

Hermiston's Wagner and Lee bring home medals

By ANNIE FOWLER
STAFF WRITER



Trevor Wagner Jon Lee

Trevor Wagner didn't know what to expect when he got to the Tacoma Dome.

The Hermiston sophomore, making his first trip to Mat Classic, made the most of his adventure, reaching the 3A semifinals before finishing fourth Saturday at 160 pounds.

"I didn't expect myself to do that good," Wagner said. "I took it match by match. It was cool. I think I was the only sophomore at my weight to place."

Wagner had company on the medal stand as freshman Jon Lee worked his way through the consolation bracket to finish fifth at 220 pounds.

"I'm glad I was even able to go to state," Lee said. "I

think I could have done better. The two matches I lost, I made mistakes. Next year, I will do better."

Wagner and Lee are the first non-Washington athletes to win medals at Mat Classic. Hermiston joined the WIAA and the Mid-Columbia Conference this school year.

"I think it's cool me and him are the first two from Oregon to place at state in Washington," Lee said. "It's a big milestone for both of us."

Wagner agreed.

"Everyone was looking down on us like we don't belong here," he said. "We placed. It shows we do belong here."

With Wagner and Lee placing, and Hunter Dyer (120), Gage Shipley (126) and Jordan Franklin (132) going deep in the consolation bracket, the Bulldogs finished 18th in the team standings with 60 points.

Mt. Spokane won the 3A team title with 235.5 points, while MCC foes Kamiakin (fifth, 134.5) and Southridge (14th, 78.5) each showed well with one champion each.

Wagner made it all the way to the quarterfinals Friday, then he opened action Saturday with a 4-2 decision over Kristian Fairbanks of Arlington to reach the semifinals.

There, he ran into MCC counterpart Mikael Failor of Southridge, who pinned Wagner in 1:17.

Failor went on to win the 160-pound title with a 6-2 decision over Isaac Casey of Peninsula.

"I knew Mikael was good," Wagner said.

Wagner won his first consolation match to reach the third/fourth-place match.

It was there he met Riley Van Scoy of Stanwood, who pinned Wagner in 31 seconds.

"I had a lot of fun," Wagner said. "Winning is fun."

Wagner, who watched his older brother, Andy, win plenty of state matches at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland, said the Tacoma Dome was missing something.

"It's a big place, but

it doesn't have the same feel," he said. "I wanted to be where he (Andy) was. It doesn't have that same special feel."

Lee had to put in a long day to earn his medal, wrestling five matches.

He won four of the matches, all by fall. He was pinned by Savion Galloway of Cleveland in the bout to reach the third-place match.

Lee finished his run at state with a pin of Vadim Bobrounikov of Rogers (Spokane) in a time of 2:52.

Lee finished 6-2 at the tournament, with all six wins coming by fall. His quickest pin was 47 seconds.

"I know that I have four shots at this tournament in my high school career," Lee said. "I want to place every year."

Notes

Jordan Franklin became the first non-Washington athlete to win a match at Mat Classic on Friday morning with a 7-4 decision over Sam Smith of Peninsula at 132 pounds.

Junior Dustyn Coughlin, in his first year of wrestling, dropped his opener at 285 pounds — a 4-0 decision to William Christman of Gig Harbor. From there, he had to injury default out of the tournament with a broken hand.

At 195, freshman Sam Cadenas lost his opening match, getting pinned by Jake Flynn of Gig Harbor in 58 seconds.

After winning his first consolation match, Cadenas was eliminated from action as Will Inghram of Stanwood pinned him in 2:23.

Irrigon to take a school record 9 to state tourney



HH file photo

Irrigon's Alex Miranda-Walls (in blue) wrestles Victor Silva of Chiawana in the 170-pound championship match at the Farm City Invitational earlier this month. Miranda-Walls is one of nine Irrigon wrestlers headed to state.

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Irrigon placed a school record six wrestlers in the finals and came away with two champions Saturday at the 3A Special District 4 Tournament at Burns High School.

The Knights will take a school record nine to the state tournament Friday and Saturday at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland.

Asher Hall won the 106-pound title for the Knights, registering a 9-2 decision over Corbett Graham of Burns in the championship match.

The other end of the spectrum, Kaleb Kendrick beat Luke Bailey of Burns 3-2 to win the 285-pound

district title.

