable Player.

Tommy Martino/Montana Kaimin

<u> QB JORDAN JOHNSON</u>

An All-America and Walter Payton Award watch candidate, Johnson will hit the field for the first time since 2011. During his sophomore campaign, he led the Grizzlies with 2400 passing yards and also showcased his scrambling ability. Last season Johnson did not play against Appalachian State as he sat out the season due to legal issues.

Sally Finneran/Montana Kaimin

QB JAMAL LONDRY-JACKSON

The 6-foot-3-inch senior from Atlanta, Ga., is a Walter Payton Award watch candidate and dual-threat quarterback for the Mountaineers. Londry-Jackson showcased his speed and accuracy in last season's 35-27 win over Montana by throwing for 260 yards and no interceptions, while also boosting App State's ground game rushing for 65 yards. He finished seventh in the nation in passing yards.

2 Deuce Robinson, Defensive Lineman, Blythewood, S.C. 3 Alex Gray, Defensive Back, Suwanee, Ga. 4 Kalik Barnes, Quarterback, Atlanta, Ga. 4 Rodger Walker, Defensive Back, Thomasville, Ga. 5 Kameron Bryant, Quarterback, Cary, N.C. 5 George Vinson, Inside Linebacker, Damascus, Md. 6 Kennan Gilchrist, Outside Linebacker, Abbeville, S.C. 7 Malachi Jones, Wide Receiver, Roswell, Ga. 8 Greg Milhouse, Defensive Lineman, Garner, N.C. 9 Drew Stewart, Place Kicker, Gastonia, N.C. 9 Tacoi Sumler, Wide Receiver, Miami, Fla. 10 Sean Price, Wide Receiver, Reston, Va. 11 Andrew Peacock, Wide Receiver, Durham, N.C. 12 Jamal Londry-Jackson, Quarterback, Atlanta, Ga. 13 Kevin Walton, Defensive Back, Greensboro, N.C. 14 Marcus Cox, Runningback, Dacula, Ga. 15 Tony Washington, Wide Receiver, High Point, N.C. 16 Tyrell Brown, Defensive Back, Hampton, Ga. 16 Logan Halllock, Quarterback, Ferguson, N.C. 17 Taylor Lamb, Quarterback, Calhoun, Ga. 17 Chris Shafffer, Outside Linebacker, Charlotte, N.C. 18 Brandon Pinckney, Defensive Back, Spartanburg, S.C 18 Kevin Saxton, Quarterback, Monroe, N.C. 19 Treyon Garnett, Defensive Back, Miami, Fla. 20 Henry Barnes, Defensive Back, Newton Grove, N.C. 20 Paul Magloire, Runningback, Lynbrook, N.Y. 21 Doug Middleton, Defensive Back, Winston-Salem, N.C. 21 Justin Ruffin, Runningback, Salisbury, N.C. 22 Brandon McGowan, Inside Linebacker, Suwanee, Ga. 22 Seth Sloan, Wide Receiver, Boone, N.C. 24 Dante Blackmon, Defensive Back, Covington, Ga. 24 Andy Shuler, Wide Receiver, Rockingham, N.C. 25 T.J. Watkins, Defensive Back, Forest City, N.C 26 Joel Ross, Defensive Back, Damascus, Md. 27 Anthony Covington, Defensive Back, Charlotte, N.C 28 Ricky Fergerson, Runningback, Fuquay-Varina, N.C. 29 Aaron Krah, Defensive Back, Durham, N.C. 29 Chris Simpson, Runningback, Mechanicsville, Va. 30 Trey Anderson, Wide Receiver, Orlando, Fla. 30 Osvaldo Sombo, Inside Linebacker, Matthews, N.C 31 Rashaad Townes, Outside Linebacker, Macon, Ga. 33 Eric Davidson, Running back, Greensboro, N.C. 34 Patrick Blalock, Outside Linebacker, Asheville, N.C. 35 Toronto Thomas, Inside Linebacker, Ellenwood, Ga. 36 Olawale Dada, Defensive Lineman, Columbus, Ga. 37 Lee Wright, Outside Linebacker, York, S.C. 39 Rommel Andre, Runningback, Raeford, N.C. Nathaniel Norwood, Defensive Lineman, Hampton, Ga. 41 Austin Chambers, Inside Linebacker, Clyde, N.C. 42 Michael Frazier, Outside Linebacker, Conway, S.C. 43 Denzel Ward, Inside Linebacker, Elizabeth City, N.C. 44 Drew Bailey, Tight End, Spartanburg, S.C. 44 Mike Counts, Defensive Back, Alexandria, Va. 45 Karl Anderson, Inside Linebacker, Pilot Point, Texas

