

Youth Competitors Increase As Wrestling Season Continues

As the youth wrestling season continues to mature, a growing number of youth wrestlers in the Governor Wrestling program compete at local tournaments throughout South Dakota. “With eight tournaments held in the state this past weekend, we had wrestlers from our program compete in at least six of them” said Trevor Wiebe, youth club president. “We expect to hit a peak next weekend when we host our Pierre Invitational, when wrestlers from beginners to advanced division will finally take the mat together in one gym.”

Over this past weekend 48 wrestlers from the Governor Youth Program competed resulting in 20 individual champions and 15 runner-up finishes. The tournament in Whitewood on Saturday January 18th produced some of the toughest competition over the weekend as more than 500 wrestlers from three states competed at the tournament held in Sturgis. Jayden Wiebe, Hayden Shaffer, Hudson Shaffer, and Gavin Stotts each finished first at this event along with runner-up finishes by Brady Getz and Jacoby Taylor, and a fourth place finish by Spencer Taylor. Each of these wrestlers also competed in Rapid City at the Westside Youth Wrestling Tournament on Sunday with similar results.

Tournaments in DeSmet, Huron, and Mitchell attracted 17 wrestlers on Sunday. “Huron represents a lot of region matchups for our kids, which makes that tournament a good preview of what you will see in



Lincoln Dilges finishes a pinning combination on his Gettysburg opponent during the opening round of wrestling at the Gettysburg Youth Wrestling Tournament over the weekend.

March,” said Paul Turman, advanced group coach. “Our more experienced kids had success there which says we are working on the right things in practice for this point in the season.” Across the three tournaments nine champions (Rylan Shrake, Jacob Larson, Nathan Williams, Noah Williams, Andrew Snyder, Will Van Camp, Maguire Raske, Broch Zeeb, Cade Hinkle) were crowned, followed by two runner-up (Tyson Johnson, Jack Van Camp), a third place (Bryant Zeeb) and four third place finishes (Cael Shrake, Tyrone Oldenkamp, Samuel Larson, and Matthew King).

The clubs strongest showing was at the tournament in Gettysburg hosted by their youth program on Sunday following their high school invitational on Saturday. Twenty-four wrestlers participated at this tournament. “We say many of our first year wrestlers use this tournament as a great opportunity to compete for the first time over the weekend,” said Wiebe. “The bracketing structure used there serves as a great introduction to the sport and it prepares kids to the more difficult district style bracketing that we employ at our Pierre

Invitational this coming weekend.” The Governors produced six champions (Carson Stoesser, Kenyon Kuiper, Daniel Mason, Jacob Mason, Matthew Hostler, and Gabe Turman) at the tournament along with seven runner-ups (Elijah Boutchee, Tristan Spencer, Evan McFarling, Alex Oedekoven, Steven Fullerton, Spencer Easland, Ridge Leimbach), nine third place (Travis Boddicker, Damen Horsley, Simon Addison, Wesley Harsma, Kylan Horsley, Caynen Carr, Wesley Harsma, Lincoln Dilges, Walker West), and two fourth place finishers (Marcus Hutchinson, Jaxon Ducheneaux).

Approximately 400 wrestlers are expected to travel to Pierre on Sunday to compete in the Pierre Invitational, which follows the East vs. West Dual tournament scheduled for Saturday starting at 11:00. Individual results from Governor Youth Wrestlers this past weekend include:

Whitewood

Hayden Shaffer - 1st
Hudson Shaffer - 1st
Gavin Stotts - 1st
Jayden Wiebe - 1st
Brady Getz - 2nd
Jacoby Taylor - 2nd
Spencer Taylor - 4th

Gettysburg

Carson Stoesser - 1st
Kenyon Kuiper - 1st
Daniel Mason - 1st
Jacob Mason - 1st
Matthew Hostler - 1st
Gabe Turman - 1st
Elijah Boutchee - 2nd
Tristan Spencer - 2nd
Evan McFarling – 2nd
Alex Oedekoven – 2nd
Steven Fullerton – 2nd
Spencer Easland – 2nd

Ridge Leimbach - 2nd
Travis Boddicker – 3rd
Damen Horsley – 3rd
Simon Addison – 3rd
Wesley Harsma – 3rd
Kylan Horsley – 3rd
Caynen Carr - 3rd
Wesley Harsma - 3rd
Lincoln Dilges – 3rd
Walker West – 3rd
Marcus Hutchinson - 4th
Jaxon Ducheneaux – 4th

Huron/DeSmet

Rylan Shrake – 1st
Jacob Larson - 1st
Nathan Williams - 1st
Noah Williams - 1st
Andrew Snyder - 1st
Tyson Johnson - 2nd
Samuel Larson - 3rd
Cael Sharke – 3rd
Tyrone Oldenkamp - 3rd
Colton Cass - 5th

Mitchell

Will Van Camp - 1st
Maguire Raske - 1st
Cade Hinkle – 1st
Brock Zeeb – 1st
Jack Van Camp - 2nd
Matthew King - 3rd
Bryant Zeeb – 3rd

Rapid City Westside

Brady Getz - 1st
Hayden Shaffer - 2nd
Hudson Shaffer - 2nd
Jacoby Taylor - 2nd
Gavin Stotts - 2nd
Spencer Taylor - 4th