

WRESTLING

Continued from 1B

"Sweet Home understands this concept well and will be looking to pin in all of their weight classes," Temple said. "Sometimes, not getting pinned can be a win for your team. We could lose two matches by decision and even things up with a pin. Bonus points will be the difference in this dual."

The match also represents a homecoming for Temple, who was a standout wrestler for Sweet Home in the early 2000s and was an assistant coach in the program from 2009 to 2010. The Huskies won the state championship in 2009 and were second the following year.

Temple has previously faced Sweet Home as the head coach of Sprague and Stayton but has

never beaten his alma mater in a dual meet.

"It would feel great to defeat them, but I won't judge the season by this one dual," Temple said. "Their seniors were the first group of kids I ever coached. There are some strong bonds between those kids and myself, but come match time we all know that business is business and I want our kids to defeat theirs, just like (Husky coach) Steve Thorpe wants his kids to defeat ours."

Temple also said that Thorpe has been a "second father for a long time."

"I don't think a day goes by that we don't talk. Sometimes it's about wrestling and sometimes it's about life in general," he said.

SWIMMING

Continued from 1B

as we get closer to districts." Miller is one of the top contenders in the fly event.

Senior Jarrett Raade came up just short in a furious kick to catch Marshfield's Spencer Fromm in the 500-yard freestyle. He closed a significant gap to finish less than two seconds behind. Raade said that he finished nearly 20 seconds behind Fromm at last year's district meet.

"I was expecting a good meet and a good race, so I was happy with how I swam," he said.

Friday's meet also served as Senior Day for Raade and Christi Willits.

Pilling said that he has admired Willits for her strong work ethic and dedication in

coming back from a shoulder injury that kept her from competing all of last year. He praised Raade for his involvement with the Cottage Grove aquatics, not only as an athlete, but as lifeguard and swimming instructor as well.

The district meet will be held Feb. 13-14 in Coos Bay. And Pilling said that he is very happy with where all the swimmers are at in their training.

Miller said that although the boys aren't as strong as they were when they won the meet en route to their 10th state title, the other teams in the district have taken a step back as well.

Although Friday was Cottage Grove's final home meet, the Lions still have nearby road trips to North Eugene and Springfield.



photo by Gary Ordway Sports Action Photography

Cottage Grove's Amelia Phillips placed third in the 100-yard breaststroke in the Lions' dual with Marshfield.

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