

Governor Youth Wrestling Advances 62 to State

At total of 88 wrestlers from the Governor Youth Wrestling program competed in the Region 2 Youth Wrestling Tournament held in Mobridge on Saturday March 15th. Wrestlers from around the area competed in the event, which coincided with competition at four other region tournaments held throughout the state. The top three wrestlers from each age division and weight class advance to the State Tournament held in Rapid City in two weeks.

This year, the Pierre program advanced 62 wrestlers to the state tournament. This number is only two short

of the record 63 wrestlers that advanced from this same event last year. This included 26 region champions, 20 second place finishers, and 15 third/fourth place finishers. Trevor Wiebe, president of the youth program, noted that “Last year was a banner year for our program, and getting close to that mark again for a second straight year is very rewarding. Just three years ago when we hit broke the 50 mark it was believe that advancing more than that would be difficult to accomplish.” The next highest total by a competing youth program around the state was Watertown with 39 state qualifiers.

Region champions from the Pierre Program advancing to the state tournament include Cooper Terwilliger, Ethan



State qualifiers from the Pierre Youth Wrestling program include: Front Row; Daniel Mason, Xoe Murphy, Noah Horsley, Lincoln Shoenhard, Bryant Zeeb, Kenyon Kuiper, Hudson Shaffer, Matthew Hostler, Spencer Sargent, Gabe Turman, Tristin Spencer, Andrew Snyder, Cooper Terwilliger, Hudson Stoeser, Jacob Mason, Kaleb Lounsbury, Owen Heiss, Graison Agneau. Middle Row: Noah Williams, Nate Williams, Blake Judson, Broch Zeeb, Will Van Camp, Jace Bench-Bresher, Brady Getz, Tyrone Oldenkamp, Steven Fullerton, Matthew King, Jack Van Camp, Cade Hinkle, Wesley Harsma, Tyson Johnson, Gavin Stotts, Hayden Shaffer, Jayden Wiebe, Elijia Bouchee, Rylan Shrake, Tyson Nemec. Back Row: Justyce Murphy, Lincoln Turman, Logan Meyer, Gunnar Gehring, Pryce Dyk, Austin Senger, Eastin Swartz, Matthew Rounds, Lucas Stoltenburg, Levi Stoltenburg, Cadin Buchholz, Aric Williams, DJ Highbear, Gage Gehring, Leander Austin, Michael Lusk, Spencer Davis, Maguire Raske, William Turman, Gabriel Highbear (Missing is Ethan Martinmaas, Garrett Leesman, Skyler Leesman, Klarence Nichols, Evan Mcfarling).

Martinmaas, Andrew Snyder, Spencer Sargent, Elijah Boutchee, Rylan Shrake, Gabe Turman, Noah Williams, Blake Judson, Jayden Wiebe, Brady Getz, Tyson Nemec, Will Van Camp, Jace Bench-Bresher, Jack Van Camp, Cade Hinkle, Maguire Raske, Wesley Harsma, Lincoln Turman, Will Turman, Cade Buchholz, Gage Gehring, Michael Lusk, Austin Senger, Aric Williams, Skyler Leesman, and Levi Stoltenburg.

Of the 20 runner-up finishes, Pierre had seven wrestlers that lost to club members in their championship round. These included Kenyon Kuiper, Lincoln Shoenhard, Matthew Hostler, Tristan Spencer, Nate Williams, Spencer Davis, and Tyson Johnson. Other runner-up finishes included Daniel Mason, Xoe Murphy, Hudson Stoesser, Owen Heiss, Steven Fullerton, Hayden Shaffer, Gunner Gehring, Logan Meyer, Leander Austin, Pryce Dyk, DJ Highbear, Mathew Rounds, and Lucas Stoltenburg. “With the size and caliber of our program right now, the ability to wrestle with state qualifiers and placers every day in practice provides such a competitive advantage,” said Paul Turman, advanced group coach. “We have competed regionally and nationally all year long and I firmly believe that our kids will be comfortable wrestling at this level come Saturday.”

