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MONTANA FACES
TOUGH SWIM TEST

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Montana swimmers face the biggest roadblock in their quest for a fifth straight Big Sky title this Saturday when Idaho State and Weber State swimmers invade the Grizzly Pool.

Montana coach Fred Stetson said, "This is the biggest meet of the season for us. Idaho State has been the bridemaids to the Grizzlies the last four seasons and are hungry for the top spot." The Tip swimmers will face the Bengals from Pocatello and the Wildcat from Ogden in a double dual meet beginning at 2:30 Saturday afternoon.

Stetson said Idaho State fields the strongest team in the history of the school with triple Big Sky winner Kevin Bodily (last season's 100 and 200 yd. backstroke champion and 400/individual medley winner) along with Cal Percy and Bruce McClay forming the nucleus of the Bengal unit.

While Idaho State has Bodily and crew, Weber is no slouch with freshman ace Marty Nottingham and 1969 century freestyle champion, Mike Powers leading the Weber squad.

The last time Montana and Idaho State met in a dual meet, the score ended in a 52-52 tie. This Saturday promises to be a repeat of the 1967 deadlock as Stetson predicts the meet will come right down to the relay events.

"We had quite a jolt when Tip individual medley ace, Ed O'Brien did not return to school for winter quarter," Stetson said. However, the UM mentor has triple Big Sky champ Kurt von Tagen, All-American Dave Garard, and conference winners Fred Poole, Jerry Homstad and Dave Allen back.

Stetson said Montana is strong in diving and the free style events, while Idaho is strong in the medley, back and breaststrokes. Weber has a balanced team, however came out on the short end of two dual meets with Idaho State already this season.

No admission will be charged for the meet and persons wishing to time or judge should report to the pool before 2 p.m.

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