

4 WRESTLERS PLACE IN TOP 5 SEATS AT NIKISKI 1, 2, 3A TOURNAMENT

Justin Allen(160) places 1st, Michael Ace(140) places 2nd, Kiefer Groeneveld(112) and Austin Rake(119) place 5th

8 high school wrestlers travelled to Nikiski for the 1, 2, 3A state wrestling tournament this weekend. The wrestlers that travelled were Freshmen Ashley Johnson(103), Caj Rorher(112), Austin Rake(119) and Kalen McIntosh(130), and juniors Kiefer Groeneveld(112), Michael Ace(140), Justin Allen(160) and Jesse Deaton(171). Four of the eight wrestlers placed in state berths. The wrestlers were Rake(119) and Groeneveld(112) at 5th, Ace(140) at 2nd, and Allen(160) at 1st. Valdez placed in 9th out of a field of 43 teams. The top 10 team scores were 1-Bethel 228.5pt, 2-Nikiski 169.5pt, 3-Dillingham 141pt, 4-Kotzebue 127pt, 5-Sitka 112.5, 6 -Craig 109pt, 7-Mt. Edgecumbe 106pt, 8 - Cordova 98.5pt, 9-Valdez 79.5pt and 10-Voznesenka 68pt.

Individual matches for the Valdez wrestlers were as follows:

Freshman Ashley Johnson(103). Match 1 against Darin David of Sitka lost by T-fall 1-17, match 2 against Christian Wheeler of Grace Christian won by dec 6-3, and match 3 against Aedan Blazina of Yakutat lost by fall 4:12. Freshman Caj Rorher(112). Match 1 against Scott Hansen of Kotzebue lost by M-Dec 2-10, match 2 against Andrew Jensen of Hutchison won by fall 2:51, match 3 against Joe Kohler of New Stuyahok lost by dec 5-9. Junior Kiefer Groeneveld(112). Match 1 against Carl Jimmie of Bethel won by fall 1:48, match 2 against Jerome Williams of Napaskiak won by M-dec 13-4, match 3 against Scott Hansen of Kotzebue lost by dec 0-5, match 4 against Joe Kohler of New Stuyahok lost by dec 2-3, and match 5 for 5th place against Anthony Walsh of Grace Christian won by dec 4-0. Freshman Austin Rake(119). Match 1 against Jarid Miller of Dillingham lost by M-dec 5-17, match 2 against Nicholas Christopher of New Stuyahok won by fall 4:53, match 3 against Alex Vickers of Craig won by fall 2:16, match 4 against Daniel Villasenor of Mt. Edgecumbe won by fall 4:45, match 5 against Noah Roetman of Kotzebue lost by dec 1-6, and match 6 for 5th place against Chris Clement of Sitka won by dec 13-12. Freshman Kalen McIntosh(130). Match 1 against Cade Schlagel of Dillingham lost by M-dec 3-13 and match 2 against Dean Tallberg of Hutchison lost by fall 4:06. Junior Michael Ace(140). Match 1 against Mark Steiger of Nome won by M-dec 8-0, match 2 against Max Hanson of Sitka won by T-fall 20-5, match 3 against Brayton Lieb of Bethel won by dec 3-2, and match 4 for 1st/2nd against Joe Martishev of Voznesenka lost by dec 2-5. Junior Justin Allen(160). Match 1 against Conner Forrey of Sitka won by fall 1:37, match 2 against Ralston Ferguson of Galena won by fall 2:13, match 3 against Zenon Matshuev of Voznesenka won by fall 3:09, and match 4 for 1st/2nd against Paul Amore of ACS won by fall 1:48. Junior Jesse Deaton(171). Match 1 against Shyler Johnson of Unalakleet lost by fall 3:46 and match 2 against Zach Joekay of Napaskiak was Dflt.

- Courtesy Val Hiebert