Courtesy of The Appalachian

WR/KR TONY WASHINGTON

Another preseason All-American for App State, Washington is not only a solid prospect at wide receiver, but one of the best kick returners in the nation. The senior snagged 39 receptions for 472 yards as a junior and also made some memorable highlight reel returns such as his 99yard kick return touchdown against Wofford in 2012.

Courtesy of The Appalachian 46 Adam Scott, Defensive Lineman, Greensboro, N.C 47 Nic Shriner, Defensive Back, Hillsborough, N.C. 48 Stephen Machanic, Outside Linebacker, Summerfield, N.C. 49 Ronald Blair, Defensive Lineman, Greensboro, Ga. 50 Beau Nunn, Outside Lineman, York, S.C. 51 Caleb Fuller, Inside Linebacker, Wilmington, N.C. 52 Bill Cecil, Inside Linebacker, Asheville, N.C. 53 Chase McIntyre, Long Snapper, Hendersonville, N.C 53 Cody McKinney, Inside Linebacker, Vilas, N.C. 54 Darian Small, Defensive Lineman, Hampton, Ga. 55 Graham Fisher, Offensive Lineman, Waynesville, N.C. 56 Thomas Bronson, Defensive Lineman, Brooksville, Fla. 57 Tucker Bell, Inside Linebacker, Raleigh, N.C. 58 Levi Duffield, Outside Linebacker, Waynesville, N.C 59 Zach Matics, Punter/Place Kicker, Jacksonville, N.C. 60 Jesse Chapman, Offensive Lineman, Cookeville, Tenn. 61 Jarrett Jacumin, Offensive Lineman, Raleigh, N.C 62 Parker McKeithan, Offensive Lineman, Salisbury, N.C. 63 Shaq Counts, Offensive Lineman, Irmo, S.C. 64 Will Corbin, Offensive Lineman, Dunn, N.C. 65 Lee Tucker, Offensive Lineman, Pinehurst, N.C. 66 Jamie Collmar, Offensive Lineman, Gastonia, N.C. 67 Ian Barnard, Offensive Lineman, Norcross, Ga. 68 Will Robertson, Offensive Lineman, Spencer, N.C. 69 Myles Kinder, Defensive Lineman, Roswell, Ga. 70 Colby Gossett, Offensive Lineman, Cumming, Ga. 72 Tyson Fernandez, Offensive Lineman, Fuguay-Varina, N.C. 73 Davante Harris, Offensive Lineman, Blythewood, S.C. 74 Kendall Lamm, Offensive Lineman, Charlotte, N.C. 75 Parker Collins, Offensive Lineman, North Augusta, S.C. 76 Brandon Hunter, Offensive Lineman, Chapel Hill, N.C. 77 Alex Acey, Offensive Lineman, Clay, Ala. 79 Sam Parker, Defensive Lineman, Greensboro, N.C. 80 Chris Starks, Defensive Back, Lithonia, Ga. 81 Bobo Beathard, Wide Receiver, Haymarket, Va. 82 Dante Jones, Wide Receiver, Raleigh, N. C. 83 Simms, McElfresh, Wide Receiver, Charlotte, N.C. 84 Jacob McCann, Tight End, McLeansville, N.C. 85 Barrett Burns, Tight End, Woodstock, Ga. 86 Mark Powell, Punter/Placekicker, Asheville, N.C 87 Trey Kavanaugh, Wide Receiver, Boone, N.C 88 Jaquil Capel, Wide Receiver, Mount Gilead, N.C. 88 John Law, Inside Linebacker, Atlanta, Ga. 89 Josh Anding, Tight End, Valley View, Texas 90 Tashion Singleton, Defensive Lineman, Charlotte, N.C. 91 Bentlee Critcher, Punter, South Daytona, Fla. 92 Michael Moll, Tight End, Charlotte, N.C. 93 Brett Heimrich, Long Snapper, Southern Pines, N.C. 94 Hunter Nunn, Tight End, York, S.C. 95 Manning Burton, Punter/Place Kicker, Shelby, N.C. 96 Will Walker, Long Snapper, Mebane, N.C. 98 Mason Moore, Place Kicker, Asheville, N.C.

