

SPORTS

Sutton-Lott puts the smack down on the competition

TD junior goes 3-0 to take first place at Paul/Larson Girls Tournament

■ **Ray Rodriguez**
The Dalles Chronicle

Wrestling can spur a litany of emotions.

There's pain, frustration, happiness and joy all rolled into one.

The Dalles head coach Paul Beasley felt a sense of overwhelming pride Saturday as junior and second-year wrestler Elejah Sutton-Lott steamrolled through her 125-pound weight class with three consecutive pins to earn first place at the Paul/Larson Girls Tournament Saturday in Sandy.

"Elejah was just relentless and refused to be denied a first-place finish," Beasley said.

"We have never seen her so happy, and that in itself makes my entire season. It's the reason why this 58-year-old busted up old coach spends 16 hours every weekend with these kids. It is outstanding."

Sutton-Lott had her toughest match in Saturday's quarterfinal, where she ultimately stopped Laura Monciel (McKay) at the 3:30 mark of the second round.

Her final two bouts were Mike Tyson-esque.

Sutton-Lott used just 1:16 before pinning Tina Tran (Centennial) in the semifinals and then clinched her title with a first-round pin versus North Salem's Hannah Vipperman (55 seconds).

"In the finals match, she just threw down her opponent with a head-and-arm throw and held on for dear life for the first-round pin," Beasley added.

Hitting the mats at 130 pounds, first-year wrestler Megan Lenardson posted a

1-1 record for fourth place and 11.0 team points in her second tournament of the season.

Lenardson quickly dispatched McKay's Leslye Fierro via first-round pinfall (55 seconds) in her quarterfinal match, so in order to advance, she had to get past Benson's Kamilah Dillard.

Dillard, who ended up second in the tournament, scored a pinfall over Lenardson at 46 seconds.

Wrestling for third or fourth place, Lenardson took a loss by pin in 1:38 against Icela Sanchez-Rodriguez (North Salem).

"In Megan's first match, she executed a perfect Fireman's Carry that Coach (Jacob) Abrams has been working with the team on. He would have been very proud. She pinned her opponent in the first round using the move."

Up next, Sutton-Lott, Lenardson and the rest of the girls travel to Hood



Elejah Sutton-Lott and Megan Lenardson participated at the Paul/Larson Girls Tournament Saturday in Sandy with Sutton-Lott taking top honors and Lenardson secured fourth place. In the photo are, from left to right, Lenardson, Sutton-Lott and head coach Paul Beasley. Contributed photo

River for the Elks Memorial Tournament at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

After two solid all-around efforts, Beasley feels that this will be the perfect momentum

boost needed to get them executing at a higher level.

"The girls continue to make each other better in every practice," the coach said. "Their performance in

Saturday's meet is further proof of their improvement. I could not be prouder of their effort, execution and improvement, regardless of the outcome."

Hawk grapplers post 17 wins, 12 by pin, at Tigard Invite

Preston, Marx, Carrera, Morehouse and Nelson all place, as TD ends up tied for eighth

■ **Ray Rodriguez**
The Dalles Chronicle

As the season wears on, more and more Riverhawk grapplers are loading up podium spots.

Steven Preston garnered runner-up status and improved his season record to 8-2, and the quartet of Aiden Marx, Mauricio Carrera, Taylor Morehouse and Ben Nelson locked down top-6 finishes to help The Dalles finish in a tie for eighth place at Tigard Invitational this past Saturday.

"This weekend, all the boys showed great improvement," said TD assistant coach Ryan Manciu. "It was the best I've seen them wrestle so far. The way things are going, I feel that they're going to be peaking right at the right time."

All nine Riverhawk

grapplers posted at least one win and one pin on the day and six chalked up multiple victories, led by Preston and Nelson with three apiece.

Preston, a 170-pound senior, made a strong opening statement in his first match of the day.

Both Preston and Tigard's Uriah Subia shook hands, the official blew the whistle and then the Riverhawk senior laid out Subia for the pin, just 15 seconds in.

