

Two Governor Wrestlers Emerge as Champions in Preseason Competition

The start of the high school wrestling season officially begins on Monday November 14th, but off-season competition has become a common feature for wrestlers around the country and a number of wrestlers here in Pierre. Prior to the start of the high school season, wrestlers are able to compete unattached from their high school programs at a series of tournaments, and each year the Rocky Mountain Nationals organization hosts the Monster Match tournament in Denver Colorado. The tournament matches up wrestlers from more than 30 states and included more than 1,200 wrestlers. On November 5th, six members of the Pierre wrestling program competed at this tournament producing multiple place winners and two individual champions.

Trey Maier, junior at Riggs high school, was a champion at the event in the 18 and under 195lb weight class defeating a number of talented wrestlers from around the country. Trey defeated Nathan Guerrero (Colorado) in a close 2-0 match in the finals. “To have Trey do so well after finishing football one week earlier is a good sign that he will should be able to compete for a state championship this year,” said Ryan Noyes, Pierre Governor head wrestling coach. “With the changes that were made this last year in the high school weight classes, it will put more pressure on teams to have a solid group of wrestlers at the upper weights.” Nick Wiebe, competed in both the 15 and under and novice divisions at the tournament and emerged as a champion the novice



Pierre Governor Wrestler Aaron O’Day faces off against his Nebraska opponent during his second round match this past weekend at the Rocky Mountain Nationals Monster Match tournament.

division with decisive wins over three opponents from Colorado.

Dawson Monfore, Riggs high school freshmen, finished third in the 15 and under 156lb division losing in the semifinals to Devin Rothrock (Colorado) in the semifinals. He went on to finish the tournament with a 5-1 record after winning his final two matches in the wrestle-backs. Tanner Monfore, returning state champion, found himself in a large 64 man bracket and lost his opening round match. He then won his next five matches including a win over a returning state champion from Nebraska, before losing his final match to advance into the 5th and 6th place match. He finished 8th overall after he was forced to injury default in the 7th & 8th place match. “When you look at how Tanner, one of the best wrestlers in the state, performs at a tournament like this it reinforces the caliber of talent that shows up to these events,” said Noyes. “To have four of our kids place bodes well for our upcoming season.”

Aaron O’Day competed in the 18 and under 132lb weight class, winning his



Pierre Governor Wrestler Trey Maier sets up the winning takedown against Nathaniel Guerrero (Colorado) during his championship match at the Rocky Mountain Nationals Monster Match tournament.

first two matches in a large 64 man bracket and then lost in the quarterfinals and his first wrestle-back. AJ Dorshner (145lbs in the 18 and under division) lost in his opening round matches. “The nice thing about these types

of tournaments is that it provides an incentive for kids to start gearing up for the season and have a leg up on their competition once high school tournaments begin,” noted Paul Turman, president of the Pierre youth wrestling program.

The Pierre Governor wrestling program kicks off their season at the Watertown Dual tournament on December 3rd. Wrestle-offs will be open to the public and held on Monday November 28th at 5:30 p.m. Registration for the upcoming youth wrestling season will be held on November 14 in the Georgia Morse Middle School from 5:30 to 7:00. Those interested in competing this year are encouraged to attend.