2015 Ranger Report

Kentucky High School State Wrestling Championship Review

It took a couple extra weeks and a few more days off school and work, but we got the 2015 KHSAA State Championship in. We can debate until the cows come home if the date and location were right, but it is what it is. The snow created a very difficult set of circumstances for everyone involved and we all made the best we could of the situation (although it would have been nice for the KHSAA to actually TALK with the KSWA to discuss other options!!!). First of all, we have to applaud the wrestlers who competed at a very high level. There was a lot of concern for the amount of missed practice and extending the season and weight issues and most were convinced the wrestling would suffer. But the kids showed up ready to roll. Second, the crowd showed up. Yes the numbers were down, but that had to be expected to some degree. Competing during the week minimized the number of students who could attend and I'm sure some parents, family, and general fans had conflicts that kept them away.

Interesting item follow up:

- 1) Does Saul continue the family tradition (an Ervin has won a state title since like 2006)?
 - a. Check. Another Ervin another state championship.
- 2) Can anyone stop Sheffer from going 4-for-4 (and 8-for-8 overall)?
 - a. Brown was up for the challenge, but came up just short.
- 3) Who will win 138? The deepest weight class in the tournament should have the crowd's attention from the opening round.
 - a. A wild and crazy bracket with Vasquez being up to the challenge of defending his #1 position.
- 4) Who will step up to win a wide open 170 weight class with the suspension of Dominic Lampe?
 - a. McIntosh gets the job done by beating most of the top competitors.
- 5) Austin Myers becoming a 4-time, undefeated (in season) state Champion.
 - a. Done.
- 6) Can Union County go back-to-back?
 - a. Looked good early, but Fern Creek came on with a complete team effort to knock off the defending champs.
- 7) Where will the finals be wrestled? On one end of the arena? In the center? In the parking lot?
 - a. UGH!!!

Report Audit

2015 2007-2010 2011-2014 8 Year Average % % # % # % # # 62.5% 9.25 Won title 9.00 64.3% 12 8.75 66.1% 85.7% Finished 2nd 1.50 10.7% 2.50 17.9% 2.00 14.3% 1 7.1% Finished 3rd 2.75 19.6% 1.25 8.9% 2.00 14.3% 0 0.0% Finished 4th 0.25 0.25 0.25 0 1.8% 1.8% 1.8% 0.0% *Lower than 4th 0.75 5.4% 0.75 5.4% 0.75 5.4% 1 7.1% TOTAL 14 100% 14 100% 14 14 100% 100%

How the predicted individual champions fared?

*total of 6 predicted champs have finished outside the top 4 in the last 8 years (2007 – Korey Shotwell Campbell Co 130 DNP, 2010 - Jake Lee Campbell Co 160 7th, Tyler Crow Meade Co 215 DNP, 2012 – Trevor Ford Desales 285 DNP, 2013 – Cody Stephens McCreary Central 106 DNP, Sam Preston Johnson Central 195 6th, 2015 – Hudson Heidorf Trinity 5th)

Who won the individual state title?

	2007-2	2010	2011-2	2014	8 Year	Average	2015	
	<u>#</u>	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Ranked 1 st	8.75	62.5%	9.25	66.1%	9.00	64.3%	12	85.7%
Ranked 2 nd	2.25	16.1%	3.25	23.2%	2.75	19.6%	1	7.1%
Ranked 3 rd	1.00	7.1%	0.50	3.6%	0.75	5.4%	0	0.0%
Ranked 4 th	1.00	7.1%	0.50	3.6%	0.75	5.4%	0	0.0%
<u>*Lower than 4</u>	th 1.00	7.1%	0.50	3.6%	0.75	5.4%	1	7.1%
TOTAL	14	100%	14	100%	14	100%	14	100%

*total of 6 individuals won the state title who were predicted to finish outside the top 4 in the last 8 years (2007 - Darwin Perez Larue Co 130 6th, Derek Nickel Doss 215 6th, 2008 - Shane Parks Woodford Co 125 8th, Dakota Choate PRP 152 6th, 2011 - Thomas Buckman Union Co 189 6th, 2013 – Jorge Vega Fern Creek 5th, 2015 – Geordan Blanton Johnson Central 6th)

Who placed?

	2007-2	2010	2011-2	2014	8 Year Ave	rage	2015	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Predicted Top 8	83.0	74.1%	80.8	72.1%	81.9	73.1%	83	74.1%
Predicted 9 th - 12 th	15.0	13.4%	15.5	13.8%	15.3	13.7%	18	16.1%
Predicted 13 th -16 th	7.5	6.7%	7.3	6.5%	7.4	6.6%	6	5.4%
Predicted below 16 th	6.5	5.8%	8.5	7.6%	7.5	6.7%	5	4.4%
TOTAL	112	100%	112	100%	112	100%	112	100%

Results by Region

	Team Pts	%	Champs	Finalists	Placers	%
Region 6	561.0	20%	4	7	26	23%
Region 4	424.5	15%	3	7	15	13%
Region 1	376.5	13%	2	2	16	14%
Region 5	358.5	13%	1	3	13	12%
Region 3	324.0	12%	2	4	12	11%
Region 2	294.0	11%	0	2	12	11%
Region 7	249.0	9%	1	2	9	8%
Region 8	212.5	8%	1	1	9	8%
TOTAL	2,800.0	100%	14	28	112	100%

How the predicted team champions fared and who placed high?

