

Rockets rule in Monday multi-dual

Written by Mitch Maersch

Wednesday, 22 December 2010 21:06

Cedar Grove-Belgium's wrestling team racked up three decisive wins at a multi-dual tournament in Oakfield on Monday.

The Rockets overpowered Hustisford, 60-6; Dodgeland, 48-24; and Oakfield, 60-12.

Six Rockets went undefeated — seniors Tyler Garcia (171 pounds) and Zach Peiffer (135), juniors Hunter Buechler (189), Matt Mueller (285) and Zach Schulz (135) and freshman Nick Wieberdink (103).

"It's a nice little tournament. The schools are usually right at our ability, right at our size," Cedar Grove-Belgium coach Trevor Peterson said.

"Some of my younger kids got matches. It was nice to have them get some wins at the varsity level."

Last Saturday, the Rockets finished fifth at the 12-team Kewaunee Invitational despite using only seven wrestlers. Peterson kept some wrestlers out so they could participate in a junior-varsity tournament this week.

After the second round, Cedar Grove-Belgium had already scored more points than they did in last year's tournament. The Rockets finished the day with 125 points.

Two Rivers won the team title with 209.5 points.

Buechler received the award for needing the least cumulative time to win a title. After receiving a bye, he pinned Tom Mueller of Manitowoc Roncalli (in 1 minute, 34 seconds), Chris Smits of West De Pere

(1:27) and Cory Bonde of Kiel (1:16) in the title match.

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Also placing first for the Rockets were Garcia (160) and Mueller (285).

Garcia received a bye, pinned Bobby Geiger of Two Rivers (2:23) and Chris Polanco of Seymour (4:37) and defeated Brillion's Ryan Geiger, 10-0.

Mueller pinned Kiel's Matt Halverson (2:53), edged John Verhagen of Gillett/Suring, 9-8; and defeated Bo Skornicka of Two Rivers, 11-3.

Peterson was also impressed with freshman Devon Villareal, who placed third at 112, and Wieberdink, who took fourth at 103.

Warriors take 5th at invitational

The Ozaukee wrestling squad rebounded from a tough conference loss last week to place fifth at the 16-team Willard Schmidt Scramble in Green Bay on Saturday.

The Warriors scored 246.5 points. Stevens Point won the title with 328 points.

Vince Cardarelle led Ozaukee by winning the 152-pound title with a 5-0 record. The senior won twice on major decisions and scored a pin and technical fall before defeating Stevens Point's Ethan Wroblewski, 4-1, in the final.

Cardarelle improved his season record to 14-4.

Ozaukee's other top finishes included a second by Brady Watry (135), thirds by Cole Large (103) and Ethan Brouillette (130), a fourth by Tax Gottsacker (112) and fifths by Ian Hughes (125) and Alex Thill (140).

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Watry (15-3) received a bye and won three matches by pin before losing to Lakeside Lutheran's Connor Fussner, 15-3, in the final.

Large won twice before losing twice, including a 6-0 loss to Tyler Scharschmidt of Lomira in his final match.

Brouillette posted a 4-1 record. After winning his first three matches, he lost, 17-12, to Eau Claire Memorial's William Ruiz-Santos in the semifinals but bounced back to blank Lomira's Garrett Keller, 11-0, in the third-place final.

Oostburg 36, Ozaukee 34

The Warriors had a seven-point lead entering the final two matches but couldn't hang on in a showdown against the defending Central Lakeshore Conference champion Dec. 16.

Host Oostburg won both matches and scored nine points to pull out the victory.

"It was a hard loss. It was painful," Ozaukee coach Luke Gundrum said. "Oostburg is pretty balanced."

The meet included two overtime matches, with each team winning one. Ozaukee's Cole Large (103) defeated Alex Korthals, 5-4, in double overtime, and the Warriors' Logan Smith was upset, 6-4, by Dylan Jentink in overtime.

"The highlight of the night was Alex Thill," Gundrum said.

At 140 pounds, Thill outlasted Zach Rodgers, 11-8, to give the Warriors an unexpected victory.

"The thing is not necessarily that we wrestled that poorly. It was one or two matches that didn't

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go our way,” Gundrum said.

Ozaukee’s next meet will be the Mid-States Classic in Oshkosh on Dec. 28 and 29. Gundrum said he hopes his team will finish in the top 10 of a field that includes more than 40 squads. CG-Belgium 49, Elkhart Lake 24

The Rockets made their Parents Night meet a success by scoring an easy Central Lakeshore Conference win Dec. 16.

Schulz (125) and Buechler (189) won by pin to lead Cedar Grove-Belgium. The Rockets also got a 16-3 major decision from Garcia (160) and four Elkhart Lake forfeits. Cedar Grove-Belgium will next wrestle in the Mid-States Classic on Dec. 28 and 29.