Montana Grizzlies face Utah State's Iron Men

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MISSOULA, MONTANA—Partially back on the winning side of the ledger after breaking even last weekend, Montana's Grizzlies this week face the toughest team in the Skyline—Utah State's Iron Men—in a Saturday night encounter in the MSU Fieldhouse. The Aggies are on top the Skyline standings with a 3-0 mark, while Montana is 1-3.

The Silvertips showed some signs of improvement in beating Denver and losing an overtime decision to New Mexico in road games last week. Montana's 70-69 win over the Pioneers was the first time the Silvertips had ever beaten Denver in the mile-high city. Conversely, New Mexico's 77-69 win in Albuquerque was the first Lobo victory over Montana in three seasons.

"We hit 41 percent of our shots against Denver, then slumped to only 29 percent against New Mexico. That tells the story of both games," commented Grizzly coach Frosty Cox. Grizzly rebounding improved in both frays, with Montana boardmen having an edge on their opponents both evenings.

This week, the Silvertips may be without the services of junior center Duane Ruegsegger, who suffered a deep gash in his left hand when he accidentally pushed it through a glass window after the New Mexico fray. If Ruegsegger cannot play, John Lands will probably be at the pivot spot for the Grizzlies, along with forwards Terry Screnar and Dan Sullivan and guards Dan Balko and Vince Ignatowicz.

Utah State relies heavily on its five-man starting group of forwards Jerry Schofield and Cornell Green, center Tyler Wilbon, and guards Ralph Cullimore and (more)