Montana University freshmen gridders to play Montana State College

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

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MISSOULA, MONTANA—Montana University freshmen gridders will swing into action for the first time this weekend, meeting a tested Montana State College Bobkitten squad Saturday in Butte. The game, sponsored by the Butte Chamber of Commerce, is slated for 2 p.m. at Naranche Stadium.

Coach Hal Sherbeck, who trimmed his team to 14 gridders last week, feels that he has one of the best Cub squads in recent years. But he concedes that the MSC eleven will have the edge in experience.

"The 'Kittens already have three games under their belt, and on the basis of experience, they must be considered slight favorites," the Cub mentor commented. "If we can avoid mistakes that are typical of early-season games, we'll give them a good battle."

The Bobkittens have games against Eastern Montana, Western Montana, and Northwest Community College (Wyo.) under their belts.

The junior Grizzlies, who began workouts in late September, have had less than three weeks to prepare for the tussle. Most of it has involved learning the basic Montana formations—a mixture of single wing and T formation—and polishing fundamentals and defensive work. Sherbeck held three "satisfactory" scrimmages last week, with the Cubs being matched against varsity third-stringers.

Sherbeck has listed a "very tentative" starting lineup of Gene Moe, Helena, and Ed Whitelaw, Arlington Heights, Ill., ends; Dan Peters, Butte, and Gerald Gaboda, Chicago, Ill., tackles; Jim Bartell, Glencoe, Ill., and Jack Shevalier, Helena, guards; Dick Huse, Great Falls, center; Paul Miller, Miles City, or Bill Stack, Butte, quarterback; Terry Dillon, Hopkins, Minn., left halfback; Pat Dodson, Shelby, right halfback; and Don Shotliff, San Pedro, Calif., fullback. (more)
Bobkitten coach George Marinkovich will counter with Bill Cords, Butte, and Gordon Schlabs, Kalispell, ends; Cliff Haven, Kalispell, and Curt Farrier, Everett, Wash., tackles; Fred Turner, Butte, and Norman Roolf, Leetsdale, Pa., guards; Dick McGee, Toledo, Ohio, center; Bill Mulcahy, Butte, quarterback; Clayton Linebarger, Helena, left half; Steve Good, Butte, right half; and Frank May, Havre, fullback.

The game is a resumption of Montana-Montana State grid warfare in Butte for the first time in nine seasons. The varsity squads of the two schools held their state championship battle in the Mining City from 1926 through 1950. Sherbeck, incidentally, played in the last MSU-MSC tussle in Butte.

Assisting Sherbeck this season are the Rev. William Hassler, member of the MSU Affiliated School of Religion and former varsity center for the University of Pennsylvania; line coach Charley Moore, former Grizzly football and baseball ace who is working for an advanced degree at MSU; and back coach Bob Skates, former Grizzly football player who recently returned from a tour of duty in the service.

Two games remain on the Cub schedule after the Bobkitten clash. The young Grizzlies travel to Provo, Utah, on Nov. 7 for an engagement with Brigham Young University freshmen.

Recent negotiations by Athletic Director George (Jiggs) Dahlberg have added a final game to the Cub schedule—a Nov. 14 tilt with Eastern Montana College of Education at Billings. It will be a 2 p.m. affair at Bjorgum Field in the Magic City. The added game was announced jointly by Eastern Athletic Director Dr. Harold (Shorty) Alterowitz and Dahlberg.