

GAME DAY CHRONICLE

SATURDAY, OCT. 23
VS. N. COLORADO

BOZEMAN DAILY



NORTHERN COLORADO AT NO. 15 MONTANA STATE, BOBCAT STADIUM 1:05 P.M.

75¢

PLAYING FOR PRIDE



SEAN SPERRY/CHRONICLE

Jason D'Alba (45), Dan Ogden (90) and Roger Trammell (9) surround a Sacramento State ball carrier earlier this season.

Through struggles, MSU defense says swagger remains

STORY BY
WILL C. HOLDEN
CHRONICLE
SPORTS WRITER

Dustin O'Connell was stuck back at home, watching on his couch. The only statement Jordan Craney could make was the "Child Please" catch-line inscribed across the back of his T-shirt.

Arnold Briggs and Clay Bignell at least got to put on a uniform. Briggs trotted out for pre-game warm-ups before reevaluating his status and Bignell made it out for the first series before doing the same.

All four are upperclassmen. All four are second-year starters. All four had one thing in common.

They were all but powerless to stop Northern Arizona last Saturday from becoming the third straight offense to hang over 30 points on Montana State.

It's the first time such a blemish has befallen the historically-vaunted Bobcat defense since 2004.

Thankfully for the team as a whole,

only one of the high-scoring performances has ended in a loss. Still, the MSU defense is mindful that it may not always be able to rely on its offense to come up with 64 and 44 points like it did in wins over Sacramento State and Portland State.

After all, against Northern Arizona last, the recently how-powered Bobcat offense was held to just seven points.

The MSU defense isn't used to relying on others.

"That's never been something we've thought about in the past, the idea that the offense would have to bail us out," Bignell said. "It's definitely a pride issue."

But with the MSU defense spotting its offense first, second- and third-quarter deficits in each of the last three games, that's exactly what has happened.

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CAPABLE ORMS

■ UNC quarterback has Bears in most games | 2

WIN COLUMN?

■ The Chronicle's Will Holden handicaps today's matchup | 6

CH-CH-CHANGES

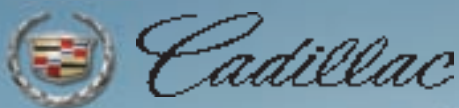
■ Columnist lists ideas for 'new' stadium | 2



STATE-BOUND?

■ Bozeman girls meet Skyview, try to extend season PAGE B1

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BOBCAT GAME DAY

NORTHERN COLORADO AT MONTANA STATE

1:05 P.M. BOBCAT STADIUM



Sideline Briefing

Records

Montana State 5-2, 3-1 Big Sky

Northern Colorado 1-4, 2-5

Series

27th meeting, MSU leads 15-10-1

Weather forecast

Mostly cloudy, high 57

Crowd

About 13,000 expected

TV

ABC 28 (Chris Byers, Mike Callaghan, AJ Donatoni)

Radio

KXLB-FM (100.7), Jeff Lasky, Dan Davies, Tyler Wiltgen

Coaches



ROB ASH
MSU, 4th year
31st year overall
25-16 at MSU
201-115-5 overall

SCOTT DOWNING
UNC, 5th year
7th year overall
8-44 at NAU
21-48-1 overall

Schedules

Northern Colorado	
54	Adams St. 0
47	@ Weber St. 50
35	Idaho St. 21
7	@ Michigan St. 45
7	Montana 30
28	Sacramento St. 42
28	E. Washington 35
Today	@ Montana St. 1:05 p.m.
10/30	@ South Dakota 4:05 p.m.
11/6	Northern Arizona 1:35 p.m.
11/13	@ Portland St. 2:05 p.m.
Montana State	
59	Fort Lewis 10
22	@ Wash. St. 23
48	Drake 21
30	Eastern Washington 7
64	@ Sacramento St. 61
44	Portland St. 31
7	@ Northern Arizona 34
Today	Northern Colo. 1:05 p.m.
10/30	@ Idaho St. 1:35 p.m.
11/6	Weber St. 12:05 p.m.
11/20	@ Montana 12:05 p.m.

Players to watch

NO. COLORADO: QB Dylan Orms.
The Bears are a much better outfit with him under center.

MONTANA STATE: FS Michael Rider. Secondary needs a boost from the senior captain.