			2007		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Predicted	Woodford Co.			Paul Dunbar*	
Actual	Union Co.	Woodford Co.	North Hardin	Fern Creek	Larue Co.
*Paul Dunba	r finished 8 th				
			2008		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
	Union Co.				
Actual	Union Co.	Ryle	Woodford Co.	Trinity	Wayne Co.
*Campbell C	o. finished 6 th				
			2009		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Predicted	Trinity	Ryle	Campbell Co.	Union Co.	Larue Co.*
Actual	Trinity	Union Co.	Ryle	Campbell Co.	Johnson Central
*Larue Co. fi	nished 7 th				
			2010		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Predicted	Ryle	Trinity	Campbell Co*	Johnson Cen	Larue Co
Actual	Trinity	Ryle	Union Co	Johnson Cen	Larue Co
*Campbell C	o finished 6 th				
			2011		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Predicted	Trinity	Union Co	Ryle	Larue Co	Johnson Central*
Actual	Union Co	Trinity	Ryle	Larue Co	St. Xavier
*Johnson Ce	ntral finished 7 th				
			2012		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Predicted	Campbell Co	Larue Co	Union Co	Johnson Cen*	Trinity
Actual	Campbell Co	Union Co	Trinity	Larue Co	Simon Kenton
* Johnson Co	ntral finished 6 th				

*Johnson Central finished 6th

			2013		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Predicted	Campbell Co	Union Co	St. Xavier	Simon Kenton	Johnson Central*
Actual	St. Xavier	Campbell Co	Union Co	Woodford Co	Simon Kenton
*Johnson Cent	ral finished 14 th				
			2014		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Predicted	Union Co	Campbell Co	St. Xavier	Trinity	Woodford Co
Actual	Union Co	Campbell Co	Trinity	St. Xavier	Woodford Co
			2015		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Predicted	Union Co	Trinity	Fern Creek	Campbell Co	St. Xavier
Actual	Fern Creek	Union Co	Trinity	Campbell Co	Oldham Co

4 YEAR GAP COMPARISON

2011 Middle School

70

1st – Corey Jacobs (Elkhorn)
2nd – Blake Roth (Walton)
3rd – Saul Ervin (Union Co)
4th – Ryan Moore (Campbell Co)
5th – Toby Siddens (Moore)
6th – Nick Wise (East Oldham)
DNP – Tanner Yenter (Campbell Co)
Joey Roberts (Woodford Co)
Michael Mattox (Harrison Co)

75

1st – Bryce Sheffer (Union Co)
2nd – Jake Burroughs (North Hardin)
3rd – Brady Wells (Campbell Co)
4th – Michael Martin (Walton)
5th – Jack Fallon (Woodford Co)
6th – Stiles Metcalf (Larue Co)
DNP – Zane Brown (Shamrock)

82

- 1st Derek Wiley (Conner) 2nd – AJ Bindner (North Oldham) 3rd – Chance Oxford (Union Co) 4th – French Golden (Gray) 5th – Konner Kraeszig (River City) 6th – Dylan Gray (Caldwell Co) DNP – Austin Cook (River City)
 - Trent Johnson (North Hardin)
 - Dakota Lillie (Campbell Co)

2015 High School

106

- 1st Saul Ervin (Union Co)
- 2nd Tanner Yenter (Campbell Co)
- 3rd Tylan Tucker (Woodford Co)
- 4th Adam Bender (Lexington Catholic)
- 5th Cagen Wallace (Wayne Co)
- 6th Mike Klein (Fern Creek)
- 7th Brandon Miller (Henry Clay)
- 8th Blake Roth (Walton-Verona)

113

- 1st Jorge Vega (Fern Creek)
- 2nd Brady Wells (Campbell Co)
- 3rd Ryan Moore (Walton-Verona)
- 4th Tucker Hurst (Woodford Co)
- 5th Michael Mattox (Harrison Co)
- 6th Austin Cook (St Xavier)
- 7th Dallas Ochsenbein (North Oldham)
- 8th Tyler Ward (Apollo)

- 1st Bryce Sheffer (Union Co)
- 2nd Zane Brown (Male)
- 3rd Joey Roberts (Woodford Co)
- 4th Cedric Binford (Fern Creek)
- 5th Michael Beets (St Xavier)
- 6th Derrick Soper (Bryan Station)
- 7th Joey Scaggs (Dixie Heights)
- 8th Dakota Lillie (Campbell Co)

1 st – Logan Erdman (Gray)
2 nd – Tucker Hurst (Woodford Co)
3 rd – Ben Barton (Shamrock)
4 th – Dalton Putty (Blazer)
5 th – Jorge Vega (Fern Creek)
6 th – Tyler Ward (Owensboro)
DNP – <mark>Dallas Miles (River City)</mark>

96

1st – Hudson Heidorf (North Oldham)
2nd – Jake Erdman (Gray)
3rd – Jeremiah Kline (Trigg Co)
4th – Geordan Blanton (Johnson Co)
5th – Brady Emerson (Oldham Co)
6th – Trey Woodley (McNabb)
DNP – Jeremy Henehan (Woodford Co)

103

- 1st Caleb Austin (Christian Co)
- 2nd Robert Smith (Union Co)
- 3rd Nathan Thompson (River City)
- 4th Bobby Poynter (Moore)
- 5th Bryan Spahr (Campbell Co)
- 6th Elijah Owens (Twenhofel)
- DNP Sam Griffith (Johnson Co)
 - Alex Holt (McNabb)

126

- 1st Logan Erdman (Ryle)
- 2nd Bobby Poynter (Moore)
- 3rd Jake Burroughs (North Hardin)
- 4th Jordan Monroe (Cooper)
- 5th Connor Cambron (Fern Creek)
- 6th Daniel Dyess (University Heights)
- 7th Jacob Henley (Oldham Co)
- 8th Scott Ruttman (Calloway Co)

132

- 1st Keegan Duncan (Trinity)
- 2nd AJ Bindner (Fern Creek)
- 3rd Mason Smith (Walton-Verona)
- 4th Nick Wise (Oldham Co)
- 5th Chance Collins (University Heights)
- 6th Kyle Steiner (Cooper)
- 7th Dale Hensley (Scott)
- 8th Kevin Vasquez (Lafayette)