Senior Alex Miranda-Walls, who has been solid all season for the Knights, lost a 3-2 decision in the 170-pound final to defending state champion Adam Simpson of Nyssa. It was just the second loss this season for Miranda-Walls (39-2).

The two could meet again in the state title match, as they are on opposite sides of the bracket.

At 126 pounds, Irrigon's Kyler Olney was second to Justin Winn of Burns. Winn pinned Olney in a time of 2:19.

Josue Aguilera of Irrigon placed second at 195 pounds, dropping the title match to Bryan Flores of Nyssa 6-4.

Two-time state champion Jose Sanchez (2017-18) of Nyssa made quick work of Irrigon's Reece Sheller in the 220-pound finals, winning by fall in 58 seconds. Sanchez is 40-3 on the season.

Placing third and also earning a trip to state for the Knights are Gabriel Romero (113), Jacob Ayala (126) and Brady Harrington (182).

Riverside will take two to state — Ethan Snyder, who was second at 132 pounds, and Abraham Silva (third, 120).

Irrigon finished third in the team standings with 192 points. Defending state champion Nyssa ran away with the team title, piling up 296.5 points and winning eight of 14 weight classes.

Dawgs

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cut the lead to 61-55.

"We played hard," Arstein said. "We missed a couple of big opportunities in the fourth to cut into their lead. Shadle Park is a talented team. They hit some shots inside and out top."

Andreason added 15 points, and Ramirez 12 for the Bulldogs.

Nian Allen led Shadle Park with 16 points, while DaMarius Brown and Jake Groves each had 15.

Hermiston vs. Kamiakin

Hermiston jumped out to an early lead, then held off a furious Kamiakin rally in the fourth quarter to beat the Braves 61-56 on Saturday in a District 8 loser-out game at the Dawg House.

Jordan Ramirez scored six of his team-high 14 points in the first quarter for the Bulldogs as they cruised to an 18-9 lead.

Cesar Ortiz and Cole Smith each had six points in

the second quarter as Hermiston stretched its lead to 36-20.

Kamiakin went on a 20-9 run in the fourth quarter, led by Kyson Rose with nine points, but the Braves never were able to catch the Bulldogs.

Ortiz added 12 points for the Bulldogs, while Cole Smith added 10.

Hermiston vs. Kennewick

Hermiston and Kennewick had a little rust in their games Friday night, but it would be the Lions who got their act together first in the District 8 semifinal game at the Dawg House.

Tyler Pearson hit eight 3-pointers and finished with 26 points to lead Kennewick to an 86-75 victory over the Bulldogs and into the championship game.

Kennewick hit five 3-pointers in the second to extend its lead to 39-20. At the other end, the Lions shut down the Bulldogs' perimeter game, allowing just one 3 by Cesar Ortiz in the first half.

The Lions led by 22 —

46-24 — early in the third period, but the Bulldogs did not fold.

Ortiz scored 13 of his game-high 28 points in the third quarter to help pull the Bulldogs within 48-38 with 3:08 remaining in the quarter.

Kennewick would drain a couple of 3s down the stretch for a 58-41 lead with one quarter to play.

Andreason scored 21 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter for the Bulldogs, who were within 10 of the Lions seven times in the final quarter. Hermiston trimmed the deficit to 83-75 with a pair of free throws by Andreason, but there were only 13 seconds left in the game.

BOX SCORES

Shadle Park 24 16 21 25 — 86
Hermiston 24 11 20 25 — 80
SHADLE PARK — Kehr 12, Rainwater 9, C.Doyle 8, L.Doyle 3, Liddicoat 6, Allen 16, Brown 15, Groves 15, Richardson 2.
HERMISTON — Andreason 15, Ortiz 25, James 18, Smith 1, Ramirez 12, Mendez 9.
Saturday's Game
Kamiakin 9 11 16 20 — 56
Hermiston 18 18 16 9 — 61
KAMIAKIN — Westermeyer 8, Kennell 2, Nichols 3, Arland 18, Jones 13, Rose 12.
HERMISTON — Andreason 6, Ortiz 12, James 6, Smith 10, Madrigal 7, Ramirez 14, Mendez 6.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Hermiston's Cole Smith drives to the hoop during Monday's District 8 3A playoff game against Shadle Park in Kennewick.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Beau is an adorable lab doberman mix. He is 12 weeks old and full of puppy energy and antics. He is doing great with potty and crate training. Beau will be a large dog and needs a fenced yard. He is vaccinated and microchipped and will be neutered.

MEET BEAU!

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