

MONTANA ST BOBCATS

HC: **ROB ASH (13-10) • BOZEMAN, MT**

OFFENSE - LAST 5 YEARS STATS - DEFENSE

RET STS	OFF PTS	TTL OFF	OFF RUSH	OFF YPC	OFF PASS	PASS %	TOTAL TURN	RECORD	RET STS	DEF PTS	TTL DEF	DEF RUSH	DEF YPC	DEF PASS	PASS %
6	26.6	336	175	4.2	167	49.8	-10	2008 7-5	5	27.7	314	89	2.6	225	60.5
7*	24.2	353	116	3.4	237	53.0	+4	2007 6-5	7	21.7	367	144	3.7	223	54.3
5	20.1	321	95	3.2	226	54.6	-2	2006 8-5	7	22.0	307	120	3.2	187	52.3
10	25.1	375	131	3.9	244	57.0	+7	2005 7-4	6	22.8	332	167	3.9	166	50.7
5	26.9	433	115	3.5	318	54.1	0	2004 6-5	6	25.9	383	248	3.3	248	53.4

OFFENSE - The Bobcats returned 6 off starters LY and added a JC and an FBS transfer. While they dropped from #7 to #9 in total off they moved up from #7 to #5 in scoring. This year they return just 5 off starters but again add a FBS transfer. Last year MSU had to replace QB Jack Rolovich, who threw for 2,237 (52.5%) with a 14-11 ratio in '07, along with his backup. They brought in Oregon transfer QB Cody Kempt (PS#78) and JC transfer QB Mark Iddens (PS#179JC). Kempt started the first 9, throwing for 1,316 (51.2%) with a 9-12 ratio (#4 rusher), but then was out the rest of the year with an inj. Iddens started vs NA but was lost for the year with a shoulder inj. He played in 7 throwing for 334 (48.5%) with a 4-3 ratio. With both QB's out Mark Desin, who saw time at WR, started the final 2 throwing for 264 (45.9%) with a 1-4 ratio (50 rush). All 3 return, with Desin being the only totally healthy QB in the spg. LY MS returned their top 3 rushers including RB Demetrius Crawford (868, 4.9) earning 1st Tm BSC honors as he led again with 1,314 (5.2) including ending with 5 straight 100 yd gms. While they must replace Crawford they do return RB's CJ Palmer (312, 5.0) and Aaron Mason (226, 4.0). MSU returned 3 of their top 4 rec LY led by WR Deon Toliver (#2, 451, 18.0). This year, they must replace 5 of their top 7 rec including Toliver (#2, 318, 17.7), WR Tyler Lulay (#3) and starting TE Brandon Bostick (#5). They do return WR DeSean Thomas, who led with 407 (17.0) and TE Joe Schreiber (#6) and add Oregon transfer, Elvis Akpla. The OL returned 4 starters LY and they helped MSU lead the conf in rushing (175.2 ypg) for the first time since 1989. Their ypc increased from 3.4 to 4.2 and their sacks allowed fell from 23 to a conf best 17 (5.3%). The OL must replace 2 starters including 1st Tm BSC LT Lou Saucedo. They return 4 OL, who combined for 40 starts including 2nd Tm BSC RG Jeff Hansen.

DEFENSE - While returning just 5 def starters LY, they did return 4 of their top 5 tklr and had their first full year in the new def (HC Ash took over after spg in '07). They improved from #3 to #1 in total defense as they allowed 53 ypg less but went down from #2 to #6 in scoring defense. However, if you take out the 2 games vs FBS opp (104 pts) they allowed just 22.8

ppg which would have been #3. They return 7 starters TY and 8 of their top 10 tklr. The DL returned 2 starters led by 2nd Tm BSC DE Dane Fletcher (#4 tklr, 16 tfl). They improved their rush D by over 50 ypg allowing just 89 ypg (#2, #6 FCS) and the ypc dropped from 3.7 to 2.6. The D increased their sack total from 29 to 36 (#2), Fletcher (2nd Tm BSC) again led the team in tfl (14.5) despite missing the final 2 gms with inj. They must replace 3 DL (comb 22 st) but return 5 who comb for 26 st including Fletcher (9 st). The LB unit had to replace 2 starters but ret'd #1 tklr (135), 1st Tm BSC MLB Bobby Daly. He again was the #1 tklr (82, 2nd Tm BSC) but departs. They do return the other 2 starters in #2 tklr WLB Jeff Price and #3 SLB Chase Gazzo. The secondary ret'd 3 players who had a comb 25 st in '07 and for a third straight yr were #3 in pass defense allowing a 17-17 ratio. They return 4 players who comb for 38 st including the #4, #5 and #6 tklr led by 1st Tm BSC FS Kevin Retoriano, who ret'd all 3 of his int for TD's.

SPECIAL TEAMS - MSU only had to replace the KR LY but true frosh K Jason Cunningham would win the K job, and hit 13 of 19 (L/52), P Eric Fisher avg 41.8 with a long of 73; PR Lulay avg 8.0, while KR Aaron Mason avg 19.9 and KR Demetrius Crawford avg 29.5 thanks to a 100 yd ret vs Minn that snapped a 47 game drought. MSU blk'd 6 kicks in '08 including 2 by DE Fletcher vs NAU. The only losses are Lulay and Crawford.

COACHES - HC Rob Ash enters his 3rd season here after 18 yrs as HC at Drake. His DC Jamie Marshall and Co-OC Dale Ploessl both came with Ash from Drake and enter their 3rd yr. Co-OC Jim Svoboda was QB ch here in '07 and was promoted LY.

