1-9-1969

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bill schwanke
1-9-69
sports one

BRUIN WRESTLERS SWING BACK INTO ACTION
AGAINST EASTERN MONTANA IN BILLINGS

MISSOULA---

Ten University of Montana wrestlers will be in Billings Saturday for a dual meet against Eastern Montana College.

It will be the first meet for the Grizzly grapplers since December, when they were whitewashed by Idaho State and had three wrestlers who finished high in the Boise State College Invitational.

Coaches Mick Delaney and Bill Gilboe will both be going to Billings, and they think their charges might be hard pressed to come up with a win over the highly-regarded Yellowjackets.

"We're actually pointing for the Big Sky championship meet during these regular season meets, and conditioning is the main point of this type of competition," Delaney said. "But some individual wins before the league meet would certainly help in the area of confidence."

Delaney said his team is in better shape than it was before the holidays, when many wrestlers were not in good shape or were suffering from the flu.

Wrestlers competing for Montana in the various weight classes will be:

123—Mike Thomas, freshman from Parkridge, Ill.; 130—Pat Cheney, freshman from Bethesda, Md.; 137—Wayne Monts, freshman from Great Falls; 145—Gary Littleton, freshman from Petersburg, Alaska; 152—Wayne Mathews, sophomore from Brisbane, Australia; 160—Tom Cooper, junior from Missoula; 167—Doug Robbins, junior from Great Falls; 177—Steve Baldock, freshman from Markham, Ill.; 191—Ron Mehrens, junior from Butte, and heavyweight—Rick Sparks, junior from Butte, or Larry Stranahan, sophomore from Missoula.

Mehrens is making his first appearance this season after placing second in the 177-pound class during last year's Big Sky Conference championship meet.