- 1st Angel Vasquez (Lafayette)
- 2nd Brandon Leak (North Hardin)
- 3rd Brady Emerson (Oldham Co)
- 4th Trent Johnson (John Hardin)
- 5th Nathan Thompson (Valley)
- 6th Dallas Miles (St Xavier)
- 7th Bryan Spahr (Campbell Co)
- 8th Derek Miller (Paducah Tilghman)

1st – John Shirkey (East Oldham) 2nd – Keegan Duncan (North Oldham) 3rd – Andy Wilson (Conner) 4th – Dylan West (Larue Co) 5th – David Rich (Gray) 6th – Trevor Edmonson (North Hardin) DNP – Alex Wright (Bourbon Co)

117

1st – Jon Belk (Gray)
2nd – Michael Grandstaff (Conner)
3rd – Caleb Ray (River City)
4th – Terrell Roberts (Harrison Co)
5th – Sean Burke (Shamrock)
6th – Liam Mitchell (Woodford Co)
DNP – Tristan Sanders (Fairdale)

124

- 1st Tyler Frankrone (River City)
- 2nd Jackson Oxford (Union Co)
- 3rd Cameron Bryant (Moore)
- 4th Carson Axtell (Oldham Co)
- 5th Jordan Metts (Elkhorn)
- 6th Austin Phillips (Anderson Co)
- DNP Cole Overman (Central Hardin)

145

- 1st Geordan Blanton (Johnson Central)
- 2nd Max Andreoni (Woodford Co)
- 3rd Derrick Smallwood (North Hardin)
- 4th Anthony Ashford (Scott)
- 5th Hudson Heidorf (Trinity)
- 6th Jakquez Avery (Union Co)
- 7th Leland Phelps (Male)
- 8th Jack Dorne (Ryle)

152

- 1st Ben Barton (Trinity)
- 2nd Andrew Ackley (Nelson Co)
- 3rd Jackson Oxford (Union Co)
- 4th Bryce Hoffman (Fern Creek)
- 5th Jon Belk (Ryle)
- 6th Tristin Badida (Conner)
- 7th Jordan Kidwell (Cooper)
- 8th Alex Wright (Bourbon Co)

- 1st Johnny Meiman (Ryle)
- 2nd Nathan Haddad (St Xavier)
- 3rd Max Emerson (Oldham Co)
- 4th Cole Overman (Central Hardin)
- 5th Johnathan Little (North Hardin)
- 6th Joe Jackson (Johnson Central)
- 7th Avery Buckman (Union Co)
- 8th Kenneth Sells (Christian Co)

1st – Dominic Lampe (River City)
2nd – Kenneth Sells (Christian Co)
3rd – Christian Ricketson (Union Co)
4th – Ryan Woolf (Gray)
5th – Tinker Reidling (North Hardin)
6th – Alex Burke (Trinity)
DNP – Mikey Smith (Moore)
Isaiah Lawson (Hopkinsville)

140

1st – Johnny Meiman (Gray)
2nd – Adrian Mills (North Hardin)
3rd – Bradley Martin (Larue Co)
4th – Jacob Patterson (Oldham Co)
5th – Sam Gnadinger (Oldham Co)
6th – Tyler Dix (Meade Co)
DNP – Lucas Miozza (Shamrock)
Casey Cornett (Turkeyfoot)

150

- 1st Eli Matthews (Campbell Co)
 2nd Bradley Miller (Crosby)
 3rd Mason Ray (Larue Co)
 4th Jack Dorne (Gray)
 5th Aaron Fulton (Ohio Co)
 6th Dalton Geoghegan (North Oldham)
- DNP Grant Krueger (Ashland)

170

- 1st Alex Mcintosh (Oldham Co)
- 2nd Brandon Devins (Boyle Co)
- 3rd Ryan Woolf (Ryle)
- 4th Gino Haywood (Ft Campbell)
- 5th Bryson Jones (Scott Co)
- 6th Sam Griffith (Johnson Central)
- 7th Matt Steven (Larue Co)
- 8th Isaiah Lawson (Hopkinsville)

182

- 1st Tyler Frankrone (Trinity)
- 2nd Mikey Smith (Moore)
- 3rd Casey Cornett (Simon Kenton)
- 4th Eli Matthews (Campbell Co)
- 5th Gage Jones (Newport)
- 6th Xavier Pate (Christian Co)
- 7th Aaron King (Johnson Central)
- 8th Dameon Black (Lafayette)

- 1st Kohl Dodd (Fern Creek)
- 2nd Elijah Miller (Simon Kenton)
- 3rd William Bossert (Lafayette)
- 4th Collin Portman (North Oldham)
- 5th Grant Krueger (Ashland Blazer)
- 6th LaCorey Robinson (North Hardin)
- 7th Lucas Miozza (Trinity)
- 8th Dylan Knowlton (Meade Co)

1st – Jacob Warwick (Conner)
2nd – Alex Mcintosh (Oldham Co)
3rd – Elijah Miller (Woodland)
4th – Robert Metz (Campbell Co)
5th – Kohl Dodd (Fern Creek)
6th – Shawn Whittinghill (Moore)
DNP – Garrett Chandler (Fern Creek)

185

1st – Tommy Underwood (North Hardin)
2nd – Austin Weird (Fairdale)
3rd – Rodney Rednear (Wayne Co)
4th – Zach Mayton (Daviess Co)
5th – Jake Adams (Gray)
6th – Nathan King (Johnson Co)

DNP – Cole Sherman (Union Co)

230

1st – Raynel Brown (Union Co)

- 2nd Tevin Toler (Christian Co)
- 3rd Matt Davis (South Oldham)
- 4th David Carr (Walton)
- 5th Brandon Johnson (Turkeyfoot)
- 6th Charlie Roarx (Larue Co)
- DNP Landon Young (Five Star)
 - JJ Mendez (Bourbon Co)

