

December 24, 2008

## Trojans notch 2 more champs

West High had two champions -- Nick Moore and Derek St. John -- at the 21st annual Al Dvorak Memorial Invitational, on Monday and Tuesday in Rockford, Ill.

The Trojans placed third out of 32 teams with 183 points, just five back of second-place Lockport (Ill.). Montini won the event with 227½ points.

Eight West wrestlers found their way to the medal stand.

"It was encouraging to have eight guys place," West coach Mark Reiland said. "It's a tough tournament."

Reiland was most pleased with the fact that three sophomores and two freshmen placed.

Freshman Jack Hathaway bounced back from a loss to win four straight to take third place at 103 pounds.

Freshman Justin Koethe (140) lost twice to Andy Spangler of Neuqua Valley to place fourth.

"Hopefully that's something we can build on," Reiland said. "Hopefully, that's what we do, build on it, and not have it be their shining moment."

St. John was named the Outstanding Wrestler by winning his title in a loaded weight class. St. John beat Justin Armstrong 13-4 in the semifinals and topped Isaiah Gonzalez 14-7 in the finals. Both placed at the national Walsh Iron Man Tournament.

"We know how good he is," Reiland said. "He's ranked No. 1 in the country, and he's supposed to take care of things like that. It was two good wins for him."

Moore defeated Bobby Bamhisel, the junior national runner-up last year, by decision (8-6) in the finals.

West next heads to The Clash Tournament Jan. 2-3 in Rochester, Minn.

"We're seeing good competition," Reiland said. "Hopefully we can rise up to it."

21st annual Al Dvorak Memorial Invitational

Team scores -- 1. Montini 227½; 2. Lockport 188; 3. West High, Iowa 183; 4. Providence Catholic 168; 5. Kaukauna, Wis. 134; 6. Plainfield Central 132½; 7. Neuqua Valley 120½; 8. Honoegah 110½; 9. Carl Sandburg 108½; 10. Bishop Lynch, Texas 106; 11. Mount Carmel 95; 12. Yorkville 92½; 13. (tie) Libertyville 91½ and Mahomet-Seymour 91½; 15. Edwardsville 88; 16. Hoffman Estates 87½; 17. Bloom Township 77½; 18. De LaSalle 75; 19. Harlem 73; 20. Marist 70; 21. Springboro, Ohio 68½; 22. Dundee-Crown 67; 23. Dixon 64½; 24. Hersey 61½; 25. Barrington 57½; 26. Waubonsie Valley 55; 27. St. Rita 53½; 28. Fenwick 46; 29. Wheaton North 37½; 30. Bolingbrook 36; 31. Morton 35; 32. Cary-Grove 27.

### WEST HIGH RESULTS

103 -- Jack Hathaway (W) pinned Pat Fitzgerald (LIB) :42; Derek Elmore (HAR) dec. Hathaway 6-4 OT; Hathaway maj. dec. Austin Hietpas (KAU) 8-0; Hathaway pinned Nathan Davis (PLC) 1:27; Hathaway maj. dec. Miko Villanueva 10-1; Hathaway dec. Connor Bass (YKV) 5-2. THIRD.

112 -- Frankie Campos (BOL) pinned Jon Skarda (W) 3:18; Eric Oliver (BLM) pinned Skarda 3:56. DNP.

119 -- Hunter St. John (W) maj. dec. Ryan Whitten (PLC) 11-1; St. John dec. Mike Golden (STR) 6-3; St. John pinned Troy Valdez (MON) 3:58; Thomas Ambrose (PRV) dec. St. John 5-1; Jameson Oster (LKP) pinned St. John :55; Jake Fuqua (BLM) dec. St. John 1-0. SIXTH.

125 -- Gradey Gambrall (W) pinned Joe Galason (MAR) 3:35; Stephen Robertson (MON) pinned Gambrall 5:02; Gambrall dec. Brendan Sullivan (STR) 6-1; Abe Omar (LKP) maj. dec. Gambrall 10-2. DNP.

130 -- Garrett Hathaway (W) pinned Zach Deaton (MRT) 1:58; Marc Rocha (BISH) dec. Hathaway 6-3; Hathaway pinned Zach Striplin (WN) :44; Hathaway maj. dec. Tyler Callahan (HAR) 10-1; Hathaway dec. Jacob Bugajski 7-2; Tyler Argue (MTC) dec. Hathaway 2-1; Hathaway dec. Rocha 6-2. SEVENTH.

135 -- Ethan Knoebel (EDW) pinned Tracy Bowers (W) 5:45; Bowers pinned Chaz Orteb :45; Sam Shay (LIB) dec. Bowers 6-3. DNP.

140 -- Justin Koethe (W) pinned Thomas McClure (EDW) 1:29; Koethe pinned Mike Balderas (YKV) 3:22; Andy Spangler (NV) pinned Koethe 3:07; Koethe dec. Brett Phillips 4-2; Koethe pinned Pat Callan (LIB) 2:53; Koethe pinned Matt Weber 1:46; Spangler dec. Koethe 4-2. FOURTH.

145 -- Ryan Perina (YKV) pinned A.J. Bailey (W) 5:33; Bailey pinned Pierce Lueders (WV) 1:21; Bailey dec. Dylan Dunlap (MS) 7-3; Bailey pinned Bryan Przepiora (STR) 4:21; Bailey pinned Charlie Chew (BOL) 4:18; Alex Cizek (NV) dec. Bailey 13-7; Shaun-Qae McMurty (LKP) dec. Bailey 8-5. EIGHTH.

152 -- Nick Moore (W) pinned Nick McDowell (LIB) 2:47; Moore pinned Dimitri Willis 1:13; Moore over Nick LeForce (SPR) by forfeit; Moore dec. Bobby Bamhisel (FNW) 8-6. FIRST.

160 -- Derek St. John (W) pinned Tim Sampey (FNW) :23; St. John maj. dec. Jeff Koepke (HER) 23-10; St. John maj. dec. Justin Armstrong (BISH) 13-4; St. John dec. Isaiah Gonzalez (MON) 14-7. FIRST.

171 -- David Solis (W) dec. Patrick Dabbs (YKV) 7-5; Sterling Hecox (HAR) pinned Solis 1:32; Harry Myers (WN) dec. Solis 5-3. DNP.

189 -- Dexter Curry (W) pinned Brendan Mahaney (YKV) 1:52; Matt Dwyer (HON) maj. dec. Curry 8-0; Curry pinned Fred Scales (HER) 1:38; Andrew Flynn (BOL) dec. Curry 7-3. DNP.

215 -- Matt Behnami (W) pinned Robby Bain (BOL) 4:00; Behnami dec. Luke Miller (LIB) 4-1; Jose Flores (HOFF) dec. Behnami 3-2; Behnami dec. Saed Al-Azzam (CS) 8-4; Matt Wallace (KAU) dec. Behnami 3-2. FOURTH.

Hwt. -- Mike Fleming (HON) pinned Brandon Kuehl (W) 1:41; Kuehl pinned Sam Gordon (HAR) 2:41; Sean Tavakoli (LIB) pinned Kuehl :34. DNP.

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