Injury report

MONTANA STATE
OUT: DE Brad Smith (shoulder), Ben Tauanuu (leg), LB Dustin O'Connell (collar bone).
QUESTIONABLE: LB Clay Bignell (ankle), S Jordan Craney (ankle), DB Arnold Briggs (hamstring).

NO. COLORADO

None.

Bears leave it in his capable Orms

By WILL C. HOLDEN
Chronicle Sports Writer

No one forgets the first snaps of their college career. Dylan Orms is no exception.

For the record, though, the Northern Colorado quarterback can vividly recall his first few series as a freshman in 2008. Most other first-year signal callers — due to their own selective memories or a couple of inopportune run-ins with the defenders — aren't as lucky.

Orms wasn't one of those wide-eyed quarterbacks who completes as many passes to defenders and the turf as he does to his own receivers and decreases his team's rushing total by a city block in his debut.

He finished 8 of 10 for 150 yards passing with one touch-down to go along with 67 rushing yards and another score.

Most impressive of all, he made the Montana Grizzlies sweat.

But make no mistake. While he may not have looked it, trotting out to face the No. 5 team in the nation had Orms wide-eyed.

"We were down 31-3," Orms said. "It wasn't exactly the best situation to come into."

Like the score, Orms recalls with equal clarity the starting Grizzly defense begrudgingly sauntering back out on the field after the Bears 14 unanswered points.

"I still remember that game like it was yesterday," Orms said. "That game really propelled me to where I am now."

Two years later, Orms is UNC's unquestioned leader under center. He no longer allows himself to get excited about completing eight passes in a game. And thanks to one of those sacks he avoided back in 2008, he had his worst game of the season against the Grizzlies three weeks ago.

Orms was limited in that game and most of the team's conference games since suffering a knee injury in week three knee during a 35-21 win over Idaho State.

It has been the only conference win for the Bears, who are 1-4 in the Big Sky. But you'd be hard pressed to find a team hap-



Dylan Orms nearly led UNC past Eastern Washington and Weber.

pier about its quarterback play, given the circumstances.

Probably because in the games Orms has started and finished, UNC is 1-2, with its only two losses coming in quadruple overtime at Weber State and by seven points at home against Eastern Washington last week.

"Dylan gives us a chance," said senior safety Max Hewitt, who has seen the Bears start five different quarterbacks and never finish above seventh in his four

years as a starter. "He's a fun guy to watch because he can make something out of nothing."

Not even last week's loss to EWU, a game in which UNC had been leading 28-21 going into the fourth quarter, has UNC down on Orms. This after he fumbled to set up the Eagles' game-winning drive and threw an interception on the Bears' final possession.

"Like any competitor, he blamed himself for the eventual loss," head coach Scott Downing

"Like any competitor, he blamed himself for the eventual loss. But he's done a good job moving forward this week."

— Scott Downing, UNC coach

said. "But he's done a good job moving forward this week."

There is certainly a lot the junior signal caller still has to learn — like when to stay in the pocket instead using his capable feet to pick up first downs.

But he's not the only one learning. Even on a veteran team with six players who have started at least 20 games, Downing said the team is learning daily about being consistent and pulling out tight games.

"We've got experienced guys that have played in the Big Sky now," Downing said. "It's showing up on Saturdays, but the thing we've got to do is come out one of these weeks and win one of these close games."

In Hewitt's mind, a lot of that starts with the team's defense, where four of those 20-game starters call home. The all-conference player said he's been disappointed in the fact that the UNC defense is currently allowing 31.9 points a game — the second-worst total in the conference.

"We're sitting at third in total defense in terms of yards, but we're giving up too many points," he said. "We set high expectations and we've got to make some improvements."

But with all due respect to the Bears' defense and the rest of the 10 others guys on offense, Montana State head coach Rob Ash has narrowed his gaze while preparing for today's game.

"I'm not saying they're a one-man team or anything like that, but a good quarterback who can make plays makes a difference," Ash said. "And when Orms is playing, (UNC) seems to put more points on the board. He's the key to that offense."

Will Holden can be reached at wholden@dailychronicle.com and 582-2690.

How about a new name for the 'new' stadium?

After today, there is just one scheduled game to be played at Bobcat Stadium as we now know it.