220

- 1st Austin Myers (Campbell Co)
- 2nd Brandon Reed (Iroquois)
- 3rd Zach Farris (Ohio Co)
- 4th Ahmad Hameidan (Boone Co)
- 5th Conner Sherman (Union Co)
- 6th Kellon Williams (Harrison Co)
- 7th Garrett Chandler (Male)
- 8th Trevin Montgomery (Meade Co)

- 1st Brandon Johnson (Dixie Heights)
- 2nd Landin Jones (North Oldham)
- 3rd Hayden Vinegar (Dupont Manual)
- 4th Luke Shaffer (Ohio Co)
- 5th Jorge Mendez (Bourbon Co)
- 6th Nolan Bowman (Southern)
- 7th Sean Sanders (Bullitt Central)
- 8th Andre Williams (Doss)

Champion: Saul Ervin (9, Union County)

Runner-up: Tanner Yenter (10, Campbell County)

3. Tylan Tucker (9, Woodford County)	4. Adam Bender (9, Lexington Catholic)
5. Cagen Wallace (9, Wayne County)	6. Mike Klein (11, Fern Creek)
7. Brandon Miller (9, Henry Clay)	8. Blake Roth (9, Walton-Verona)

9-12. Konner Kraeszig (9, St. Xavier), Brody Haverstick (10, John Hardin), Drew Johnson (10, North Oldham), Zach Holub (9, Cooper)

13-16. Nate Wheeler (8, South Oldham), Stiles Metcalf (10, Larue County), Kaleb Hammons (11, Caldwell County), Gentry Deck (Madison Central, 8)

17-24. Jake Insko (7, Apollo), Zach Taylor (10, Trinity), Blake Evans (9, Pleasure Ridge Park), Luke Polin (10, Desales), Allen Powers (8, Moore), Daniel Knight (10, Christian County), Daylon Stafford (8, Sheldon Clark), Sheridan Willoughby (8, Bourbon County)

Highlight match of the tournament: Semi-finals Yenter vs. Bender (9-8) and Ervin vs. Tucker (8-6). Both were nail biters that could have gone either way.

Surprises at this weight: Sapp 0-2 (lost to both MS state finalists from 98 pounds), Yenter coming through a tough road to make the final.

Ironman: Wallace losing round 1 placing 5th, Roth losing round 1 placing 8th

Predictions were 6 of 8. This was a bracket that had most of the top guys going back and forth all year. Saul was the favorite from the beginning and ended up taking the title. Before the tournament we thought Saul would run through this with major points. Yenter and Tucker made Saul dig deep. Yenter had a couple good wins to get to the finals. He took down Klein 5-2 and had a great 9-8 match over Bender to make it to the finals. Tucker lost a tough one to Saul in the semis where he had a chance to win it, but ended up taking 3rd with a win over Bender. Wrestling for 5th was Wallace and Klein. Wallace took a first round loss to Holub. From the way he wrestled back I am assuming he had the first round jitters. He finished up at 5th with a win over Klein. Finally, wrestling for 7th were Roth and Miller. Roth and Miller ended up wrestling first round and last round. Roth took a first round loss to Miller and then beat Steppe, Powers, Wheeler, and Kraeszig to place 8th. Wallace and Roth definitely have the title of Ironman.

Champion: Jorge Vega (12, Fern Creek)

Runner-up: Brady Wells (10, Campbell County)

3. Ryan Moore (9, Walton-Verona)	4. Tucker Hurst (11, Woodford County)
5. Michael Mattox (10, Harrison County)	6. Austin Cook (10, St. Xavier)
7. Dallas Ochsenbein (11, North Oldham)	8. Tyler Ward (12, Apollo)

9-12. Louie Regalado (10, Ft. Campbell), Lonnie Usleaman (10, Newport), Kevin Richards (11, Henry Clay), Jacob Dodd (10, Wayne County)

13-16. Dante Castellano (10, Simon Kenton), James Arbaca (12, Jeffersontown), Joe Slone (10, Johnson Central), Micah Ervin (7, Union County)

17-24. Husseini Husseini (11, Valley), Jared Ray (10, Meade County), Zach Goodpaster (12, Paul Dunbar), Dale Robertson (11, Hopkinsville), Trever Skeeters (11, Pleasure Ridge Park), Jordan Barber (11, Anderson County), Jonathan Brown (8, Owensboro), Derek Ringlen (10, Doss)

Highlight match of the tournament: Semi-finals Vega vs. Moore and Wells vs. Hurst. The top 4 at this weight featuring the older state champs battling the younger challengers.

Surprises at this weight: Usleaman knocking off Castellano, then Ward beating Usleaman to make the podium.

Ironman: Mattox and Cook losing tough quarter matches and battling back to place 5th/6th.

Predictions were 7 out of 8. Vega had his work cut out for him. He beat #5 Cook, #2 Moore, and #4 Wells to win his second state title. Great career for Vega. Wells took 2nd with a good win over Hurst in the semis. Moore had a tough draw meeting Vega in the semis. We figured the winner would take the title. After the loss, Moore majored Mattox and beat Hurst 7-2 to take home the third place medal. With his gains this year he will be in the hunt next year. In the quarters Cook lost to Vega and Mattox to Hurst. Both wrestled back to with Mattox pinning Cook for 5th. Ward and Oshsenbein took the last two podium spots. This was a close match to the end with Ochsenbein taking 7th.

Great bracket with a lot of young talent looking to win it next year.

