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Grizzlies prepare for homecoming game

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MISSOULA, MONTANA, OCT. Thirty-five weary and mauled Grizzlies hope to do some mauling of their own Saturday afternoon at Dornblaser Field, when Utah State invades the Montana gridiron for a Homecoming game with the Grizzlies.

Silvertip spirits, down to a low ebb after four successive road games, took an immediate rise after the Grizzlies returned from a 29-0 pasting at the hands of Denver University last weekend.

"I'm sure glad we're home," was coach Ray Jenkins' comment. "Now we can spend a full week practicing and allowing our injuries to heal."

Although Montana still doesn't show any victories on the 1958 ledger, coaches felt the Grizzlies have an excellent chance to garner their first win against the Utags.

"The boys will be 'up' for their first home contest—and some partisan cheers in our favor will do us a world of good," the coach said.

The 'Tips won't be a completely healthy squad for the tussle. Injured at Denver were wingback Larry Myers who was kicked in the face; wingback Matt Gorsich, who reinjured a shoulder, and tailback Bob Everson who suffered another elbow bruise. Trainer Naseby Rhinehart said all three "may be able to play."

Plaudits for outstanding performances against Denver went to end John Lands, tackle Al Pelayo, guards Stan Renning, Mike Emerson and Dale Sparber, quarterback Tim Grattan, center Jim Johnson, and wingback Jerry Connors. Emerson and Connors played their best game to date, and Johnson sparked one Montana drive by blocking a field goal attempt and then racing 34 yards downfield to jump on the ball.
The Utah Aggies bring a squad to Missoula that has won but one contest this season—a 20-13 upset over Kansas State. The Utags lost to Denver and Arizona earlier, and last weekend were stopped by New Mexico, 34-14.

Ev Faunce's crew runs mainly from a straight T. Halfback Buddy Allen and fullback Leo Ducharme have led the Aggie attack in the first four games. All-Skyline halfback Overton Curtis hasn't rated any raves this season.

Quarterbacks Rick Dobbins and Merrill Johnson can throw the ball, and Jenkins commented that the Grizzlies will have to work hard on their old nemesis, pass defense.

The game figures to be a battle among Skyline cellar dwellers, but should be an interesting one for a predicted 7500 fans.

Montana's last Homecoming victory was a 32-31 triumph over Colorado State in 1953.

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