99 Stephen Burns, Defensive Lineman, Taylorsville, N.C.

6 GAMEDAY

ISTORY OF THE RIVALR

Present		MIIMPEDC
2012	NO. 11 APPALACHIAN STATE 35. NO. 12 MONTANA 27 In front of a raucous 30,000 fans at Kidd Brewer Sta- dium, the Mountaineers launched an impressive pass- ing game with over 300 yards through the air to send the Grizzlies home from Boone, N.C., with their first loss of the season. Impressive plays by Montana high- lighted the game, such as fullback Dan Moore's 87-yard	I he average home attendance for the Grizzlies during the 2012 sea-
2009	FCS SEMIFINALS: NO. 1 MONTANA 24. NO. 5 APP STATE 17 One of Montana's most historical and classic games — aired on ESPN — saw the No. 1 Grizzlies beat frigid temperatures and blizzard-like conditions en route to their seventh national title game appearance. Behind the arm of four time All-American quarterback Ar- manti Edwards, the No. 5 ranked Mountaineers threw for 353 yards, but UM's rushing attack was too much for the visitors. Running back Chase Reynolds rushed	the FCS in home attendance last year. 137 Victories for the Montana Grizzlies from 2000-2012, nine more than App State
2000	FCS SEMIFINALS: MONTANA 19. APPALACHIAN STATE 16 OT A perfectly thrown 15-yard fade route to senior wide receiver Jimmy Farris gave the No. 1 seed Grizzlies the edge they needed in overtime, sealing a 19-16 overtime victory and a spot in the national championship against No. 3 Georgia Southern. Montana held the lead for much of the game and seemed to have clinched their first victory over Appala- chian State when running back Yo Humphrey's 2-yard touchdown run boosted the Grizzlies' lead to 13-3 with 10:49 left in the 4th quarter.	Appalachian State 9 Conference titles for Montana 0
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GRUDGE From page 3

are preseason All-American picks, who helped the Griz finish first in rushing defense, allowing opponents just 92.5 yards-pergame.

"Our strength is going to be our front seven," Delaney said.

Londry-Jackson won't be the only explosive quarterback running onto the field Saturday.

Redshirt junior Jordan Johnson returns to Montana's offense for the first time since 2011, this time under center instead of shotgun in the Montana's new pro-style offensive scheme.

Johnson said he feels prepared and ready after completing his first healthy fall camp as a Griz. "It's unbelievable," said John-

to Cheney, Wash., cheered wildly.

The season could be saved. A win

over the Eagles, the No. 7 team in

the nation at the time, could keep

Then it happened: the sec-

It spoiled Montana's homecom-

ing a week prior, after the Grizzlies

built a 24-point advantage heading

into halftime before Northern Ar-

izona turned on the jets, scoring

27 points in the second half to win

over two minutes remaining, as

EWU quarterback Vernon Ad-

ams hit 6-foot-5-inch wide receiver

Brandon Kaufman for a 25-yard

touchdown, infecting Montana's

lead to two points, 26-24 with 2:19

bounce on an onside kick from

Eagles' kicker Kevin Miller, gave

just enough opportunity for the

On the next play, a perfect

The sickness started with just

the 2-2 team's playoff hopes alive.

UNITED

From page 2

ond-half plague.

left on the clock.

41-31.

son about the prospect of returning to the field. "I get goosebumps just thinking about it."

After finishing second in the conference in rushing yards per game, Montana will continue to pound the ball starting with the Mountaineers and their young defense.

Satterfield said his team's new 3-4 defensive scheme should help some of the younger players.