Next fall there will be more seats, an updated scoreboard and a cleaner look to those creaky bleachers.

I'm hoping for some additional changes once the leaves turn gold again.

Lights are expected to be part of the expansion, so that means more opportunities to use the stadium. While I don't look forward to night games because of the decreased time to write stories by deadline, I do hope



TIM DUMAS
Chronicle Sports Editor

high school football games can be part of the stadium experience.

The most obvious idea is to hold the Class AA state championship game on the Friday before the 'Cat-Griz game.

Washington-Grizzly Stadium in Missoula can do the same when the Grizzlies are the host.

If that were the case this year, it could make for a home game for undefeated Bozeman High.

Maybe the Hawks can make an annual appearance at the stadium by holding its homecoming game there to insure that at least one game each year is held just up the road. And because there will be no damage to the turf, the field won't be ruined if muddy conditions occur the night before an MSU home game.

There are very few Hawks

who go on to play at the Division I level. But to be able to begin a story with, "I played on that field," would mean a lot to those kids. And their grandchildren.

And it shouldn't stop with football; this can be a multi-use facility.

Soccer would be an ideal sport. Same with lacrosse and even ultimate Frisbee.

As for the outside of the stadium, how does a new name sound?

More DUMAS | 5

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Photo Sean Sperry

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MEN

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Nov. 5	MAYVILLE STATE UNIV. (Exhibition)	5:30pm
Nov. 19	MINOT STATE UNIV.	5:30pm
Nov. 21	CAL POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO	7:05pm
Nov. 24	UNIV. OF SAN FRANCISCO	7:05pm
Dec. 10	JOHNSON AND WALES	8:05pm
Dec. 29	WEBER STATE UNIV.*	7:05pm
Dec. 31	NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIV.*	4:05pm
Jan. 13	PORTLAND STATE UNIV.*	7:05pm
Jan. 16	EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIV.*	2:05pm
Jan. 29	UNIV. OF MONTANA*	7:05pm
Feb. 10	UNIV. OF NORTHERN COLORADO*	7:05pm
Feb. 13	SACRAMENTO STATE UNIV.*	12:00pm
Feb. 19	BRACKETBUSTER TBD	TBA
Mar. 2	IDAHO STATE UNIV.*	7:05pm
Mar. 5	Big Sky Tournament Quarterfinals	TBA
Mar. 8-9	Big Sky Conference Tournament B Semis & Finals	TBA

WOMEN

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Nov. 2	MONTANA TECH (Exhibition)	7:05 PM
Nov. 6	MSU BILLINGS (Exhibition)	5:30 PM
Nov. 30	DENVER UNIV.	7:05 PM
Dec. 10	UNIV. OF PORTLAND	6:00 PM
Dec. 20	CAL STATE BAKERSFIELD	7:05 PM
Dec. 22	UNIV. OF THE PACIFIC	7:05 PM
Jan. 6	SACRAMENTO STATE UNIV.*	7:05PM
Jan. 8	UNIV. OF NORTHERN COLORADO*	7:05PM
Jan. 24	IDAHO STATE UNIV.*	7:05PM
Jan. 29	UNIV. OF MONTANA*	2:05PM
Feb. 3	NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIV.*	7:05PM
Feb. 5	WEBER STATE UNIV.*	7:05PM
Feb. 24	EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIV.*	7:05PM
Feb. 26	PORTLAND STATE UNIV.*	7:05PM
Mar. 10-12	Big Sky Conference Tournament	TBA

