

Matmen attend Dayton Invitational

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

Sisters matmen competed at the Dayton Invitational on Saturday, January 28. The duals tournament included teams from Dayton, Sprague, Sisters, Amity, Sheridan and Yamhill-Carlton (YC); and the Outlaws wrestled each of these teams throughout the day.

The Outlaws fell 44-28 to Yamhill-Carlton in their first match-up of the tourney. YC won eight matches and Sisters won five. Four of the five Outlaws wins were pins, which were earned by Dalton Ford (113 pounds), Anthony Randolph (132 pounds), Dustin Smith (160 pounds) and Tyler Surface (220 pounds). Cole Pade won in an 11-3 decision.

Sisters then lost 57-24 to Sprague High School. Four matmen earned six points each, two of which were freshmen: Dylan Vantress (106 pounds) and Sal Gibney (170 pounds). Ford and Pade also earned six points each in the dual. Cole fought all three rounds, and finally pinned his opponent before time expired.

The Outlaws then wrestled against a combo-team made up of wrestlers from Amity, Sheridan, and Outlaw wrestler Patrick Dingeman (195 pounds) stepped in to round out the team. Sisters won six

matches, and earned points from three forfeits to post a 77-14 win. Damien Wills (145 pounds), Tyler Friend (195 pounds), Smith, Gibney and Surface all recorded pins and Jake Stevens won 16-1 with a technical fall.

The Outlaws lost 63-18 to Dayton in their final match of the tournament. All of Sisters' 18 points came from forfeits.

Coach John Downs said, "The Outlaws had a hard day and I am sure they all wished they could have wrestled Dayton earlier. It was a tough dual to end on. This young team is learning more every tournament they go to, and I am seeing more determination and passion from them every time they wrestle. They hate to lose, fight to the very end, and never give up."

Four days earlier, the Outlaws participated in a three-way dual with Cottage Grove and Sutherlin.

Sisters defeated Cottage Grove 58-24. Seven of the 14 varsity wrestlers won their matches. Randolph, Pade, Stevens, Surface, Gibney, Damien Wills (145 pounds) and Ethan Martin (182 pounds) all pinned their opponents, and Ford won in a 17-8 decision.

"I honestly was surprised at how well we did against CG," said Downs. "They have a great program and tough kids."

The Outlaws lost 62-7 in their dual against Sutherlin. Pade and Stevens fought through all three rounds and were the only two Outlaws to win their matches. Cole recorded an 11-2 victory and Jake won 10-3.

"Sutherlin has an amazing squad of wrestlers, with loads of experienced juniors and

“ ... [Cole and Jake] are good examples to the team on how to compete through all three rounds and earn a win. — Coach John Downs

seniors," stated Downs.

"Cole and Jake have both been doing very well this season. Every match they've wrestled this year has been tough. They do not give up, and they fight until the final second, and their matches against Sutherlin proves it. These two guys are good examples to the team on how to compete through all three rounds and earn a win."

The Outlaws will compete at home against Elmira on Thursday, February 2. Regional Championships will be held at Philomath High School on Friday and Saturday, February 10 and 11.

FOOTBALL: Options abound for watching the Super Bowl

Continued from page 3

winners are having a tough time getting any love.

Javier Luna at Rancho Viejo said, "You know, I want the Falcons. I'm tired of the Patriots. They're like the Yankees, there every year. But they're there because they're good."

Luna is serving up a fiesta platter of nachos, taquitos, quesadilla and guacamole fresco to go. He's also got five TVs in the bar and margarita specials on tap if you want to get out of the house for the game.

Cascade Trailstop Market knows that last-minute shopping is bound to happen on Super Bowl Sunday.

"If you need to run out and get something, we've got it," said Erin Chapman. "We've even got the game on so you don't miss a moment."

The market is offering some specials for the day, as well.

You can order the Sisters Saloon Party Pack for take-home food — or you can head down to the watering hole and watch the game on their 80-inch big-screen TV. It's going to be a party, with

prizes on tap on the "prediction sheet" and plenty of company.

Saloon proprietor Aaron Okura explained that the prediction sheet will be fun for anyone — even if you don't know a lot about football. Not all the questions will be about the game. There's no cost to play. Sheets are handed out starting at 3 p.m., a half-hour before kickoff.

Okura took a diplomatic line on the game.

"As the new person in the community, I should probably stay politically neutral," he joked.

Actually, he's been too busy launching the new restaurant to closely follow football, so, "I'm not emotionally invested either way," he said. Nevertheless he, like the others, comes down on the side of the Falcons.

"It would be less exciting if the Patriots won," he said.

The Gallery, Takodas, and Lake Creek Lodge will also have the game on. In addition, Lake Creek Lodge will feature chef-created football fare.

So whether you want to watch at home or in town with your friends and neighbors, you'll know at least that you will be well fed on America's sporting national holiday.

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