In the quarterfinals, Preston subdued West Salem's Cooper Johnson by fall in the second round (3:43) and then bested Everett Chiles (13-4 record), of Madison, with a close 7-4 decision.

Vying for a tournament title, Preston went to work against Sprague's Cole Bacheller (18-6 record), and the Olympian wrestler got the pin victory at the 1:39 mark of the first round.

At 160 pounds, Marx secured a 2-2 record to earn fourth place and 15 of the team's 88 points.

Marx claimed a first-round pin in his opening



The Dalles boys wrestling team tacked on 17 wins, 12 by pin, to secure a tie for eighth place at the Tigard Invitational Saturday. In the group photo are, from left to right, Ryan Manciu (assistant coach), Mauricio Carrillo, Steven Preston, Ben Nelson, Aiden Marx and Kevin Marx (assistant coach). Not pictured: Taylor Morehouse. Preston placed second, both Aiden Marx and Carrera were fourth, Morehouse claimed fifth and Nelson scored sixth place. Contributed photo

match versus Andre Cazares (Beaverton), and then in the quarterfinals won by injury default over Ryan Burri (St Helens) nine seconds into action.

Staked to a semifinals berth, Marx lost in one minute by pin in a bout with Marshall Rodenbeck (Wilsonville), which meant that the Riverhawk youngster had to fight for third place

against Beaverton's Vinny Vanzuylen.

Vanzuylen tallied the first-round pin at 1:06 to tally third place and give Marx fourth place.

Coming off an impressive 3-0 effort at last week's Beisell Dual Tournament, while going up a weight class (195), Carrera went to work at 182 pounds and finished 1-2. Following a bye, Carrera

(4-2 record) pinned Maria Reeder (Beaverton) at 1:54 of the first round to cruise into the semifinals.

From there, however, Carrera had a tough challenge in his next matches versus Sprague's Owen Scott (20-9 record) and Stan Cernev (17-6 record).

The Riverhawk senior suffered a heart-breaking 12-11 decision against Scott, and

then was pinned by Cernev at 1:37.

For his weekend performance, Morehouse (182 pounds) moved above .500 on the year at 10-9 and took fifth place after a 2-1 finish.

After a bye, Morehouse lost his quarterfinal bout with Sprague's Cernev by pin at 5:58 of the third round, and

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Cheer squads scores 2nd place in season-opening event

TD totals 149.8 points at Saturday's Pacer Invitational

■ **Ray Rodriguez**
The Dalles Chronicle

The Dalles competitive cheer squad's routine theme this year is heart.

Given the amount of adversity they had to overcome this weekend, the Riverhawks left their coach proud for leaving their heart on the mat Saturday.

Performing without Gabbe Haskins, out with the flu, and overcoming a music malfunction, The Dalles put up 149.8 points to take second place at the Pacer Invitational in Lakeridge.

"If not having a flyer wasn't stressful enough, our music completely stopped in the first part of the routine and cut in and out during the second half (dance portion), but they didn't let it frazzle them and just kept going," TD head coach Kelsey Sugg-Wallace said. "We knew going into competition today that we would be without Gabbe and

competed marking her place. Meaning we couldn't fully execute our entire pyramid and took a major hit in our building/stunting skills."

On the mat, the Riverhawks opened with a music section (stunting/jumps tumbling and motions/pyramid) and then moved into their cheer section and ended with a dance routine.

In the small coed division, Westview had 161 points for first place, The Dalles put up 151.8 points and was docked two tumbling penalties to take second place with 149.8, and Beaverton scored 135.7 points to take third place.

"I am so happy about the debut of our routine," said TD senior captain Giselle Schwartz. "What this weekend taught me was that we can adapt and persevere, which are really important skills to have in this sport. If we can do that well without a flyer, I know that we'll do even better with her."

The Dalles rattled off the highest score in their division with a 50 out of 55 in overall performance, which consists of formations/transitions/routine motions/crowd

leading/showmanship/routine creativity).

Next up was the jump tumble and the Hawks had a solid 52.5 out of 65.

Those jump tumble skills included standing tumbling difficulty and execution, running tumbling difficulty and execution, jump difficulty and execution.