Champion: Bryce Sheffer (10, Union County)

Runner-up: Zane Brown (8, Male)

3. Joey Roberts (10, Woodford County)	4. Cedric Binford (12, Fern Creek)
5. Michael Beets (12, St. Xavier)	6. Derrick Soper (11, Bryan Station)
7. Joey Scaggs (12, Dixie Heights)	8. Dakota Lillie (11, Campbell County)

9-12. Alex Holt (11, Montgomery County), Skyler Martinson (11, Daviess County), Cody Huston (10, Cooper), Zach Phillips (12, Danville)

13-16. Ansar Kurbanov (11, Iroquois), Chris Vaske (11, Boone County), Dwayne Johnson (10, Eastern), Frolian Agulto (11, Christian County)

17-24. Jacob Bellah (9, Calloway County), Mason Donner (10, Oldham County), Val Liu (10, North Oldham), Nicholas Curtis (10, Bullitt Central), Chase Highlander (11, Harrison County), Tyler Storck (9, Henry Clay), Cody Thomas (11, Central Hardin), Cole Zehender (12, Jeffersontown)

Highlight match of the tournament: Finals Brown vs. Sheffer. Surprise to everyone that this was a battle down to the wire.

Surprises at this weight: Binford stepping up big time scoring major points for his team and placing 4th, Soper 6th, Lillie 8th

Ironman: Beets losing 2nd round taking 5th and Soper losing 1st round coming back to take 6th

Predictions were 4 of 8. Not the best bracket for us. Sheffer took home his second state title. We thought he would walk thru this bracket. Brown had other plans. The Sheffer/Brown final was the match of the tournament. Big kudos to the 8th grader for making his run for the title. It came down to overtime with Sheffer doing what he does. Winning state titles. I imagine Brown will get one soon. Binford and Roberts met for 3rd with a major for Roberts to take the spot. Beets had the worst draw of all. He took a loss to Sheffer in the 2nd round, then wrestled back through some tough kids to take 5th. Great tournament for Beets. Soper took a tough first round overtime loss to Kurbanov and won 5 in a row to take 6th place. Scaggs and Lillie knocking off Phillips and Holt in wrestle back helped unravel our predictions. Scaggs, a previous state placer, finishes up his high school career with another medal. Lillie was a late edition to the Campbell line up. Way to shine for limited varsity experience. He should be a full time starter next year.

Champion: Logan Erdman (11, Ryle)

Runner-up: Bobby Poynter (12, Moore)

3. Jake Burroughs (12, North Hardin)	4. Jordan Monroe (11, Cooper)
5. Connor Cambron (10, Fern Creek)	6. Daniel Dyess (12, University Heights)
7. Jacob Henley (10, Oldham County)	8. Scott Ruttman (11, Calloway County)

9-12. Jeremiah Kline (11, Trigg County), Braden Wyatt (10, Bourbon County), Danten Rice (12, Trinity), Jack Fallon (12, Woodford County)

13-16. Trevor Edmonson (12, Wayne County), Brett Salings (12, Dupont Manual), Jaython Elliott (11, Southern), Jake Peace (11, Walton-Verona)

17-24. Rylan Ervin (10, Union County), Josh Cagle (10, Henry Clay), Kaden Darbro (9, St. Xavier), Nathan Sneed (10, Bullitt East), Dalton Lowe (10, Belfry), Dalton Bell (9, Larue County), Desmond Lewis (10, Valley), Griffin Hall (8, Taylor County)

Highlight match of the tournament: Erdman Tech fall of Poynter in the finals

Surprises at this weight: Burroughs taking 3rd

Ironman: Cambron losing 2nd round to take 5th and Burroughs fighting through major breathing issues to take 3rd.

Predictions were 5 of 8. We called this the year of the "Birdman" aka Logan Erdman. This has been a running joke for years. Dutch has always said when Erdman wins his title he would run around the arena in a bird suit. Unfortunately, we couldn't track down a suit, but that didn't stop Erdman. I have to say his tech of Poynter in the finals was unbelievable. Some folks in the peanut gallery question the leg lace and multiple sets of near fall. I think the call was fine and the guy in stripes getting paid to make the call agreed. Ranger saw it coming and even called the tech. Burroughs wrestling through his breathing issues was amazing to watch. Finishing up with a close win over Monroe for 3rd was special. The entire Burroughs family is special. Monroe had huge improvements this year to take 4th. He should be back contending next year. Dyess and Cambron came in for 5th and 6th. Cambron losing early and coming back was fun to watch with a number of close calls. Ruttman and Henley came in for the last two placements. Henley made huge gains this year. Might have something to do the ETC. Just a thought.

Champion: Keegan Duncan (11, Trinity)

Runner-up: AJ Bindner (11, Fern Creek)

3. Mason Smith (9, Walton-Verona)	4. Nick Wise (11, Oldham County)
5. Chance Collins (11, University Heights)	6. Kyle Steiner (12, Cooper)
7. Dale Hensley (12, Scott)	8. Kevin Vasquez (9, Lafayette)

9-12. Chance Oxford (10, Union County), Dax Hayes (11, Montgomery County), Joey Insko (12, Apollo), Cameron Nevels (11, Wayne County)

13-16. Max Powell (9, Doss), Nathan Lopez (11, Harrison County), Jack Lucas (8, Male), Jack Haynes (10, Calloway County)

17-24. Clint Chaffee (10, Ryle), Brad Collwell (12, Perry County Central), Ben Green (12, Dupont Manual), Camerin Cole (11, Christian County), Garrett Haggerty (12, Taylor County), Noah Davis (9, Larue County), Matthew Fallon (11, Woodford County), Lucas Harrison (12, Scott County)

Highlight match of the tournament: Finals Duncan vs. Binder. Very tactical match.

Surprises at this weight: Wise over Hensley and Collins

Ironman: Hensley, Vasquez, and Smith losing early to wrestle back to placement.