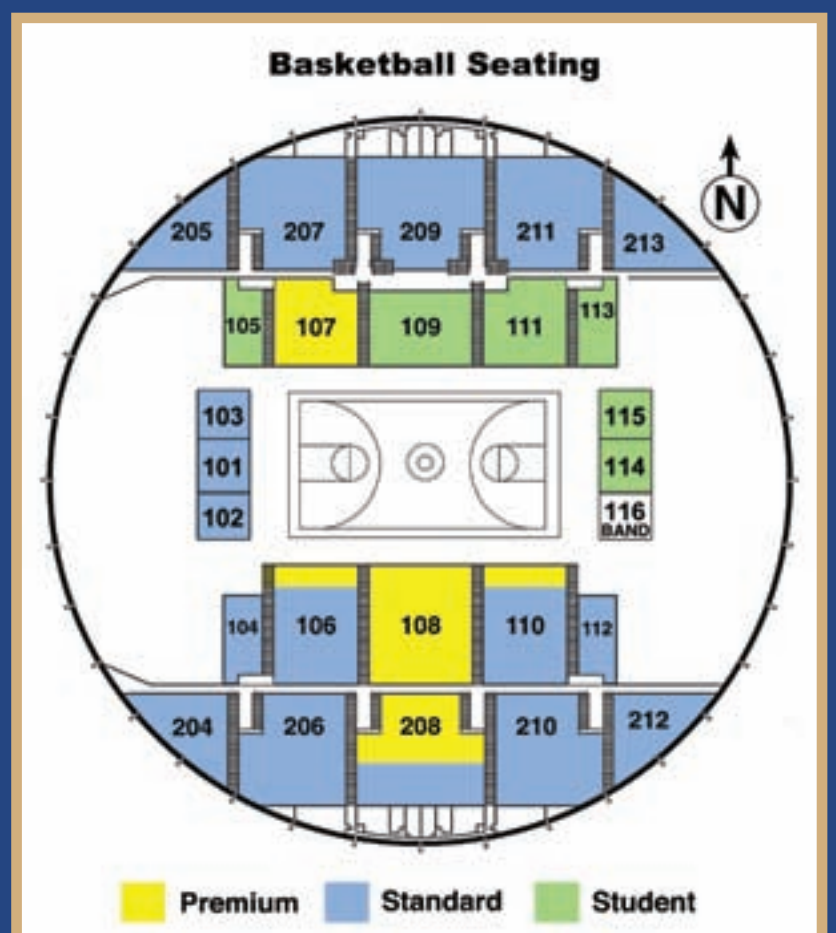


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(Sections 106 D - Z, 110 Rows D – Z, All 200s and Endzone seating)
- Standard Child..... \$90
- Standard Family \$70

WOMEN'S SEASON TICKETS:

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- Family/Senior (all other sections) \$56
- Child \$39



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NORTHERN COLORADO AT MONTANA STATE

1:05 P.M. BOBCAT STADIUM



NICK WOLCOTT/CHRONICLE

Northern Arizona's Zach Bauman (35) got behind Montana State's defense often last week in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Pride/from 1

According to head coach Rob Ash, missing a quartet of key contributors certainly hasn't helped.

"Our guys that are out there are playing hard, but we're inexperienced," Ash said. "Briggs, Craney, Bignell, O'Connell - those are probably our best guys at each one of our positions that's not in there right now."

"That makes a big difference. Players do make a difference."

It's tough to say which player MSU appears to be missing most. So much so, in fact, that the correct answer might be all of them.

Without O'Connell, who has been sidelined with a broken collarbone for since the beginning of the 30-7 win over Eastern Washington, the team first experimented with moving defensive tackle Dan Ogden to defensive end.

With Ogden's persistent ankle injury once again flaring up, MSU decided to try fellow defensive tackle Zach Minter at end, instead.

Both have showed flashes of competence, with Minter collecting five tackles against Northern Arizona and Ogden totaling five against Sacramento State. But neither has made MSU's winner's circle — reserved for players who grade out the highest on film — after games in which they've played defensive end.

O'Connell, who isn't expected to be back this week but hopes to be back

before the end of the season, thinks he knows why.

"They're both adjusting to new positions," the senior said. "That's not an easy thing to do."

You think that's hard, try being Sean Gords. The true freshman corner was thrust into the spotlight more than ever last Saturday when Briggs couldn't go. Gords was picked on often, including on one touchdown pass that he gave up despite pretty good coverage.

It made Briggs, who had forced turnovers in each of his last three games, cringe even more than his sore hamstring.

"We have other guys to step in that can make plays," Briggs said. "But right now we've got a lot of experienced guys on the sideline. That's tough."

As if watching those touchdowns wasn't tough enough, it fired Briggs up even more hearing NAU jaw about fact that he and Craney, a fellow defensive back, weren't in the lineup.

"Some of their coaches came up and asked, 'Oh, you guys aren't going to play?'" he said. "It hurt a lot knowing that they knew I wasn't going to be playing."

