9-24-1957

Defensive drills will highlight preparation for Wyoming tilt

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.
Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases

Recommended Citation
University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Defensive drills will highlight preparation for Wyoming tilt" (1957).
University of Montana News Releases. 118.
https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/118

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.
DEFENSIVE DRILLS WILL HIGHLIGHT PREPARATION FOR WYOMING TILT

MISSOULA, Mont., Sept.____ Four rugged practices with emphasis placed on defense, particularly pass defense, were ordered Monday by Montana Coach Jerry Williams in preparation for the Grizzlies' encounter with Wyoming University Saturday at Billings.

That the Silvertips need a defense never was more graphically illustrated than last Saturday night when Utah bombed Montana 32-13. Four of the Utes touchdowns came via the air lanes. But the Redskins didn't neglect their ground game either.

Utah's hard-running backs pounded Montana's line for a net gain on the ground of 200 yards.

The Redskins success through the air was even more pronounced with 14 of 23 passes completed for 235 yards.

The Grizzlies did, however, prove that they could run against any team in the Skyline when they penetrated the veteran Utah line for 254 yards. On the other hand, Montana's passing game, given much pre-season notice, proved to be a disappointment to fans and coaches alike, with only 13 yards gained through the air.

Wyoming, in defeating a powerful Kansas State eleven Saturday, demonstrated to the rest of the league that Coach Bob Devaney's multiple-offense will be a formidable weapon in the hands of the talented 'Poke backs.

Physically, Montana came out of the Utah game in good shape. Except for some run-of-the-mill bumps and bruises, the Grizzly squad escaped injury. Then (more)
too, several of the players left behind have recovered from pre-season injuries and will be out banging heads in order to regain their lost positions.

These players include Mick O'Brien, who before suffering a knee injury a week ago, was listed as the starting center; Jim Horsley and John Love, two very capable tackles; Joe Pepe and Harley Remington, sophomore halfbacks; and Chuck McKelvie, senior end.

"We're still trying to catch up," Williams said Monday. "And when you lose 10 days of two-a-day practices, it's pretty hard to make it up in one week with single drills."

Williams said the game at Utah came out about as he expected—the Grizzlies were woefully inadequate defensively. He did express pleasure at the success of the running game.

Despite the fact that Utah's defenses were drawn in when it became apparent that Montana would throw few passes, the Grizzlies still mustered sufficient power to claw out yardage on the ground.

There is a definite possibility that Williams may have shifted his offensive emphasis away from the aerial game and henceforth will concentrate on sharpening his running offense.

With a stouter defense, Montana could stay on the ground all afternoon and still come out on top. Although the "four-yard 'em to death" type of offense is not as spectacular or crowd pleasing as the aerial circus type of game, a successful one nevertheless pays off in touchdowns and victories.

Matt Gorsich, junior halfback from Highland, Indiana, Saturday night took up where he left off last year as the workhorse of the Grizzly backfield corps.

Matt carried the ball 20 times for a net gain of 84 yards. Russ Grant, sophomore wingback, packed the ball nine times and rolled for 71 yards, mostly on the deadly double reverse which netted the Grizzlies about 10 yards every (more)
Defensive Drills-3-3-3-3-3

time it was pulled.

Stan Renning, all-conference guard as a sophomore, began his drive for all-sectional and possible All-America honors in good style by being named outstanding lineman of the game.

###

**GRIZZLY GLINTS**

On the trip to and from Salt Lake City the Grizzlies had little to do but read. But while most of the players scanned comic books, dime novels and fiction periodicals, Ed Bilan, sophomore guard from Calgary and a geology major, studiously perused the contents of the rockhounds' bible, "Gems and Minerals."

###

Karl Benjamin, senior tackle and one of the 17 married squad members, celebrated his son's first birthday last Saturday. Joe Pepe joined the ranks of proud papas two weeks ago when his wife gave birth to a 8-pound girl. Sam Jankovich and Harley Remington lead the paternity derby with two youngsters apiece.

###

Grizzly players were not impressed with the performance of Lee Grosscup, Utah's heralded transfer quarterback. Most of the Silvertips felt that Wally Suba, Utah's second-string QB, turned in by far the superior performance.

###