As far as the team building portion is concerned, The Dalles ended up getting 49.3 out of 65, as they were scored on stunt difficulty and execution, pyramid difficulty and execution, cheer skills and building creativity.

"The team was well aware of how important it was to fight for every other point on the score sheet and that meant executing our stunts that we could do well, focusing on clean tumbling, and putting out a strong and energetic routine, which is exactly what they did," Sugg-Wallace said. "They hit everything we asked them to hit. I was so proud of them and can't wait to take the mat with our whole team next weekend with everyone healthy."

In addition to competitive events, The Dalles also



With 149.8 points, The Dalles cheer squad grabbed second place in the small coed division at the Pacer Invitational this past Saturday at Lakeridge High School. In the photo are, starting in the back row, from left to right, Natalie Wollam (Varsity Sideline), Lily Hamm (Varsity Sideline), Leslie Morales, Ari Acevedo, Arlet Villa (Varsity Sideline), Ellie Cardosi, and Caleb Parsons. In the middle row are, from left, Mikiyale Brantner, Meli Avila, Amy Hernandez, Giselle Ortega, Emily Adams, and Brooke Abrams. Kneeling in the front are, from left, Sophia Pullen, Stephanie Flores, Giselle Schwartz, Karla Hernandez, and Alexa Baldy. Not pictured: Gabbe Haskins. Kelsey Sugg-Wallace/Contributed photo

participated in the game day band dance, situational cheer and fight song division with its sideline competition team.

Unfortunately, they didn't place this weekend, but Sugg-Wallace said it was a great opportunity for her group and that they will continue perfecting their routine for

this next weekend.

On Saturday, Jan. 25, TD goes to David Douglas High School for a competitive cheer event, and heads to Salem on Saturday, Feb. 8 at the Salem Pavilion.

"We are excited to finally debut our full routine this weekend and to show our

competition what we can really do," TD cheer senior Sophia Pullen said. "I am confident that we will show ourselves as more of a threat once we show our full potential on the mat."

The 5A OSAA state competition is slated for Saturday, Feb. 15 at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland.

Adventurous day for TD skiers

■ **Ray Rodriguez**
The Dalles Chronicle

Head coach Dane Klindt called it a wild day at Timberline Lodge in The Dalles ski team's first slalom of the year.

Upon getting to Timberline, Mount Hood Meadows lost power and was running on backup generators.

Hannah Biehn and Ashley Quisenberry each tallied top-30 finishes and Fiona Dunlop placed 45th in Mount Hood Ski League action Saturday.

The boys started with George Harrison having an impressive run and Austin Weir skiing his first slalom with solid results, but after that, Timberline had a tree come down due to ice and wind close to the Pucci Course chair and more power was lost.

"We were forced to cancel the race before all the men got a chance to compete," coach Klindt said. "Because of this, the girls race will be scored, but the boys will have a make-up race at the next slalom run."

Biehn enjoyed TD's best

output of the day in 25th place, out of 81 skiers, and timed out in 58.86 seconds, which was 14.06 behind individual winner, Eva Jones (44.80), of Hood River.

Quisenberry geared up for a 1:01.68, Dunlop ended up with a 1:12.02 to grab 45th place.

Lucy Booth had a great run going when she missed a gate at the bottom of the course, so she was disqualified, and Ella Smith hooked a ski tip halfway down and got disqualified.

"Lucy is skiing great and I have confidence that she will put

it all together at our next race," coach Klindt said. "Hannah has been working hard at improving her technique and it's starting to show. Ashley was conservative in her run and I was excited to see her second run after she got some slalom gates for the first time this year."

The Dalles skis again on Saturday, Feb. 1 in a slalom event on the Challenger Course at Ski Bowl.

Hopefully, Mother Nature can cooperate so both teams can put up official times.

Dr. Cullen's Student of the week

Jesse Larson for Calculus:

Jesse Larson is Student of the Week in Calculus. Jesse is a very hard working student and never complains despite recent football injuries.

Congratulations



Jesse Larson, TDHS



Columbia View Dental

1915 E. 19th Street | The Dalles
541-296-5677 | Se habla español