It all has Briggs, a fifth-year senior, dead-set on playing against Northern Colorado Saturday. While he and Craney have both been listed as probable, when asked about the probability that he'd return, Briggs responded quickly.

"I'm going to play," he said. "I'm 100 percent."

Bignell wishes he could say the same.

Despite the fact that Ash had said earlier in the week that the middle linebacker has as "good a chance of seeing the field" as any of the injured four-some this week, Bignell has thought that himself each of the past three weeks.

The first series of each game has proven otherwise.

"I've been doing more harm than good out there," said Bignell, who is dealing with a high ankle sprain. "Waking up every Saturday and thinking that maybe I can go, maybe I can't has been the toughest part."

It appears no coincidence that the Bobcats defensive struggles have coincided with the absence of its leader in the middle. Both Ash and Bignell's replacement, Aleksei Grosulak, have said that Bignell's absence is perhaps the most noticeable of all.

But equally apparent, in Bignell's eyes, has been the progress he's seen from the sideline the past three weeks.

Before the third quarter meltdown at Sacramento State, there was the first 30 minutes where MSU gave up just 10 points. After giving up 18 points in the first quarter against Portland State, the Bobcats pitched a shutout over the second and third quarters.

And even during Saturday's lopsided loss to NAU, Montana State's defense kept the game from getting out of hand by holding its opponent off the scoreboard for the entire second half.

"That's pride," Bignell said. "That's going to pay dividends. In the long run, once we get healthy, we're going to be a deep, scary defense again. No question."

Will Holden can be reached at wholden@dailychronicle.com and 582-2690.

BIG SKY NOTES

ALMOST UPSET SATURDAY: No. 9 Montana State was taken down by Northern Arizona last week in Flagstaff. No. 11 Montana and No. 12 Eastern Washington nearly suffered the same fate, before late heroics. Northern Colorado led Eastern Washington 28-21 before the Eagles scored twice in the final 3:08 to pull out a 35-28 win. Bo Levi Mitchell capped a 12-play, 80-yard drive with a 4-yard TD pass to Brandon Kaufman to tie the game at 28-28 with 3:08 to play. UNC turned the ball over with 1:08 remaining. Walter Payton Award candidate Taiwan Jones rushed for 15 yards and then scored his third TD of the game, racing 24 yards for a touchdown with 41 seconds left. Montana needed a last-second 25-yard field goal from junior Brody McKnight to pull out a 23-21 win over the Vikings.

PACKING THE HOUSE: Montana ranks second in the FCS in average attendance at 25,732.

Appalachian State is first with an average of 29,744. Montana State is 19th in the FCS with an average of 14,332. NAU and Eastern Washington also rank in the top 50 in the FCS in average attendance.

After a crowd of 12,155 watched NAU's win over Montana State at the Walkup Skydome on Saturday, NAU's average attendance is 9,649, good enough for 41st. EWU is right behind at 42 with an average of 9,587. NAU's crowd on Saturday was its largest since 2003, when 12,821 were on hand for a game against Montana.

SKY IN SAGARIN: For the second straight week, the Big Sky is the top ranked FCS conference in the Sagarin Ratings. The Big Sky is 11th overall, ahead of FBS conferences the MAC and the Sun Belt. The CAA is 12th overall and second among FCS conference. Northern Arizona is the top Big Sky team, with a ranking of 59 overall and second among FCS teams. Montana State is sixth among FCS teams.

Dumas/from 1

Nothing wrong with the current name, but it lacks imagination.

Only one comes to my mind in this case: Sonny Holland.

It's not as if he's lacking for honors, but ... this seems like an appropriate choice if changing the name ever comes up.

Holland is already in MSU's and the city of Butte's hall of fame; his No. 52 has been retired by the Bobcats; he's Montana State's only three-time All-American; he's the winningest coach in MSU history (47, in just 7 years); he played on the Bobcats' national title team in 1956 and was head coach when they won it all again in '76; a spring scrimmage has been named after him; and he was listed (at No. 21) by Sports Illustrated in 1999 as one of Montana's top 50 all-time great-

est sports figures for the 20th century.

Let's add another accolade: Sonny Holland Stadium.

There are other deserving names, but when I think of MSU football, I think of Sonny. He deserves to be recognized on a venue along with the likes of Brick Breeden and G. Ott Romney.

