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The Express-Times

Bethlehem Catholic High School crowns five champs, wins tourney title at Christmas City Holiday Classic - Page 10

BETHLEHEM | With five underclassmen winning titles at the Christmas City Holiday Classic, tournament host Bethlehem Catholic High School served notice that its wrestling program will be a force in the future.

With their team title, the Golden Hawks proved to District 11 and all of Pennsylvania that they will be a Class AA power this season.

Coach Jeff Karam's Bethlehem Catholic team outpointed Schuylkill Valley 233-223 to capture the championship.

Schuylkill Valley, ranked in the top three of the state in Class AA this season according to most polls, won last year's tournament title over Becahi, 262-231.

Freshman Darian Cruz, sophomore Randy Cruz, freshman Ryan Todora, sophomore Elliott Riddick and junior Kyle Dehaut -- the tournament's outstanding wrestler -- all won gold medals for the Golden Hawks.

"I feel really good about our team, especially in tournaments," Karam said. "We have some outstanding individuals. And they're all young and they'll all be back. There will be ups and downs but we're pretty excited.

"Schuylkill Valley is No. 3 in the state and had most of their top guys back from last season. That's a real good team."

Darian Cruz started the championship round with a 7-5 overtime win over Pius X senior Anthony Bilotta. Cruz, who weighed in at 100 pounds, was successful with several double-leg takedowns, including one 35 seconds into overtime.

"I was really nervous in the parade of champions," he said, "and once the whistle blew, I knew it'd be a tough match. He's really strong. I had to use my quickness to my advantage. I was able to double-leg him and come out from behind."

The elder Cruz followed his brother's big victory up with a 6-2 win over Nate Giorgio of Schuylkill Valley. Randy Cruz was 3-0 vs. Giorgio last season.

"I know he's a tough opponent," the sixth-place medalist at last season's state tournament said. "He didn't want to open up too much ... he knows how to wrestle. That was a big win for us because we were tied with Schuylkill Valley going into the finals."

Todaro, like Darian Cruz a junior high district champ last season, won the title at 130 pounds for Becahi. He earned a 4-2 decision over Schuylkill Valley senior Dakota Davis.

Riddick then won at 145, using a late takedown to prevail 3-1 over state qualifier Dillon Smith of Jim Thorpe.

"Elliot Riddick, nobody knows about him and he won 30 matches last season," Karam said. "He's a pretty

tough kid."

The Golden Hawks' final champion was Dehaut, who used a cement special to deck Allen's Ahmed Burton in 1:01. Burton won a state title in Georgia last season before transferring to the Lehigh Valley Conference school.

"I knew they knew I had it but it's always the element of surprise," Dehaut said of the move taught to him by his brother Drew and a favorite of assistant coach Tommy Rohn.

Wilson's Brandon Hartrum kept his perfect season in tact with a 7-3 final win over Jaydon Rice of Bethlehem Catholic in a battle of junior 119-pounders. Hartrum improved to 11-0.

Luke DeLuise was Pius X's champion with a pin in 4:32 over Brian McLaughlin of East Stroudsburg South in the 171 final. Bilotta and Justin Mazza both took home silver medals for the Royals, who finished fifth in the team standings with 154.5 points.

State champion Colin Shober of Schuylkill Valley became a four-time Christmas City champ with a wild 17-12 win over Zach Robinson of Pottsgrove.

Whitehall senior Taray Carey, the 215-pound champ, won the award for most pins in the least amount of time. Carey recorded three pins in 4:02.

Christmas City results

At Bethlehem Catholic H.S.

