

Washington grapplers flatten Xavier, 67-9

Written by Jim Ecker

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The Cedar Rapids Washington wrestling team turned into a pinning machine Thursday night.

The Warriors collected nine pins and flattened the Xavier Saints, 67-9, in a Mississippi Valley Conference meet at Xavier.

"Once somebody wins, the next person wants to win," said freshman Dax Dills, who pinned Camden Chicchelly at 106 pounds in just 28 seconds. "Once somebody gets a pin, the next person wants to get a pin."

It happened all night.

"We're a momentum team," said Kaisar Herz, who stuck Cory Donithan at 138 pounds in 57 seconds. "We feed off each other. Once you get one pin, the next one is going to happen."

Jon Rockwell (126 pounds), Jordin Eicher (132), Trevor Luebe (145), Evan Lehrman (160), Drake Hickok (170), Noah Williams (182) and Noah Fox (220) also had pins for Washington.

"Not bad. Not too bad," said Washington Coach Matt Hatcher.

Hatcher couldn't remember getting nine pins in an MVC meet before.

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"I don't know if we've filled that many weights to get that many pins in the past. I guess it's a first," he said.

Washington has been plagued by open weights and forfeits in previous years, but the Warriors filled 13 of the 14 weights Thursday and won 12 of the matches.

"Now we have a pretty good team and I'm excited," said Herz, who raised his record to 16-4 with his 11th pin this season.

Hickok got his 12th pin to lead the Warriors in that department. Eicher posted his ninth pin, Rockwell got his eighth and Lehrman notched his sixth of the season.

Sean Ickes won an 8-5 decision at 152 pounds to give the Saints their only victory on the mat. Jack Boland scored Xavier's other six points by accepting a forfeit at 195 pounds.

Troy Neagle won a major decision at 113 pounds for the Warriors and Trey Schuler scored a regular decision at 120. Washington heavyweight Tyler Burrell won by forfeit.

Washington raised its records to 8-5 overall and 5-2 in the Valley. Xavier fell to 4-12 and 1-6. The Saints wrestled without Nick Drahozal and Tyler Laska, two of their best grapplers.

Hatcher was happy with the victory.

"It's good, but it's one meet," he said cautiously. "They competed. They did what they were supposed to do. We wrestled hard."

WASHINGTON 67, XAVIER 9

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106 - Dax Dills (W) pinned Camden Chicchelly, :28.
113 - Troy Neagle (W) major dec. Drake Wawro, 10-2.
120 - Trey Schuler (W) dec. Joe Mulangaliro, 6-1.
126 - Jon Rockwell (W) pinned Drew McGraw, 5:51.
132 - Jordin Eicher (W) pinned John Rodriguez, 1:06.
138 - Kaisar Herz (W) pinned Cory Donithan, :57.
145 - Trevor Luebe (W) pinned Ryan Persick, 1:00.
152 - Sean Ickes (X) dec. Tyler Burkle, 8-5.
160 - Evan Lehrman (W) pinned Sam Blake, 3:13.
170 - Drake Hickok (W) pinned Jarred Joens, 3:34.
182 - Noah Williams (W) pinned Raymond Wright, 5:21.
195 - Jack Boland (X) won by forfeit.
220 - Noah Fox (W) pinned Jacob Meyers, 3:04.
285 - Tyler Burrell (W) won by forfeit.