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Grizzly wrestlers off until January; three place high at Boise tournament

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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MISSOULA--

University of Montana Grizzly wrestlers will be idle until Jan. 11, when they travel
to Billings to take on Eastern Montana College in a dual meet.

Montana lost an opening dual battle to Idaho State, 39-0, two weeks ago, but Mick
Delaney, UM coach, got a little boost last weekend in Boise, Idaho when three of his
grapplers placed high in their respective weight classes during the eight-team Boise State
College Invitational Tournament.

Pat Cheney, at 130 pounds, and Rick Sparks, in the heavyweight class, finished second
in their divisions, while Wayne Monts, a 145-pounder, took a third place.

Cheney took his second place by winning decisions over wrestlers from Idaho and Weber
State before dropping a final round overtime decision to an Eastern Oregon wrestler.

Sparks, seeing his first varsity action, pinned wrestlers from Boise State and Idaho
before being pinned himself by another Eastern Oregon grappler.

Monts won his first match against Boise State opposition, lost in the semi-finals match
against a Weber State man, and then won his consolation match by decision over a Utah State
wrestler.

The Grizzly squad was thinned considerably by the flu shortly before the Boise event.

"I was real pleased with the showing made by these three men," Delaney said. "It made
me feel a little better about our chances after the holidays."

Delaney is expecting several additional wrestlers out winter quarter after missing fall
action while concentrating on studies or recovering from injuries.