

Indian matmen have Campbellsport's number again

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By JUDY HARLOW

The outcome didn't have as much of an impact on the host team as it did on the visitors, but not much motivation is ever needed to get the wrestlers from Kewaskum and Campbellsport fired up for their annual encounter.

The CHS gymnasium was packed and electric Jan. 16 as the Indians and Cougars squared off, and it was the Indians, behind a fast start and a solid ending, coming away a 40-27 winner.

With the victory, Kewaskum improved to a perfect 6-0 in the Eastern Wisconsin Conference, while the Cougars dropped to 3-3.

"This is the third year in a row," KHS coach Dennis Aupperle said, referring to the Indians' run of wins over Campbellsport after a growth that stretched a couple decades.

Aupperle said he had been working extra hard with his charges on riding, and while the rides to cradles, were successful, he said, "I thought we looked pretty good on our feet today."

The draw to start at 103 pounds couldn't have been better for the winners, who jumped out to an 18-0 lead. Andrew Haugen was a forfeit winners at 103, then bang-bang, it was Calob Olla pinning Greg Blotz in 1:24 and Stephan "Bud" Kattar catching Tom Beck in a vice of a cradle and putting him away in 1:19.

"Calob came out and got us started," Aupperle said, adding, "Beck's been wrestling a while, and Kattar went out and had a good match against him and got that cradle in tight."

Kewaskum fans were ecstatic, but the lead disappeared after two Campbellsport pins and the KHS forfeit at 125.

And which team was going to take the lead after the 18-18 tie? With Mason Smith and Eric Ogi coming up, it was a good bet it would be the Indians, and the two seniors came through in grand style.

Smith came out very aggressive and quickly disposed of Neal Scannel. It was the third, first-period (1:21) pin by the Indians, and even though Ogi couldn't duplicate the time, he got a pin, which was his 102nd win and 21st of the season, over junior Mason Salm.

Salm actually looked in good position twice to score on Ogi, who rolled right through the head throw attempt to put Salm to his back.

Ogi's pin time was 3:09.

"Mason's looking real good. He's really done a nice job the last few weeks," Aupperle said, and he didn't have to say much about Ogi, who is strong, disciplined and inspired to have an outstanding season.

Adding to the victory strong was 152-pound Mike Pfothauer, who joined the team in mid-December and is starting to look very good. Using a tackle move perhaps he took from his excellent football season, Pfothauer started off with a quick 2-0 lead and never looked back, winning a 9-0 major decision over Todd Rosenstiel.

With a 34-18 lead, it was looking like the Indians were in command, but three straight decisions, by Wes Bangle at 160, Zach Wetzel at 171 and Billy Mayer at 189, the Cougars were still mathematically in the match.

Mayer squared off against arch rival, Jake Turowski in the headliner match of the night.

The Kewaskum athlete led until the final 34 seconds when Mayer was awarded a penalty point when the official deemed Turowski was stalling. Then Mayer used a double leg takedown for a 6-4 win.

"I think Billy has beaten him every time, but only by one or two points," CHS Coach Mark Peterson said. "Those two will tangle a few more times this year ... like Derek Toshner and (Mike) Farchione."

Farchione, who died in a car accident last year, lost to Toshner a couple times during the regular season, then beat him for the Division 2 state title.

Aupperle said Mayer has such an advantage with his long arms, "then he goes in for that double."

"those two guys go at it. You never knew what can happen there," he said.

Mayer lifted the Cougars to within seven points, 34-27, but P.J. Krueger and Tyler Swanson saw to it the host would not score another point. Krueger out pointed the veteran Brett Galligan, one of three CHS wrestlers honored during the team's annual Senior Night celebration, 5-1 and Swanson, again giving up quite a bit of weight, used a takedown early in the match toward a 2-0 effort.

Peterson admitted he didn't think his wrestlers at 119 and 140 would get pinned but added, "No excuses (about losing to Kewaskum). We're just a very young team."

Kewaskum 40, Campbellsport 27

103 Haugen by forfeit; 112 Olla pinned Blatz, 1:24; 119 Kattar pinned Beck, 1:19; 125 Nathan Seitz was pinned by Cody Wilch, 5:00; 130 KHS forfeits to Derrick Sippel; 135 Jeremy Parker was pinned by James Stukenberg, 1:57; 140 Smith pinned Scannel, 1:21; 145 Ogi pinned Slam, 3:01; 152 Pfothenauer dec. Rosenstiel, 9-0; 160 Seibel was dec. by West Bengel 5-6; 171 Matt Buker was dec. by Zach Wetzel 2-6; 189 Turowski was dec. by Mayer, 6-4; 189 Krueger dec. Galligan, 5-1; Swanson dec. Justin Wilch 2-0.

*Writer's note: Two of the Campbellsport wrestlers have Kewaskum ties. Tom Beck's dad, Steve, wrestled for Kewaskum in the late 1970s, and his mother, Donna (Lehmann) , is also a KHS grad. Mason Salm's mom, Darcel (Schmidt), also graduated for KHS where she was a wrestling cheerleader.