Sonny will never push for such a recognition, though if one came his way, his response would likely begin with the words "Aw gosh, what an honor."

It's one of the highest a civilian can receive — and it appears fitting.

Another aspect that would be suitable for the 'new' stadium is concerts.

The thought of seeing Elton John or Jackson Browne under the stars sounds enticing to me.

All at Sonny Holland Stadium.

Tim Dumas can be reached at tdumas@dailychronicle.com and 582-2651.

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THE EDGE

NORTHERN COLORADO AT MONTANA STATE

WHEN MONTANA STATE HAS THE BALL

Passing: Official slumps last for three games, and after completing 50 percent of his passes the last two weeks for an average of 156.5 yards a game, Denarius McGhee is on the precipice of one. At the very least those numbers are a far cry from the 65 completion percentage and the 272.4 yards he was averaging over the first five games of the season. If that dip in numbers occurs for a third straight week, one or two questions must be raised: 1) Is McGhee's left foot completely healthy or is it hampering him? and 2) is McGhee leveling off after his scorching start?

One thing's for sure: This Northern Colorado defense is no picnic. Like Portland State, a team that did a nice job of limiting MSU through the air, Northern Colorado has a great secondary. Throwing at corner Corey Askew has been tough for teams all year, as his three picks are just one shy of Montana corner Trumaine Johnson for the conference lead. He's also got a lot of help from Max Hewitt, a fellow all-conference defensive back at safety, and a very underrated Colby Riggins at the opposite corner.

With those three roaming back there, UNC has allowed very few big plays this season.

But unlike Northern Arizona a week ago, the Bears don't have great pass rushers. The team will send middle linebacker John Eddy, who is a solid pass

EDGE



rusher, on some blitzes, but other than that UNC doesn't have many players who can pressure the quarterback. This will be just what the doctor ordered for McGhee, who has proven that he can pick apart the league's best secondaries if he has time.

Rushing: After handing the ball to their running backs a mere 13 times last week, the Bobcats absolutely have to get back to the ground game against Northern Colorado. Look for Brian Wright and his offensive staff to get Orenzo Davis, who has been playing well despite being a bit banged up, involved early against UNC, a team that has given up an average of at least 7.7 yards a carry to at least one opposing back in five of its last six games.

That's the thing with UNC, while they've tried hard to improve against the run — and they have — they're a boom-or-bust type of rush defense. Last week, the Bears had six tackles for a loss against an explosive offense from Eastern Washington. That's just one shy of the impressive seven NAU put up against MSU last week. But UNC also gave up six runs of 10 yards or more to Taiwan Jones. Davis isn't Taiwan Jones, but he's that type of back. Get him on the outside and UNC's larger, less mobile linebackers will likely struggle.

Edge: Montana State

WHEN NORTHERN COLORADO HAS THE BALL

Passing: Dylan Orms is the biggest reason teams fear Northern Colorado. Make no mistake, Montana and Sacramento State were exhaling anxiety when both found out Orms would not be suiting up. Like McGhee, Orms' talent lies in keeping plays alive. Let him out of the pocket and he can really burn you. MSU's defensive line, especially its young and/or inexperienced defensive ends, may struggle with that today.

But the scouting report on Orms is that when he gets out on the edge, he's really not much of a passer. He's thrown for over 200 yards just once in his six complete games this year — and that one occasion was when he passed for 233 yards in a quadruple overtime game against Weber State. It's mostly because Orms doesn't throw all that often. Only one regular starting quarterback — PSU's Connor Kavanaugh, who leads a run-based offense — has thrown less than Orms this season. And when he does throw, he's not all that accurate, completing 52 percent of his passes on this season with seven touchdowns and eight interceptions.

This type of offense couldn't be rolling through at a better time for the Bobcats, who will likely be without Arnold Briggs and Jordan Craney for another week. That said, keep an eye on freshman corner Sean Gords. UNC has a pair of decent

EDGE



receivers in Jace Davis and Patrick Walker. Darius Jones will likely lock one of them down, but if Gords continues to struggle, whoever he gets matched up with could end up burning the Bobcats again.

Rushing: The biggest thing for MSU this week will be tackling. After a couple weeks of utilizing some poor technique, the Bobcats can't afford more of the same with bruising running back Andre Harris, the quick Jhamele Robinson and the slippery Orms set to hit town. Each runner has the ability to run over and around tacklers.