Predictions were 7 of 8. This bracket was dominated by upper classman. Duncan did what Duncan does. Stays in good position and won a state title. Most people were looking forward to a Duncan/Binder finals. This finals match turned out like most expected with these guys knowing each other pretty well. Both kids should make another run next year. Coming in for 3rd/4th were Smith and Wise. Smith lost to Duncan in the Quarters to battle back for 3rd. In the blood round he was down 4 points to Oxford with 40 seconds left; got a big reversal and three back points to seal the win. He should be back looking for a title next year. Collins and Steiner went for 5th and 6th. Steiner was fighting injury and still managed to battle back to place 6th. Finally the senior Hensley took 7th with a win over the younger Vasquez.

Champion: Angel Vasquez (11, Lafayette)

Runner-up: Brandon Leak (10, North Hardin)

3. Brady Emerson (11, Oldham County)	4. Trent Johnson (9, John Hardin)
5. Nathan Thompson (12, Valley)	6. Dallas Miles (10, St. Xavier)
7. Bryan Spahr (11, Campbell County)	8. Derek Miller (11, Paducah Tilghman)

9-12. BJ Miller (12, Ohio County), Tristin Bird (12, Central Hardin), Lucas McCain (12, Boyle County), Blake Gamble (9, Johnson Central)

13-16. Dalton Putty (12, University Heights), Tristan Sanders (12, Fairdale), Adam Rivera (12, Moore), Jeremy Henehan (11, Fern Creek)

17-24. Derek Wiley (11, Conner), Ethan Frank (12, Scott), Pumphrey (PRP), Brody Stevens (12, Bryan Station), Jordan Justice (12, Sheldon Clark), Hunter Berry (10, Woodford County), Davon Adams (12, Central), Christia Shelby (10, Henry Clay)

Highlight match of the tournament: Vasquez vs. Johnson in semis then Vasquez vs. Leak in the finals. Leak was the human highlight reel in a great bracket.

Surprises at this weight: Leak making it to the finals. Although we expected this weight to be crazy, it still amazes me to see some of the early consolation matchups and the kids who went home empty handed.

Ironman: D. Miller, Thompson, Spahr, and Miles being knocked off early, but fighting back to place. Just another indicator of how deep this weight was.

Predictions were 5 of 8. This bracket was the toughest off all. From the opening round this bracket was a battle. Vasquez winning his first title was pretty neat to watch. Anyone that has had a chance to be around him would understand what a neat young man he is. Taking 2^{nd} was Leak. He wrestled the best tournament I have seen in a longtime. He had wins over #4 D. Miller (IN ROUND 1), #2 Spahr, McCain, and Emerson. Coming in for 3^{rd} was Emerson. Once he made the drop he took a few losses getting adjusted, but Brady has a way of showing up for state. He took a 1-0 win over Johnson. Johnson who had a tough loss to Vasquez in the semis ended up beating Thompson and finished 4^{th} . Coming in for $5^{th}/6^{th}$ were Miles and Thompson. Miles lost a questionable match to Bird early. He worked all the way back to placement. Finally for $7^{th}/8^{th}$ was Spahr and D. Miller. Looking great up to the state tournament we thought it would be a Spahr/Vasquez finals. Spahr bounced back to take 7^{th} .

This bracket lived up to the hype.

Champion: Geordan Blanton (10, Johnson Central)

Runner-up: Max Andreoni (10, Woodford County)

3. Derrick Smallwood (9, North Hardin)	4. Anthony Ashford (12, Scott)
5. Hudson Heidorf (11, Trinity)	6. Jaquez Avery (12, Union County)
7. Leland Phelps (12, Male)	8. Jack Dorne (12, Ryle)

9-12. Dylan Gray (9, Caldwell County), Chris Morrow (11, Madison Central), Zach Richerson (12, Taylor County), Andrew Bailey (11, Cooper)

13-16. Aaron Valentine (11, Franklin County), Kyrie Glover (11, Holmes), Jared Branch (10, Fern Creek), Nicholas Walls (12, Calloway County)

17-24. Justin Torgerson (10, Lafayette), Brennon Ball (12, Henry Clay), Elias Eqal (11, Tates Creek), Corbin Ryder (10, Ft. Campbell), Austin Alemi (11, North Oldham), Tim Poynter (12, Moore), Jermaine Barber (11, Scott County), Jerome Jones (11, Doss)

Highlight match of the tournament: Semi-finals Heidorf vs. Andreoni. Probably the match many wanted to see under the lights.

Surprises at this weight: Heidorf taking 5th, Blanton winning, and where in the world did Jaquez Avery come from.

Ironman: Smallwood losing first round and taking 3rd

Predictions 5 of 8. This bracket had to make you scratch your head. This goes to show you that rankings don't mean a thing. Blanton gets past #2 Ashford and #3 Andreoni to win his first state title. He wrestled a perfect tournament. Very impressed. Heidorf had to be the talk of the bracket. Losing to Andreoni in a tight 3-2 war. Then taking a loss to Ashford (6-5) was unexpected. I think he will have another strong off season and look for a title next year. Then we have Smallwood. For him as a freshman to lose first round and bounce back was unbelievable. He ended a lot of wrestler's seasons with his performance. To think he didn't even have the boxing robe on. The ironman of the tournament for sure. For $5^{th}/6^{th}$ was Heidorf beating Avery. Avery was ranked 27^{th} coming into the tournament and we predicted him to win maybe one match. To place 6^{th} in a tough bracket deserves an apology. What a way to finish your career. Finally Phelps and Dorne took 7^{th} and 8^{th} .