FORECAST - The Bobcats won the 1984 I-AA Championship going 12-2. MSU has had just 11 winning seasons since then but have now had 7 straight, their longest streak since 1956-64. They have made the playoffs just 3 times since '84, but all have come in the last 7 yrs. The defense should once again be strong and if the QB's can stay healthy and a RB steps up to replace Crawford the Bobcats could make it 4 playoff trips since 2002.

Sep. 5	at Michigan St
Sep. 12	Dixie St
Sep. 19	
Sep. 26	at N Colorado
Oct. 3	at Weber St
Oct. 10	N Arizona
Oct. 17	S Dakota
Oct. 24	at E Washington
Oct. 31	Idaho St
Nov. 7	at Portland St
Nov. 14	Sacramento St
Nov. 21	Montana

Last 10 FCS Playoff Games

YEAR	GAME	OPPONENT	SCORE
1984	QF	Arkansas ST	31-14
1984	SF	Rhode Island	32-20
1984	CH	Louisiana Tech	19-6
2002	FR	McNeese St	14-21
2003	FR	Northern Iowa	14-35
2006	FR	Furman	31-13
2006	QF	Appalachian St	17-38



RETURNING STARTERS:
OFFENSE: 5*
DEFENSE: 7

2006 RESULTS (8-5)

OPPONENT	SCORE
at Colorado	19-10
Chadron St	24-35
UC Davis	0-45
Eastern Wash	10-19
at Northern Arizona	39-32
Portland State	14-0
at Sacramento St	21-18
at Idaho State	42-35
at Weber State	24-18
at Northern Colorado	13-10
at Montana	7-13
Furman	31-13
at Appalachian St	17-38

2007 RESULTS (6-5)

OPPONENT	SCORE
at Texas A&M	7-38
Dixie St	61-7
at Weber St	21-5
Idaho St	40-20
Southern Utah	7-3
at Eastern Washington	13-35
Sacramento St	20-9
at Northern Colorado	13-16
Northern Arizona	14-29
at Portland St	50-36
Montana	20-41

2008 RESULTS (7-5)

OPPONENT	SCORE
Adams St	59-3
at Kansas St	10-69
at Minnesota	23-35
South Dakota	37-18
at Idaho St	33-21
Weber St	12-35
at Eastern Washington	17-34
at Sacramento St	31-20
Northern Colorado	20-7
at Northern Arizona	25-23
Portland St	49-32
at Montana	3-35

2008 STATISTICAL LEADERS

RUSHING	ATT	GAIN	LOST	NET	TD	AVG	PLAYER	TKL	SCK	TFL	PBU	INT
Demetrius Crawford	251	1396	82	1314	8	5.2	Bobby Daly	82	3.5	4.5	1	0
CJ Palmer	63	321	9	312	7	5.0	Jeff Price	67	0.5	5.5	1	2
Aaron Mason	56	239	13	226	1	4.0	Chase Gazzo	62	4.5	6.5	6	1
Cody Kempt	59	206	122	84	2	1.4	Kevin Retoriano	58	0	2.5	4	3
DeSean Thomas	5	71	2	69	0	13.8	Arnold Briggs	54	0	1	5	2
Mark Iddens	17	85	25	60	0	3.5	Cory Nicol	48	0	0	5	4
Mark Desin	26	86	36	50	1	1.9	Dane Fletcher	44	6.5	8	5	0
PASSING	ATT	COMP	PCT	YDS	TD	INT	PLAYER	TKL	SCK	TFL	PBU	INT
Cody Kempt	215	110	51.2	1316	9	12	Ramon Lewis	42	0	0.5	7	2
Mark Iddens	68	33	48.5	334	4	3	Brad Smith	41	3.5	6	1	0
Mark Desin	37	17	45.9	264	1	4	Dan Ogden	40	5	5.5	1	0
RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG	PLAYER	TKL	SCK	TFL	PBU	INT	
DeSean Thomas	24	407	17.0	4	58	David Taylor	29	0	0	6	0	
Deon Toliver	18	318	17.7	0	42	Chris Kolone	23	1.5	1	0	0	
Tyler Lulay	23	252	11.0	0	25	Ryan Cerise	22	3	2	0	0	
DeAndre Green	17	226	13.3	2	32	Clay Bignell	21	1	4.5	0	1	
Brandon Bostick	22	224	10.2	6	26	Isaiah Taito	20	1	2	2	0	
Joe Schreiber	10	129	12.9	0	34	Dustin O'Connell	19	1	2	5	0	
Demetrius Crawford	18	101	5.6	0	16	Jordan Craney	17	0	0	1	1	
Mark Desin	9	93	10.3	0	15	Jeff Brown	17	0	0	1	1	
Derek Green	5	82	16.4	0	29	Dylan Kinkelaar	16	3.5	3	0	0	
PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG	NET	In20	PLAYER	NO	YDS	AVG	TD		
Eric Fisher	68	2841	41.8	31.8	22	Paul Bartsch	13	0	0	0		
KICKING	XP	40-49	50+	TOTAL	LONG	PLAYER	NO	YDS	AVG	TD		
Jason Cunningham	38-39	3-4	2-3	13-19	52	Tyler Lulay	26	208	8.0	0		
						Kick Returns	NO	YDS	AVG	TD		
						Aaron Mason	18	358	19.9	0		
						Demetrius Crawford	10	295	29.5	1		

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