TEAM SCORES

1. Bethlehem Catholic, BC, 233; 2. Schuylkill Valley, SV, 223; 3. Whitehall, Wh, 175; 4. St. Benedict's Prep, SBP, 155.5; 5. Pius X, PX, 154.5; 6. East Stroudsburg South, ESS, 124; 7. Wallenpaupack, Wal, 121.5; 8. Port Jervis, PJ, 92; 9. Wilson, Wil, 84.5; 10. Catasauqua, Cat, 80; 11. Pottsgrove, Pot, 79; 12. Bangor, Ban, 75; 13. Allen, Al, 67; 13. Notre Dame, ND, 67; 15. Wyoming Valley West, WVV, 65; 16. Panther Valley, PV, 63; 16. Pocono Mountain West, PMW, 63; 18. Dieruff, Die, 45.5; 19. Southern Lehigh, SL, 45; 20. East Stroudsburg North, ESN, 39; 21. Jim Thorpe, JT, 31; 22. Palisades, Pal, 17.

CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

103 -- Fr. Darian Cruz (15-2), BC, d. Sr. Anthony Bilotta (11-3), PX, 7-5 OT.
 112 -- So. Randy Cruz (15-2), BC, d. Jr. Nate Giorgio (13-2), SV, 6-2.
 119 -- Jr. Brandon Hartrum (11-0), Wil, d. Jr. Jaydon Rice (10-3), BC, 7-3.
 125 -- Sr. John Moriarty (16-1), PJ, d. Sr. Justin Mazza (12-2), PX, 3-2.
 130 -- Fr. Ryan Todora (10-2), BC, d. Sr. Dakota Davis (3-1), SV, 4-2.
 135 -- Jr. Chris Dowdy (8-0), SBP, d. Sr. Mike Giorgio (16-2), SV, 10-7.
 140 -- Sr. Colin Shober (17-0), SV, p. Jr. Zach Robinson (6-2), Pot, 17-12.
 145 -- So. Elliot Riddick (11-2), BC, d. Sr. Dillon Smith (14-3), JT, 3-1.
 152 -- Jr. Kyle Dehaut (14-3), BC, p. Sr. Ahmed Burton (7-4), Al, 1:01.
 160 -- Sr. Ryan Maurer (15-2), SV, d. Jr. Luke Gotzon (8-5), SL, 4-2 OT.
 171 -- Sr. Luke DeLuise (13-1), PX, p. Sr. Brian McLaughlin (9-1), ESS, 4:32.
 189 -- Jr. Dylan Scheidt (13-0), SV, md. Jr. Isaiah Cromwell (9-2), SBP, 10-2.
 215 -- Sr. Taray Carey (5-0), Wh, md. Sr. Taylor Newcomer (14-1), Wal, 13-4.
 285 -- Sr. Tony Bourizk (5-0), Wh, d. Jr. Josh Gonzalez (10-3), PMW, 3-1.

THIRD-PLACE FINALS

- 103 -- DeMarquis Holley, Die, d. Kyle Krasavage, WWV, 5-0.
112 -- Joe Dalessandro, PX, d. Chris Monge, Wh, 5-3.
119 -- Lee Coleman, Ban, d. Sean Phuah, PMW, 9-4.
125 -- Rich Cruz, BC, d. Vinnie Pellechia, Cat, 5-3.
130 -- George Bastian, ESS, d. Brett Sauschuck, PJ, 9-6.
135 -- Nate Snyder, Wh, d. Arian Kohler, ESS, 7-2.
140 -- Tanner Simmons, Cat, p. Matt Bonshak, Wh, 1:16.
145 -- Ochirbat Bayanjargal, SBP, d. Jake Giovannini, PX, 3-1 OT.
152 -- Greg Chrin, ND, d. Noah Horst, SV, 6-4 OT.
160 -- Bobby Bah, SBP, d. Kevin Schaller, PV, 4:31.
171 -- Jonathon Blank, ND, p. Luke Garner, Cat, :52.
189 -- Kevin Rehm, Wh, d. Martin LaLuz, BC, 1-0.
215 -- Andrew Smith, PJ, d. Riad Abu-Smail, SBP, 5-2.
285 -- Tom Lapping, ESS, d. Frank Bruno, Wal, 3-2.

