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Gary Smith, Terry Dillon, and Pat Dodson running statistics

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MISSOULA, MONTANA—Montana’s trio of yardage bandits, --fullback Gary Smith and halfbacks Terry Dillon and Pat Dodson--have rushed for nearly three-quarters of a mile this season, statistics from eight games reveal. And between them, the Grizzly runners have picked up more than four-fifths of Montana’s ground yardage this season.

Dillon swept into the rushing leadership with a 106-yard performance last Saturday against Montana State, but Dodson and Smith are only a few yards behind. Dillon’s total for the season is 440 yards, while Dodson follows with 435. Smith, who missed the M-State tilt because of a knee injury, dropped into third place with 434 yards. Only other Grizzlies with appreciable yardage are fullback Ron Werba, 97, and halfback Jim Grasky, 78.

Dodson leads the team in scoring 48 points, and ranks in the Skyline’s second position in scoring. The 167-pound scatback has the best rushing average on the squad--5.7 yards per carry--and he also leads in punt return yardage.

Grizzly quarterback Bob O’Billovich continues to lead in the passing and pass interceptions departments. O’Billovich has connected on 15 of 37 tosses for 279 yards, and he’s picked off seven enemy aerials. The pass receiving leader is senior and Howard Schwend, who has grabbed four for 101 yards.

Montana punter Paul Gustafson ranks among the top three booters in the league, with an average of 40.5 yards on 40 kicks.

As a team, the Silvertips have 1965 yards in total offense this season, while opponents have chalked up 1919. The Grizzlies have outrushed the opposition, 1574-1251, but have been outpassed by a 668-391 margin.

The Grizzlies have scored 119 points in eight contests, holding the enemy to 95 markers. Last year the same eight opponents outscored the Grizzlies 215-71.