Champion: Ben Barton (11, Trinity)

Runner-up: Andrew Ackley (11, Nelson County)

3. Jackson Oxford (11, Union County)	4. Bryce Hoffman (12, Fern Creek)
5. Jon Belk (12, Ryle)	6. Tristin Badida (11, Conner)
7. Jordan Kidwell (11, Cooper)	8. Alex Wright (12, Bourbon County)

9-12. John Reitnauer (11, North Oldham), Austin Phillips (12, Anderson County), Raymond Williams (10, North Hardin), Edmond Collins (11, Johnson Central)

13-16. Will Jennings (12, Oldham County), Griffin Dulak (9, Larue County), Marcus Chum (12, Doss), Ivan Lawson (11, Hopkinsville)

17-24. Aaron Chandler (11, Central Hardin), Shawn Stacy (12, Sheldon Clark), Ryan Strunk (10, McCreary Central), Odeh Eqal (10, Tates Creek), Joe Ware (12, Western), Jacob Dawson (11, Lafayette), Samim Alokozai (12, Iroquois), Evan Cannon (11, Henry Clay)

Highlight match of the tournament: Quarterfinal Barton vs. Oxford then Finals with Barton vs. Ackley. A lot of hype with the early matchup between Barton/Oxford especially with team implications, but Barton wrestled great all day. Then the match between the perfect record of Ackley and the kid who had beaten all the top guys throughout the season. The fun thing is all these boys will be back next year!

Surprises at this weight: #19 Kidwell placing 7th

Ironman: Badida and Kidwell losing 2nd round and coming back to place

Predictions 7 of 8. This bracket didn't have many surprises. Based on the season it played out like we thought it would. Starting at the top was Barton taking home his first state title. Even at less than 100%, that kid has a motor. With Ackley coming in undefeated this was the match-up everyone wanted to see. Coming in for 3rd was Oxford who didn't have the best draw. He ran into Barton in the quarters and defeated #9 Williams, #6 Wright, #4 Belk, and #7 Hoffman to take home the 3rd place medal. Battle for 5th was Badida vs. Belk. In a 3-2 match Belk takes the victory. Badida is a Junior with one more year to get his state title. Finally, you had Kidwell and Wright. Kidwell wrestled tough after taking a loss to Hoffman 2nd round. Wright takes the last podium spot with an 8th place finish.

Champion: Johnny Meiman (11, Ryle)

Runner-up: Nathan Haddad (12, St. Xavier)

3. Max Emerson (11, Oldham County)	4. Cole Overman (12, Central Hardin)
5. Jonathan Little (11, North Hardin)	6. Joe Jackson (8, Johnson Central)
7. Avery Buckman (10, Union County)	8. Kenneth Sells (12, Christian County)

9-12. Josh Garner (12, Desales), Nathan Williams (12, Hopkinsville), Cecil Nevels (12, Wayne County), Lee Johnson (11, Central)

13-16. Andrew Pritchett (11, Trinity), Colton Miller (11, Montgomery County), Trey Norton (12, Fairdale), Joey Scribano (11, Madison Southern)

17-24. Warren Tucker (11, John Hardin), David Lynam (12, Newport), Blake Denny (9, Henry Clay), Zach Spohn (12, Grant County), Jacob Bratcher (9, Dupont Manual), Matthew Munoz (11, Dixie Heights), Tevin Mcatee (12, Fern Creek), Joshua Morris (12, Western Hills)

Highlight match of the tournament: Emerson vs. Overman overtime match

Surprises at this weight: Jackson placing 6th as an 8th grader.

Ironman: Sells losing 1st round and coming back to place.

Predictions 7 of 8. This is the 2nd Bracket we almost nailed. Meiman takes home his 2nd state title in typical Meiman style winning tight matches over the top guys at the weight. After battles with #4 Emerson (5-2) and #2 Overman (5-1), Meiman won a close one over #3 Haddad (4-2) in the finals. Meiman was tied with 20 seconds left and does what he does. Finds a way to win with a last second flurry. He will be looking for his third title next year. Emerson and Overman had a nail bitter for 3rd with Emerson taking the win in overtime. Great match of some talented wrestlers. For 5th and 6th was the 8th grader Jackson vs. the junior Little. Jackson took the loss but should be proud of his placement wrestling in a man's weight class. Little will be back next year for one more shot at a title. Finally, Buckman over Sells for 7th and 8th. Sells took a first round lost and rallied to take 8th.

Champion: Alex McIntosh (11, Oldham County)

Runner-up: Brandon Devins (12, Boyle County)

3. Ryan Woolf (12, Ryle)	4. Gino Haywood (12, Ft. Campbell)
5. Bryson Jones (12, Scott County)	6. Sam Griffith (11, Johnson Central)
7. Matt Steven (10, Larue County)	8. Isaiah Lawson (11, Hopkinsville)

9-12. Josh Walls (11, Bullitt Central), Aaron Duncan (11, Central), Yo Majesty Warfield (12, Fern Creek), Dakota Jones (11, Central Hardin)

13-16. Blankenship (Male), Gage Cumella (12, St. Xavier), Jordan Childers (11, Meade County), Thomas Ray (12, Doss)

17-24. Collin Waples (11, North Oldham), Evan Rademaker (11, South Oldham), Nathan Prosser (9, McCreary Central), Manny Suddeth (12, Eastern), Keyven Sells (11, Christian County), Christian Bowling (11, Montgomery County), Eli Sowder (12, Scott), Roy Bowers (10, Dixie Heights)

Highlight match of the tournament: Semi-final Devins vs. Jones (6-4). Two young programs in Boyle County and Scott County fighting for their first shot under the spotlight (oh that's right, we don't have a spotlight any more).

Surprises at this weight: Devins pulling out match after match to earn his shot at a title. He won in OT in round 2, 3-2 in quarters, and 6-4 in semis.

Ironman: Woolf lost to the champ in quarters, but battled back for 3rd.

Predictions 6 of 8. This was a highly anticipated bracket with the absence of Lampe. McIntosh steps up and takes home his first state title. He got past #2 Wolf, #9 Haywood, and #6 Devins. Not an easy road to a title. Devins got past Blankenship 2nd round in overtime on his way to a 2nd place finish. Wolfe finishes up his career with a 3rd place finish over Haywood. Jones and Griffith battled for 5th and 6th. Finally, Steven gets the fall over Lawson to finish 7th.