FIFTH-PLACE FINALS

- 103 -- Nick O'Donnell, PV, d. Ryan Griffiths, SV, 7-3.
112 -- Lee Lindsey, Ban, p. Chris Duff, Wal, 2:12.
119 -- Stephen Matello, WWV, med.for. Zach Jacobs, SBP.
125 -- Mike Ramos, AI, p. Mike Marra, ESS, 4:23.
130 -- Rob Ranalli, SBP, d. Eric Seals, AI, 8-4.
135 -- Victor Embardino, ND, p. Josh La Bar, PX, 2:13.
140 -- Taylore McLay, Wal, d. Mike McLaughlin, Wil, 5-3.
145 -- Aaron Williams, Wh, p. Matt Suter, PMW, :37.
152 -- Matt Gotzon, SL, d. Seth Guth, Wh, 5-4.
160 -- Larry Giamarco, BC, p. Kit Swenson, Wal, 1:40.
171 -- George Simms, WWV, d. Jeff Mohn, SV, 6-4.
189 -- Willie O'Brien, ESS, d. Tyler Wysochanski, Pot, 6-2.
215 -- Francis Roscioli, Wil, p. John Schaeffer, PV, 2:37.
285 -- Luke Texeira, PX, p. Scott Schoenberger, Pot, 1:26.

SEMIFINALS

103 pounds

Anthony Bilotta, PX, p. Ryan Griffiths, SV, :27; Darian Cruz, BC, md. Nick O'Donnell, PV, 10-1.

112 pounds

Nate Giorgio, SV, tf. Chris Monge, Wh, 17-2, 5:16; Randy Cruz, BC, p. Lee Lindsey, Ban, 1:23.

119 pounds

Jaydon Rice, BC, d. Lee Coleman, Ban, 6-2; Brandon Hartrum, Wil, p. Zach Jacobs, SBP, 5:50.

125 pounds

John Moriarty, PJ, tf. Mike Ramos, Al, 16-0, 3:39; Justin Mazza, PX, d. Vinnie Pellechia, Cat, 10-5.

130 pounds

Ryan Todora, BC, d. Rob Ranalli, SBP, 3-1; Dakota Davis, SV, d. Brett Sauschuck, PJ, 7-5.

135 pounds

Mike Giorgio, SV, p. Victor Embardino, ND, 3:46; Chris Dowdy, SBP, p. Josh La Bar, PX, 1:30.

140 pounds

Colin Shoher, SV, p. Tanner Simmons, Cat, 1:46; Zach Robinson, Pot, p. Matt Bonshak, Wh, 1:45.

145 pounds

Dillon Smith, JT, d. Ochirbat Bayanjargal, SBP, 11-4; Elliot Riddick, BC, md. Jake Giovannini, PX, 12-1.

152 pounds

Ahmed Burton, Al, d. Greg Chrin, ND, 9-6; Kyle Dehaut, BC, p. Noah Horst, SV, 2:50.

160 pounds

Ryan Maurer, SV, p. Bobby Bah, SBP, 1:05; Luke Gotzon, SL, p. Kevin Schaller, PV, 5:59.

171 pounds

Luke DeLuise, PX, p. Jonathon Blank, ND, 3:00; Brian McLaughlin, ESS, d. Luke Garner, Cat, 5-1.

189 pounds

Dylan Scheidt, SV, md. Kevin Rehm, Wh, 10-2; Isaiah Cromwell, SBP, d. Martin Laluz, BC, 7-3.

215 pounds

Taylor Newcomer, Wal, p. Riad Abu-Smail, SBP, 5:09; Taray Carey, Wh, p. Andrew Smith, PJ, 1:00.

285 pounds

Josh Gonzalez, PMW, d. Frank Bruno, Wal, 3-1; Tony Bourizk, Wh, d. Tom Lapping, ESS, 10-4.

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