"I think the key is how quickly can those guys understand what we're trying to do on defense and understand the speed of the game," Satterfield said. "You try to simulate that in practice, but until the lights come on, you never know how a young player is going to react."

austin.schempp@umontana.edu @AustinSchempp

Five plays and 50 yards later, the Grizzly secondary was blind to wide-open EWU receiver Ashton Clark, who hauled in a 20-yard touchdown pass, sealing the second straight loss for Montana.

After the game, players silently exited the locker room. Playoff

"We are an entirely different team. Entirely different dynamics and entirely differnt players." Mick Delaney, **Head Coach**

hopes were all but doomed.

"I think Eastern was a huge, devastating loss for that team," said Jordan Johnson, this year's starting quarterback for the Griz. "I almost turned the game off on TV because I thought it was over and Eastern somehow found a

GAMEDAY 7 LOOKING AHEAI The next Grizzly opponent

Sam Waldorf Montana Kaimin

After facing Appalachian State in what will be the Grizzlies' last game against their heated rival, the Grizzlies will take a week off before they open up their conference schedule on the road at North Dakota.

In last year's game against UND, the Griz entered the fourth quarter with a 34-31 lead, but quarterback Braden Hanson and North Dakota's passing game proved to be too much for Montana and its secondary, cruising to a 40-34 win.

Watching film from last year

with three more losses, two of

them games where the Grizzlies

fensive lineman Danny Kistler Ir.

of last year's games. "And that's

what the tradition at Montana has

been. We've finished our oppo-

Turnovers were a week-to-

week problem. On offense, poor

red zone execution prevented

"We just didn't finish," said of-

held a second half lead.

nents in the past."

should hopefully improve the Grizzlies' defensive game plan against UND, who completely picked apart the secondary by throwing for 660 yards last season, a North Dakota single game record. Senior wide receiver Greg Hardin racked up 333 yards receiving, breaking the Big Sky Conference single game record for receiving yards.

While North Dakota, dominated the Griz through in the air, Montana found success in stopping UND's rushing attack, limiting the team to 44 yards rushing on 24 attempts.

Returning defensive stars Jordan Tripp and Zach Wagenmann of Montana will have their hands full defending this air-raid by UND, but dropping back to throw gives Wagenmann, the Grizzlies' leading pass-rusher with 11.5 sacks last season, many opportunities for a game-changing play.

On offense, Montana threw for 358 yards and rushed for an additional 163. Running-back Jordan Canada torched UND's defense for 91 yards on just 14 carries, and with the return of quarterback Jordan Johnson, the Grizzlies should pose even more challenges for North Dakota.

sam.waldorf@umontana.edu

way to come back and win." **A NEW BEGINNING** Montana finished the season

Players from this year's squad don't want to talk about 2012.

It's still painful to think about what could have been. It stings to relive the silent locker room followed by the long bus ride home.

"We are an entirely different team," Delaney says. "Entirely different dynamics, and entirely different players. In a lot of respects the same guys are playing, but things are different at this time."

The differences are easy to spot. Johnson, the quarterback who led the Griz to the national semifinals, returned to the team in March. Timm Rosenbach and his spread offense are gone, replaced with co-offensive coordinators Kefense Hynson and Scott Gragg's pro-style offense.

When Johnson rejoined his presence had an immediately effect.

"You trust him," Kistler Jr. said. "You see the way he works on the

field. He reminds me a lot of (former UM quarterback) Andrew Selle. He was a perfectionist."

On defense, Montana returns almost all of last season's starters including a strong core of linebackers, headlined by preseason All-America candidate Jordan Tripp.

There is also a new motto, "United," which is sometimes apparent on the practice field and off.

"It's something you can see," Kistler Jr. said. "It's tangible almost. It's an abstract idea, but very tangible. When you see us, everywhere we go, we love being around each other."

Montana will open up the 2013 season under the lights, united by last season's struggles.

"All that stuff (from 2012) was a lesson and a blessing because we figured out this is how we have to do things and this our path we're on right now," Tripp said.

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Montana from extending leads or fighting its way back. UM, boasting one of the nation's best defensive front seven, blocked up opponents' run game, and couldn't stop them from attacking from the air.

Young players such as redshirt freshman quarterback Trent McKinney, who had never taken a snap in a collegiate football game, were expected to perform.

A Color Map of the Sun Fall Tour 2013

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