

Jeff grapplers struggle at own meet

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The Cedar Rapids Jefferson wrestling team likes to invite the best competition it can find to its own tournament every year.

The J-Hawks paid the price Saturday.

Jefferson finished in sixth place in the team standings and did not crown a single champion in the star-studded field at the Jefferson gym.

Fort Dodge, which is ranked No. 1 in Class 3A, won the team championship with 235.5 points. Alburnett, which is ranked No. 1 in Class 1A, placed second with 178.5 points. The tournament also featured Dubuque Hempstead, which is ranked No. 4 in Class 3A.

Kyle Briggs, who is ranked No. 2 at 152 pounds for Jefferson, suffered his first loss of the season with a 6-5 setback to Ryan Gorman of New Hampton in the semifinals. Briggs (28-1) bounced back and pinned Clem Butler of Clinton in 3 minutes, 50 seconds for third place.

Brenden Baker, Tavian Rashed and Nick Dreckman lost their championship bouts for Jefferson.

Baker was trimmed by Connor Cleveland of New Hampton, 4-3, in the finals at 120 pounds. Rashed lost to Bryce Paul of Alburnett, 5-0, in the finals at 160 pounds. Dreckman was edged by Adam Rang of Hempstead, 7-5, at 182 pounds.

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TEAM STANDINGS

1. Fort Dodge 235.5, 2. Alburnett 178.5, 3. New Hampton 155, 4. Indianola 148.5, 5. Dubuque Hempstead 148, 6. Jefferson 147, 7. Clinton 137, 8. Marshalltown 118, 9. Underwood 76.5, 10. West Delaware 66, 11. Fort Madison 61.5, 12. Davenport Central 54, 13. Boone 43, 14. Waterloo East 27, 15. Muscatine 13.