

6 Metro wrestlers make semifinals

Written by Metro Sports Report

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DES MOINES - Six wrestlers from Metro high schools won their matches in the quarterfinals of the Class 3A state tournament in Des Moines Friday morning.

Noah Ajram of Linn-Mar (120), Sam Uthoff of Prairie (126), Josh Wenger of Prairie (138), Shea Hartzler of Linn-Mar (160), Jarod Cadena of Prairie (182) and Dalton Kuehl of Jefferson (285) prevailed and will compete in the semifinals Friday afternoon.

Eight Metro wrestlers lost in the quarterfinals, including three grapplers who fell to top-ranked opponents. Brenden Baker of Jefferson lost to top-ranked Jack Wagner of Bettendorf at 113 pounds, Matt Wempen of Linn-Mar lost to top-ranked Fredy Stroker of Bettendorf at 145 pounds, and Luke Sedlacek of Jefferson lost to top-ranked Dayton Racer of Bettendorf at 160 pounds.

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Baker, ranked third in the state, had a brutal draw at the tournament. He defeated second-ranked Nathan Lendt of Southeast Polk in the first round, then had to face top-ranked Wagner in the second round.

Marcus England of Prairie (106), Nolan Hromidko of Kennedy (120), Joel Northrup of Linn-Mar (152), Kelly May of Jefferson (182) and Taylor Mehmen of Prairie (195) also lost in the quarterfinals and dropped into the wrestle-backs.

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Overall, Metro wrestlers compiled a 6-8 record in the quarterfinals.

Ajram blanked Donny Allaway of LeMars, 5-0. Uthoff rolled by Camiran Sadeghi of Keokuk, 15-0. Wenger pinned Sam Kastle of Carroll in 3:44.

Hartzler dominated Anthony Sherry of Glenwood, 13-0. Cadena trimmed Donovan Doyle of Iowa City West, 8-6. Kuehl defeated Collin Olson of Ankeny Centennial, 3-1.

The Prairie Hawks are fourth in the team standings with 41 points, trailing Southeast Polk (86.5), Bettendorf (60) and Fort Dodge (54). Linn-Mar is 10th with 21 points and Jefferson is 15th with 18 points.

QUARTERFINALS

PRAIRIE

106 - Marcus England lost to McGwire Midkiff (Council Bluffs Jefferson), 4-0
126 - Sam Uthoff beat Camiran Sadeghi (Keokuk), 15-0
138 - Josh Wenger pinned Sam Kastle (Carroll), 3:44
182 - Jarod Cadena beat Donovan Doyle (Iowa City West), 8-6
195 - Taylor Mehmen lost to Deion Mikesell (Southeast Polk), 7-2

JEFFERSON

113 - Brenden Baker lost to Jake Wagner (Bettendorf), 8-5
160 - Luke Sedlacek lost to Dayton Racer (Bettendorf), 18-3
182 - Kelly May lost to David Carr (Pleasant Valley), 5-3
285 - Dalton Kuehl beat Collin Olson (Ankeny Centennial), 3-1

LINN-MAR

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120 - Noah Ajram beat Donny Allaway (LeMars), 5-0

145 - Matt Wempen lost to Fredy Stroker (Bettendorf), 12-2

152 - Joel Northrup lost to Matt Malcom (Glenwood), 7-2

160 - Shea Hartzler beat Anthony Sherry (Glenwood), 13-0

KENNEDY

120 - Nolan Hromidko lost to Grant Stotts (West Des Moines Valley), 4-2