But despite the way it seemed, MSU's linebackers and defensive line didn't perform all that poorly against the ground game from NAU. Hold Harris and Robinson to averages of around 2.4 yards a carry like MSU did with Zach Bauman last week and the home team will be in business.

The key, once again, is Orms. He will get outside and rush for some yards today. But don't expect him to run wild against MSU, mostly due to the speed of its linebackers and open field tackling ability of its secondary. The Bobcats are still rallying to the ball pretty well at the second level and there is no reason to expect it won't continue today.

Edge: Montana State

SPECIAL TEAMS

Kicking & punting: Montana State punter Rory Perez is really starting to look like one of the nation's best punters, with a net average of 38.1 yards. Returners have actually lost yards (-2) on Montana State punts this year. Conversely, Northern Colorado is one of the worst punting teams in the conference.

The Bears' Cameron Kaman is averaging a net of 30.9 a punt, with an average distance of 38.3. Northern Colorado's kicking game, led by Matt Puckett, is also one of the worst in the conference. Puckett is 4-for-8 on the year and 0-for-2 from longer than 40 yards. Jason Cunningham, the conference's best kicker, is a distinct advantage.

EDGE



Returns & coverage: With Kaman and Puckett leading the way, MSU might have its best chance at some big punt and kick returns. While Idaho State's Tavoy Moore is probably the most explosive return man in the conference, he returned one kickoff and one punt for a touchdown in the same game and he would have had one more punt return score as well had it not been called back. That's way too many returns to give up to anyone.

Last week, UNC also gave up a kickoff return touchdown to EWU and two weeks ago had a punt blocked for a touchdown. To say this team has special teams issues would be an understatement.

Edge: Montana State

INTANGIBLES

Just like MSU caught the Lumberjacks at a bad time last week, the Bears are catching MSU at a bad time this week. Northern Colorado will have some fire left over from a week ago, knowing it can play with the conference's upper echelon, having just lost to Eastern Washington by seven points.

But this Bear team still hasn't figured out how

EDGE



to win close games and as they head on the road this week, where they're 0-3 this season, it doesn't look like their week to figure it out. Not against a Montana State team that is very hungry to prove that last week's blowout against Northern Arizona was a fluke.

Edge: Montana State

OVERALL

This Bear team has scared some of the best teams in the conference this season, but they're also laid a few eggs as well, especially on the road. If the Bobcat offense once again stumbles out of the gate and the shifty Orms is allowed to set up shop with his team's ball-controlling type of offense, UNC will hang around. But a week removed from seeing an NAU team utilize that very same plan, expect the Bobcats to be ready for it. They should win comfortably today.



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Analysis by **WILL C. HOLDEN** of the Chronicle