The wrestling club has consistently taken approximately 50 wrestlers to the state tournament during the past nine

years and constantly returns with a large number of state finalists. This past year, of the 63 state qualifiers a total of 38 placed at the state tournament, with 13 advancing to the state finals and 7 individual champions. Shawn Lewis, head high school wrestling coach, commented that “There is a reason why we can come off of a back-to-back performance as state champions and finish 2nd at the state high school tournament. As coaches we are inheriting technically sound young wrestlers and thus they are able to be competitive the very first year on varsity. Our youth program is the reason why our last four 106 lbers have placed in the top four in their first year of varsity experience.”

Wrestling begins on Saturday morning at 8:00 for the younger wrestlers, and then the older kids wrestle starting at 2:00. Those placing at the tournament will compete on Sunday in the placing round. Individual place winners for all six age divisions include:



Cooper Terwilliger works to finish off his opponent on his way to a first place finish at the Region 2 tournament.

Tots

1. *Noah Horsley – 3rd*
2. *Daniel Mason – 2nd*
3. *Graisun Agneau – 3rd*
4. *Xoe Murphy – 2nd*
5. *Kaleb Lounsbury – 3rd*
6. *Cooper Terwilliger – 1st*
7. *Kenyon Kuiper 2nd **
8. *Hudson Stoesser – 2nd*

Bantam

9. *Owen Heiss – 2nd*
10. *Jacob Mason – 3rd*
11. *Ethan Martinmaas – 1st*
12. *Lincoln Schoenhard – 2nd **
13. *Andrew Snyder – 1st*
14. *Hudson Shaffer – 3rd*
15. *Spencer Sargent – 1st*
16. *Broch Zeeb – 3rd*
17. *Elijah Boutchee – 1st*
18. *Rylan Shrake – 1st*

Midgets

19. *Gabe Turman – 1st*
20. *Matthew Hostler – 2nd **
21. *Noah Williams – 1st*
22. *Tristan Spencer 2nd **
23. *Blake Judson – 1st*
24. *Nate Williams – 2nd **
25. *Jayden Wiebe – 1st*
26. *Brady Getz – 1st*
27. *Evan Mcfarling – 3rd*
28. *Gavin Stotts – 3rd*
29. *Matthew King – 4th*
30. *Steven Fullerton – 2nd*

Novice

31. *Tyson Nemec – 1st*
32. *Will Van Camp – 1st*
33. *Hayden Shaffer – 2nd*
34. *Jace Bench-Bresher – 1st*
35. *Tyson Johnson – 2nd **
36. *Jack Van Camp – 1st*
37. *Tyrone Oldenkamp – 3rd*
38. *Cade Hinkle – 1st*
39. *Maguire Raske – 1st*
40. *Spencer Davis – 2nd **
41. *Wesley Harsma – 1st*
42. *Gunner Gehring – 2nd*
43. *Justyce Murphy – 3rd*

Schoolboy

44. *Gage Highbear – 3rd*
45. *Lincoln Turman – 2nd*
46. *Will Turman – 1st*
47. *Logan Meyer – 2nd*
48. *Leander Austin – 2nd*
49. *Cadin Buchholz – 1st*
50. *Garrett Leesman – 3rd*
51. *Gage Gehring – 1st*

Cadets

52. *Michael Lusk – 1st*
53. *Austin Senger – 1st*
54. *Aric Williams – 1st*
55. *DJ Highbear – 2nd*
56. *Klarence Nichols – 3rd*
57. *Matthew Rounds – 2nd*
58. *Lucas Stoltenburg – 2nd*
59. *Skyler Leesman – 1st*
60. *Levi Stoltenburg – 1st*
61. *Pryce Dyk – 2nd*
62. *Easton Swartz – 3rd*