

Wrestlers fare well

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Correspondent

Outlaws wrestlers joined nine other teams at the Bend Invitational held on Saturday, January 10, and Sisters had six wrestlers reach medal rounds.

For the second consecutive tourney, junior Zach Reid (120 pounds) fought his way back to a fourth-place finish.

“Zach decided after last week’s dual that he wanted to go back down to 120 pounds, and he has been wrestling with a newfound passion,” said Coach John Downs. “Zach’s skill level has been improving and it’s showing in tournaments.”

Clayton Darst (160 pounds) finished fifth, and Cole Pade (120 pounds), Mark Fish (160 pounds), and Gabe Isle (285 pounds) all finished sixth.

“Mark and Clayton met each other in the fifth- and sixth-place championship,” said Downs. “They have practiced with each other for years but really never wrestled ‘live’ before. They both asked not to have a coach in their corner to keep it fair. It was a good match for both of them and it seemed that they should be partners in practice more often.”

In the novice tournament, Dustin Smith won two of his matches, both by a pin.

“As a first-year wrestler, Dustin has been showing much improvement, and his overall abilities have been improving,” said Downs.

Four days earlier, the Outlaws matmen had a three-way dual against Sutherland and La Pine. Sutherland came out on top 42-30 against Sisters.

Sisters won six of their 13 matches, and four were pins.

Tyler Surface competed in his first varsity match of the season and proved his stamina by lasting all three rounds. Zach Reid went up a weight class to 126 pounds and was able to prevail in a tough match against Jeremiah Scroggins by a 12-6 decision.

Cole Pade (120 pounds) pinned Cole Johnson in 1:19, and Clayton Darst (160 pounds) pinned Mike Smith in 55 seconds. Mark Fish (170 pounds) pinned Christopher Tello in 2:32. Mitch Gibney (195 pounds) pinned Andrew Smalley in 1:58. Tyler Surface (220 pounds) rounded out the winners by defeating Christian Beauregard 9-5.

La Pine defeated Sisters 53-27. Of the 14 matches, seven were forfeits. Sisters received four from La Pine and La Pine received three from Sisters. Out of the seven live matches, Mark Fish was the sole Outlaw to win

his match. Fish beat Tanner Hanson in a 7-2 decision.

Although Fish was the lone Sisters wrestler to tally a win, Coach Downs told *The Nugget* that there was definitely some stand-out determination in a couple of the matches. Chayce Sproat (145 pounds) fought off of his back three times before finally getting pinned.

“This was the match of the night,” said Downs. “It was great to see him fight as hard as he did and not give up. After his match, every wrestler went over to Chayce and told him ‘great job’ and complemented him on his effort.”

Sisters will travel to Cottage Grove on Thursday, January 22, for a match against the Lions.



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Clayton Dorst takes down Sutherland’s Mike Smith in Outlaws wrestling action.



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