DEPTH CHARTS

Montana State

Offense

LEFT TACKLE

72 Mike Person 6-5/295 Sr
70 Killian Fitzpatrick 6-8/270 Fr

LEFT GUARD

57 Casey Dennehy 6-1/270 So
68 Conrad Burbank 6-4/280 Jr

CENTER

56 Shaun Sampson 6-0/249 So
61 Alex Terrien 6-4/285 Jr

RIGHT GUARD

61 Alex Terrien 6-4/285 Jr
71 Jesse Hoffmann 6-4/286 Sr

RIGHT TACKLE

50 Leo Davis 6-4/271 Jr
70 Killian Fitzpatrick 6-8/270 Fr

QUARTERBACK

9 Denarius McGhee 6-0/197 Fr
12 Cody Kempt 6-2/211 Sr

RUNNING BACK

8 Orenzo Davis 5-9/185 Jr
20 C.J. Palmer 6-0/210 Jr

W RECEIVER

14 Everett Gilbert 5-9/180 So
27 DeSean Thomas 6-1/180 Jr

X RECEIVER

1 Elvis Akpla 6-1/187 Jr
86 Tanner Bleskin 6-3/210 Fr

Z RECEIVER

82 Julius Lloyd 6-0/184 Sr
10 Kruizz Siewing 5-11/182 So

TIGHT END

81 Kyle Begger 6-2/245 Jr
88 Shane Robinson 6-5/250 Jr

KICKER

15 Jason Cunningham 6-1/162 Jr

Northern Colorado

Defense

LEFT END

97 Nick Hernon 6-1/220 Jr
99 Marcus Lucas 6-3/235 So

LEFT TACKLE

63 Marcus Felker 6-1/370 Jr
54 Dominique Ceja 5-10/290 Jr

RIGHT TACKLE

92 Ethan Davis 6-2/290 Sr
93 Pasi Fahina 6-0/270 Fr

RIGHT END

95 VJ Holmes 6-3/245 Jr
59 Dylan Kildahl 6-4/255 So

SAM LINEBACKER

55 Matt King 6-4/235 Sr
51 Cameron Friend 6-0/220 So

MIKE LINEBACKER

96 John Eddy 6-4/240 Sr
49 Gavin Miller 6-3/230 Fr

WILL LINEBACKER

7 James Schrenk 6-1/225 Sr
51 Cameron Friend 6-0/220 So

CORNERBACK

2 Corey Askew 5-9/180 Sr
9 Brandon Owens 6-0/175 Jr

FREE SAFETY

4 Max Hewitt 6-2/210 Sr
6 Chuks Nweke 6-1/190 Jr

ROVER

32 Macrel Gibbons 6-0/190 So
26 Elliot Dorsey 6-0/200 Jr

CORNERBACK

23 Colby Riggins 5-11/170 Jr
9 Brandon Owens 6-0/175 Jr

PUNTER

37 Cameron Kaman 5-11/165 Jr

Defense

BANDIT

90 Dan Ogden 6-0/270 Sr
34 Preston Gale 6-2/239 Fr

TACKLE

96 Zach Minter 6-2/277 So
63 Zach Logan 6-3/295 Fr

NOSE TACKLE

45 Jason D'Alba 6-2/277 Sr
98 Christian Keli'i 6-0/282 So

END

11 John Laidet 6-5/250 Jr
49 Caleb Schreiber 6-3/245 So

SAM LINEBACKER

9 Roger Trammell 6-1/230 Jr
44 Aleksei Grosulak 5-10/250 Fr

MIKE LINEBACKER

44 Aleksei Grosulak 5-10/250 Fr
42 Clay Bignell 6-2/236 Jr

WILL LINEBACKER

23 Jody Owens 6-1/214 So
59 Tanner Ripley 6-1/214 Sr

BOUNDARY CORNER

17 Sean Gords 5-10/185 Fr
26 Arnold Briggs 5-10/185 Sr

FREE SAFETY

22 Michael Rider 5-11/196 Sr
5 Joel Fuller 6-0/200 So

ROVER

32 Anthony Cosme-Peko 5-11/209 Sr
7 Jordan Craney 6-1/205 Sr

FIELD CORNER

13 Darius Jones 5-10/167 So
24 James Andrews 6-1/187 Jr

PUNTER

18 Rory Perez 6-2/180 Fr

Offense

LEFT TACKLE

77 Nick Chandler 6-6/270 So
69 Jake Schalamon 6-3/260 So

LEFT GUARD

50 Cody Gilmore 6-3/285 So
72 Rick Aversano 6-3/270 So

CENTER

57 Tim McGraw 6-2/275 Sr
72 Zak Thrall 6-3/285 Fr

RIGHT GUARD

65 Alex Shapiro 6-4/295 Jr
72 Rick Aversano 6-3/270 So

RIGHT TACKLE

76 Lee Barbiasz 6-7/300 Jr
69 Jake Schalamon 6-3/260 So

QUARTERBACK

5 Dylan Orms 6-1/195 Jr
8 Matt Baca 6-1/210 So

RUNNING BACK

21 Andre Harris 6-0/220 Sr
22 Jhamele Robinson 5-7/175 Sr

TIGHT END

83 Sam Sewell 6-3/230 Sr
84 Doug Steele 6-4/245 So

RECEIVER

25 Jace Davis 6-1/190 So
86 Chris Morris 6-2/190 So

RECEIVER

11 Patrick Walker 5-9/180 Jr
19 Matt McDonnell 6-0/200 Sr

RECEIVER

10 Dominic Gunn 5-11/165 So
82 Denzel Hutchings 5-11/175 Jr

KICKER

38 Matt Myers 6-0/200 Jr

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