

January 21st, 2012

Cretin-Derham Hall Raiders at Knighthawk Classic and JV Rumble

Recap:

Cretin-Derham Hall split their squad Saturday to attend two different individual tournaments. The Junior Varsity went to North Saint Paul for the JV Rumble. Casey Malone-Povolny had a breakout day as he earned 55 points and 19 takedowns in his four matches to take second place in his weight class! Noah Kelliher also had a terrific day, placing third on the strength of two first period pins. Jack Gainer also took third, winning one match by fall and another by injury default. Mason Rostad earned one pin and also wrestled a close match where he lost by decision. JC McGeary continues to improve as he had another match go into the second period, earning an escape and not giving up any nearfall in the first.

At the Minnehaha Academy/De La Salle Knighthawk Classic, the Raiders entered only 5 wrestlers out of 14 weight classes. However, these young men had a terrific fighting spirit, placing 8th out of ten teams beating teams with fuller lineups. Casey Bulmer wrestled two full matches against tough opponents, losing both by decision. He also had shown a great deal of improvement from the start of the season. The coaching staff is looking forward to big things from him in the future. Charlie Metz placed 5th, earning two falls after losing a seesaw battle 24-19 decision in the first round. Javonte Washington also placed 5th. He had two pins on the day - one in only 8 seconds! Javonte also lost a tough three period decision in the consolation semifinals. Matthew Boncich continued his terrific season. As a ninth grader at a high weight class, he is doing a phenomenal job. He placed 3rd, going 3-1 on the day with one pin. His only loss came in the semifinals to a senior. It was actually a tie match late in the third period before a long scramble ended in a loss by pin for Matthew. Andrew Pederson placed the highest, notching a second place finish in his weight class. As one of the top-seeded wrestlers, he was given a first round bye. Then he made quick work of his semifinal opponent. In the finals, Andrew was winning a close match before he got reversed and pinned in the third period.

Final Notes:

Many of the returning wrestlers from last year have not only matched their win totals from last year, but several have doubled or even tripled their number of wins. Last year, only one senior had more than 10 wins. This year already, there are 6 wrestlers with double-digit win totals and 4 others have earned 7-9 wins overall. Also, the number of times losing by pin is way down and the amount of full matches is up. All of these are good signs for the future as there are only two seniors on this year's roster.

Up Next:

This Thursday, the Raiders will travel to Forest Lake to take on the Rangers and also the Roseville Raiders in a Suburban East Conference triangular meet. Then the Varsity and Junior Varsity will travel to South Saint Paul for an individual tournament on Saturday. The 9th grade team will also compete in their individual regional tournament at Richfield High School. The top two placers at each weight will qualify for the Minnesota Ninth Grade Wrestling League State Tournament on February 4th.