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GRIZZLY NETTERS
SPLIT

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MISSOULA---

The University of Montana tennis team remained at the .500 mark on the season following a 8-1 Friday loss to Idaho and a 6-3 win over Weber Saturday.

Tip Coach Jack McWhorter said the Idaho match gave his players confidence. "I think some of our players were too tense going into the match because Idaho is the champion; however, I think some of our players beat them at the conference finals," he said.

McWhorter said Weber was a tougher team than he anticipated and could knock off some teams at the Big Sky meet.

Number five singles player Gary Israel continued his winning ways defeating his Idaho's Jim Ferrell, 6-2, 5-7 and 6-1 and Weber's Phil Judd, 6-1 and 6-2. He leads Montana with a 7-1 mark. Jim's brother Rick is Montana's number one player.

Following Israel is number four player Chris Green with a 6-2 record. Green split over the weekend losing to Idaho's Tom Leonard and defeating Weber's Kim Owens.

Other Weber winners include Dirk Miller and Ron Wendte. Miller is Montana's number two player and Wendte plays number three for the Grizzlies.

McWhorter said Rick Ferrell is hampered by a severe elbow problem. "We just have to hope his elbow doesn't bother him in the Big Sky finals. It's an injury that is reoccurring," he said.

Montana's next action will be Friday in Missoula against Montana State. Saturday Montana State and Idaho State square off then Montana and Idaho State meet in the Garden City.

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