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Grizzly grapplers to compete three times Saturday at Bozeman

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MISSOULA--

After dropping their first meet of the season last weekend in Missoula against Montana State, University of Montana wrestlers head east to Bozeman this Saturday to meet not only Montana State, but also Hiram Scott College of Nebraska and Utah State University.

Coached by Gene Davis, the Bruin grapplers will meet Hiram Scott at 10 a.m., Utah State at 2 p.m., and Montana State at 7 p.m.

"This will be a real test of conditioning," Davis said. "It's often difficult to wrestle twice in one day, let alone three times."

The young mentor from Missoula via Oklahoma State University figures Montana State will be the team to beat at the tourney, with Hiram Scott and Utah State following in order. The Bobcats beat the Grizzlies narrowly, 18-15, last weekend. The Grizzlies bounced back to defeat Weber State, 26-13, and bring their record to 3-1 on the year.

Because of the new freshman eligibility rule, Davis will have a complete squad once again this weekend. Wrestling in the various weight divisions will be:

115--Willie Clayton, Deerfield, Ill. freshman; 123--Dennis LaBonty, Havre freshman; 130--Jeff Cunniff, Great Falls sophomore; 137--Roy Harrison, Kalispell Junior; 145--Terry Hamilton, Kalispell sophomore; 152--Bernie Olson, Kalispell senior; 160--Tom Cooper, Missoula sophomore; 191--Rod Lung, Sacramento, Calif. senior, and heavyweight--Bill Gilboe, Great Falls senior.

LaBonty, Cunniff, Robbins, Lung and Gilboe are all undefeated through the first four meets. LaBonty and Lung are 2-0, Robbins and Gilboe are 4-0, and Cunniff has three victories, no losses and one draw.