

Prairie pushes No.2 Bettendorf in finals

Written by Jim Ecker

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Cedar Rapids Prairie nearly toppled one of the giants of prep wrestling Saturday at the 5 Seasons Duals.

The Hawks built a 15-point lead against second-ranked Bettendorf before falling, 38-33, in the championship round of the day-long tournament at Kennedy High School.

Prairie owned a 33-18 lead with four matches left against Bettendorf, but the Bulldogs still had three top-ranked wrestlers in their tank - including a pair of defending state champions who are accustomed to winning big matches.

Bettendorf collected two pins, a decision and a technical fall in the last four bouts and rallied for the 38-33 victory.

Bettendorf won the Class 3A state title last February and returns three state champions with Jack Wagner, Jacob Schwarm and Fredy Stroker.

Wagner and Schwarm began Bettendorf's comeback against Prairie with pins at 113 and 120, pulling the Bulldogs within 33-30.

The next match pitted third-ranked Sam Uthoff of Prairie against seventh-ranked Jackson Gallagher of Bettendorf at 126 pounds. Gallagher prevailed, 7-3, lifting the Bulldogs into a 33-33 tie with one match remaining.

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Paul Glynn of Bettendorf, ranked No. 1 at 132, posted a technical fall over Seth Wennermark to give the Bulldogs five points and the verdict.

Bettendorf is ranked No. 2 in the latest Class 3A poll by The Predicament and Prairie is ranked No. 4. They split their 14 matches Saturday, 7-7, but the Bulldogs had more bonus points.



Josh Wenger, Jarod Cadena and Marcus England had pins for the Prairie Hawks against Bettendorf, but the Bulldogs had five pins and the technical fall for crucial extra points.

Linn-Mar finished fourth in the tournament and Kennedy placed 10th. The Washington Warriors, one of the co-hosts with Kennedy, have been plagued by forfeits this season and did not compete Saturday.

Prairie trimmed Kaukana (Wis.), 30-27, in the semifinals.

BETTENDORF 38, PRAIRIE 33

138 - Josh Wenger (CRP) pinned Josh Walls, 1:34
145 - Fred Stroker (B) pinned Casey Hogan, 1:34
152 - Jacob Woodard (B) pinned Morgan Hood, 4:24
160 - Dayton Racer (B) pinned Derek Horak, 2:26
170 - Nick Hogan (CRP) dec. Kelsey Kintz, 7-2
182 - Jarod Cadena (CRP) pinned Glaus Keegan, 1:17
195 - Taylor Mehmen (CRP) dec. Brady Neyrinck, 12-6

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220 - Jonah Manson (CRP) def. Joshua Malik, 2-0
285 - Jackson Hesseltine (CRP) won by forfeit
106 - Marcus England (CRP) pinned Mason Morris, 0:47
113 - Jack Wagner (B) pinned Trenten Wennermark, 0:37
120 - Jacob Schwarm (B) pinned Dylan Kleinschmidt, 0:26
126 - Jackson Gallagher (B) dec. Sam Uthoff, 7-3
132 - Paul Glynn (B) tech fall Seth Wennermark, 16-1

PLACEMENT MEETS

3rd - Kaukana (Wis.) 60, Linn-Mar 12
5th - Pleasant Valley 42, Charles City 33
7th - Alburnett 43, West Delaware 30
9th - Iowa City West 54, Kennedy 24
11th - Urbandale 40, Waterloo East 32
13th - Iowa City High 66, Iowa City West JV 6
15th - Prairie JV