

Pierre Dual Team Success Carries on at Youth Level

Dual team competition has been a staple of high school wrestling programs providing teams with an opportunity to compete head-to-head against wrestling programs around the state. More recently the youth wrestling culture has started to venture into this arena of competition as a number of K-6 youth dual tournaments continues to take hold.

Consistent with this growing trend, the Pierre Youth Wrestling program fielded a youth dual team to compete at the Plankinton Youth Dual Tournament on Saturday February 1st. The team, comprised of 13 Pierre wrestlers, swept the competition going 4-0 on the day.

Pierre's opening duals resulted in sizable wins, as the team defeated Parkston 66-9 and then overcame Wagner 65-15. Jammie Raske, head coach for the Pierre team, noted that "We started out strong with our smaller kids which provided a lot of momentum as we moved up the lineup. We were also fortunate to match-up well against some of their better kids which ultimately made the final score appear to be more lopsided than it actually was."

During the third round, Pierre faced a tough Harrisburg team with a number of talented wrestlers, but achieved another decisive win, defeating the Tigers 60-15. Pierre started off with pins by Ethan Martinmaas (45lbs),



Members of the Pierre Youth Wrestling program competing at the Plankinton Dual Tournament on February 1st, include: front row, Jace Bench Bresher, Preston Dyk, Hayden Shaffer, Will Van Camp, Tristan Spencer, Gabe Turman, and Ethan Martinmaas. Back row: Gage Gehring, Garrett Leesman, Spencer Davis, Maguire Raske, Jacob Larson, and Jack Van Camp.

Gabe Turman (50lbs), and Will Van Camp (60lbs). Pierre was leading the dual 24-6 entering the 75lbs weight class where Jace Bench Bresher squared off against a two-time AAU South Dakota state champion. Paul Turman, Pierre youth wrestling president, said "This really turned out to be the match of the tournament. Down 2-0 going into the second period Jace scored a five-point move from his feat to go up 5-2. With the score 7-7 in the closing seconds of the third period, Jace scored reversal as time expired to secure the win." Raske further noted "It was one of the best youth wrestling matches I've seen in the past 2-3 years." Pierre went on to secure wins by Cade Hinkle, Maguire Raske, Jacob Larson, Spencer Davis, Garrett Leesman, and Gage Gehring to finish out the dual.

The championship dual match was against a combined Plankinton/Kimball/White Lake team with Pierre winning 57-27. Turman stated, "They had a significant number of sixth graders in the middle of their line-up that helped earn them points, but pins at the



Preston Dyk, Pierre youth wrestler, works to pin his Harrisburg opponent in the closing seconds of his match during the third round of action. Pierre went on to win the dual 60-15.

bottom and top end of the line-up was just too much for them to overcome.”

Four Pierre wrestlers went 4-0 on the day during the dual tournament competition including Ethan Martinmaas, Gabe Turman, Will Van Camp, and Cade Hinkle. Hayden Shaffer, Preston Dyke, Jace Bench Bresher, Jack Van Camp, Maguire Raske, Jacob Larson, Spencer Davis, Garrett Leesman and Gage Gehring each went 3-1 on the day. Tristan Spencer finished with a 2-2 performance for the Pierre team with a strong performance against quality opponents.

Individual performances for the Pierre Dual Team include:

- 45lbs – Ethan Martinmaas – 4-0
- 50lbs – Gabe Turman – 4-0
- 55lbs – Tristan Spencer – 2-2
- 60lbs – Will Van Camp – 4-0
- 65lbs – Hayden Shaffer – 3-1
- 70lbs – Preston Dyk – 3-1
- 75lbs – Jace Bench Bresher – 3-1

- 80lbs – Cade Hinkle – 4-0
- 85lbs – Jack Van Camp – 3-1
- 90lbs – Jacob Larson – 3-1
- 95lbs – Maguire Raske – 3-1
- 103lbs – Open
- 112lbs – Spencer Davis – 3-1
- 120lbs – Garrett Leesman – 3-1
- HWT – Gage Gehring – 3-1