

Behind 4 championships and lots of other places, Indians are 1st at Waupun

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By JUDY HARLOW

A pair of wrestling teams from Washington County dominated the annual Waupun Invitational Saturday, with the Kewaskum Indians claiming the top spot with 213.5 points, 8.5 more than neighboring West Bend East (195.0). Kewaskum had five athletes reach the finals, and four of them, Eric Ogi at 145 pounds, Cody Seibel at 160, Jake Turowski at 189 and P.J. Krueger at 215, coming away as champions, while Andrew Haugen settled for a second place at 103 pounds.

Host Waupun, which is coming into the Eastern Wisconsin Conference beginning next fall, finished third at 170.5, then came Laconia at 148.5. The remainder of the field finished as follows: Markesan, 130.5; New Holstein, 114; Columbus, 105; New Berlin West, 89; and Mayville, 21.

³It is the third year in a row we have won it,² KHS coach Dennis Aupperle beamed, pointing out Ogi and Turowski were repeat winners in the event.

Ogi pinned his first two opponents, David Valenza of Columbus in 1:23, then Vic Klapperich of New Holstein also in under two minutes (1:43). Jeff Wild of New Berlin West was Ogi's opponent in the finals, and Ogi pretty well dominated, winning 7-2.

Turowski was a giant in the 189-pound weight class. After receiving a bye, he disposed of Waupun's Travis Core in 1:59, and then only needed 3:56 to polish off Sammi Toivonen of Markesan, meaning he only wrestled a total of 5:55 in his two matches.

³He (Turowski) is closing in on 100 wins also,² Aupperle said, referring, in part, to the fact Ogi hit that plateau on Jan. 9th against Two Rivers. ³He (Turowski) should reach it in conference (the EWC meet on Feb. 3rd at Manitowoc Roncalli).

With their perfect days, Ogi climbed to 23-2, while Turowski is 21-4.

Another Indian who wrestled impressively was the sophomore Krueger, who went pin, pin, pin in his three matches to improve his record to 24-3.. Laconia's Erik Moon lasted 2:15 against Krueger, then Matt Lechler of New Holstein fought 2:51 before his shoulders were touching the mat, and in the finals, it was Krueger taking care of Dylan Quamme of Columbus in 2:27. What really pleased Aupperle was seeing the freshman Seibel do so well.

³Cody Seibel wrestled very aggressively, pinning both of his kids,² Aupperle said, looking at Seibel's day of work, which included a bye in the first round, a pin over Bob Bittner of Columbus in 1:47 in the semis and then a 3:06 fall over Markesan's Cody Friday of Markesan in the finals. After Saturday, Seibel is 15-8 overall, which is pretty good considering he is at one of the higher weights, against many experienced wrestlers. Haugen (16-6) started with a bye, then looked touch in the semis, pinning Tyler Lomibao in a swift 21 seconds.

In the finals, the tiny but muscular sophomore ran into a buzz saw in Juan Rodriguez of Laconia, who beat him in a 20-4 tech fall.

To earn titles, thirds and fourths are also important, and the Indians got a handfull of them. Calob Olla (15-9) placed third at 112; ³Bud² Kattar (16-8) took fourth at 119; Nathan Seitz (11-12) earned a fourth at 125; Mason Smith (17-9) took third at 140; and Matt Buker (3-4) took a third at 171.

³Calob Olla had an excellent day. He lost to the number-one ranked kid in D-3 (Division 3) from Laconia in the semis, but is really starting to come around,² Aupperle said, referring to Olla's getting pinned by Ethan Pipping in :45..

Athletes who lost in the first round or the semis had to come through the wrestleback bracket in a effort to reach the bout to determine third and

fourth places.

To claim third, Olla won by major decision over Mike Lefeber, 13-3, while Smith, who got pinned by Markesan's Ed Tuttle, the eventual champion, in the first round, then bounced back with several wins, including a final 11-3, major decision over Carl Cotter of Columbus for his third; and Buker topped New Holstein's Curtis Hallback by pin (:59) in the battle for third place.

Jeremy Parker picked up a couple team points for his seventh place, which featured a 3:27 pin over Kyle Davis of New Berlin West, while Mike Pfothauer (5-7) placed fifth at 152; and Tyler Swanson (11-12) pinned Kyle Gehrke of West Bend East in 4:39 for fifth at 285.