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Grizzlies to play Denver University Pioneers on Friday

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Missoula, October 8—An injury ridden and under-manned squad of Montana State University Grizzlies will square off against a strong Denver University Pioneer team Friday night at 8:15 p.m. in Denver.

The Grizzlies with ten injured players will be playing with only one experienced left halfback, one healthy fullback, two quarterbacks, and three right halfbacks.

Grizzly coach Ray Jenkins pointed out that injuries would definitely hurt the Silvertips and he was only "hoping for the best."

Definitely out of action this week are Howard Johnson, senior halfback, fullback Jerry Young, quarterback Bruce Olson, and guard Dale Sparber is still a doubtful starter. Joe Pepe is still a question mark at fullback. Jim Neal, Bob Everson, a fullback and a halfback, tackle Tom Kane, end John Lands, and tackle John Gregor are all slowed by injuries but should be ready to go Friday said Jenkins.

Jenkins has moved Pete Muri to right end and Larry Myers to left half to give his squad more depth.

The Grizzlies this week have been working hard on defense and have been adding polish to their running and passing plays. The Montana team has also been hampered by the inability to work on mistakes of last week since the movies of the Montana-New Mexico game have been delayed.

"We're going down there to do our best with a thin squad and all we can do is hope for the best," said Jenkins. "There have been a lot of upsets this season so maybe we're due."

(more)
Denver is 1-1 in conference play while Montana has lost three without winning one. Denver turned back the Utah Aggies 20-0 and last week were upset by Wyoming 15-12.

The Denver eleven is considered to be a contender for the Skyline championship and has a good passing team with a lot of team speed according to mentor Ray Jenkins. Sal Cesario, All-American candidate at tackle, leads the strong forward wall of the Pioneers.

The Silvertips, who are playing their fourth straight game on the road, will have Pete Muri and John Lands at ends, Charlie Moore and John Gregor at tackles, and Stan Renning and John Matte will hold down the guard spots. Mick O'Brien will start at center. In the backfield Phil Griffin will quarterback with Matt Gorsich and Russ Grant running from the halfback positions. Sophomore Dean Swenson will start at fullback.

Stan (The Ram) Renning, who suffered a slight chest injury in the New Mexico game, will be ready to go said Jenkins.

Last year Denver handed the Montana eleven a 26-13 beating. In the past seven years Denver has won five out of seven against the Grizzlies.