Champion: Tyler Frankrone (11, Trinity)

Runner-up: Mikey Smith (12, Moore)

3. Casey Cornett (10, Simon Kenton)	4. Eli Matthews (12, Campbell County)
5. Gage Jones (12, Newport)	6. Xavier Pate (12, Christian County)
7. Aaron King (11, Johnson Central)	8. Dameon Black (12, Lafayette)

9-12. Josh Robbins (11, Boyle County), Talor Hines (12, Scott County), Louis Hollings (12, John Hardin), Bilal Mamedov (11, Iroquois)

13-16. Ray Karl Irving (9, Henry Clay), Adrian Shifflett (12, Bullitt Central), Katayvon Anthony (10, Hopkinsville), Jay Layne (11, Ashland Blazer)

17-24. Conner Keenan (12, Ft. Campbell), Randy Norris (11, Apollo), Dustin Dotson (12, Phelps), Kane Morris (12, Union County), Michael Calhoun (11, St. Xavier), Dalton Jett (10, Meade County), Bradley Rafn (11, Central Hardin), Alex Olvera-Vancini (11, Homes)

Highlight match of the tournament: Semis Matthew vs. Smith. These guys battled for the right to face Frankrone.

Surprises at this weight: NONE

Ironman: Cornett losing to Frankrone and winning 6 in a row to take 3rd. True Ironman.

Predictions 8 of 8. Finally 100%. This was a bracket full of incredible match ups. Starting up top was Frankrone with another state title. He is just massive. I will go out on a limb now saying he will win his 3rd next year. Smith finishes his high school career with a 2nd place finish. Very talented wrestler. Coming in for 3rd was the Ironman Cornett. He must have had the worst draw in the tournament meeting Frankrone 2nd round. He fell to wrestle backs and dominated to a 3rd place finish. Matthews has had a great wrestling career all the way from middle school and finishes 4th. Coming in for 5th was Jones with a win over Pate. Jones was another victim of Frankrone. Newport has developed some really good wrestlers over the past few years. For 7th/8th was King with a win over Black.

Champion: Kohl Dodd (12, Fern Creek)

Runner-up: Elijah Miller (12, Simon Kenton)

3. William Bossert (12, Lafayette)	4. Collin Portman (11, North Oldham)
5. Grant Krueger (11, Ashland Blazer)	6. Lacorey Robinson (11, North Hardin)
7. Lucas Miozza (12, Trinity)	8. Dylan Knowlton (12, Meade County)

9-12. Cole Sherman (11, Union County), Brett Graziani (11, Campbell County), Andre Anderson (12, Newport), Nathan King (11, Johnson Central)

13-16. Ed Hernandez (11, Larue County), Eli Thacker (12, Bullitt Central), Chris Beets (11, St. Xavier), Marco Ruiz (12, Moore)

17-24. Caleb Boyles (11, Anderson County), Josh Efinger (10, Calloway County), Daniel Kimble (9, Oldham County), Hamilton Young (11, Danville), Andrew Varble (10, Woodford County), River Lawson (11, Whitley County), Eugene Butler (12, Hopkinsville), Daylen Eichenberger (12, Dupont Manual)

Highlight match of the tournament: Quarter-finals Miller vs. Miozza and Finals Miller vs. Dodd. Early matchup of #1 vs. #2, but Dodd was prepared to take it all in the end.

Surprises at this weight: #4 Sherman not placing; the early loss to Graziani put him in a tough spot.

Ironman: Krueger losing 2nd round to Portman and rallies back to take 5th.

Predictions 5 of 8. Dodd was knocking on the door all season, but seemed to be just behind the favorites. When all the chips were on the table and his team needed big time points he stepped up, got the job done, and goes out a state champion. Miller finishes his career as a runner-up after a great senior season. Bossert had a great tournament for a Lafayette team that is on the rise. Wrestled solid to make the semis against Miller, then battled back for 3rd beating Portman. Portman, along with Jones at heavy, lead the way from the upper weights for North Oldham who made a big jump this season. #10 Krueger and #11 Robinson both broke into the top 6 to take home some hardware. Miozza took a close 6-4 loss to Miller in the quarters before losing to Portman in consos (injury). Meade County also had a push from their big guys with Knowlton finishing 8th.

Champion: Austin Myers (12, Campbell County)

Runner-up: Brandon Reed (10, Iroquois)

3. Zach Farris (12, Ohio County)	4. Ahmad Hameidan (11, Boone County)
5. Connor Sherman (11, Union County)	6. Kellon Williams (11, Harrison County)
7. Garrett Chandler (11, Male)	8. Trevin Montgomery (12, Meade County)

9-12. Noah Ewing (12, Dupont Manual), Nate Hill (12, Woodford County), Brentton Ervin (12, Trinity), Chance Orr (10, Paducah Tilghman)

13-16. Denwan Hall (12, Franklin County), Joseph Green (12, St. Xavier), Justus Williams (10, Madison Southern), Ian Fullerton (11, Oldham County)

17-24. Josh Mullins (12, Newport), Clayton Engle (11, Larue County), Erik Decker (12, Southern), Stephen Kaiser (11, John Hardin), Ben Fooks (10, Bourbon County), Tommer Nauert (12, Desales), Logan Coleman (11, Pikeville), Malik Williams (12, North Hardin)

Highlight match of the tournament: All of Myers matches

Surprises at this weight: No teams forfeited to Myers and #9 Reed really coming out of nowhere to make the finals.

Ironman: Farris lost in the Quarters to Hemeidan. He wrestled back and avenged his loss to take 3rd.

Predictions 7 of 8. As much as we hate to say it, this was a bracket where everyone was wrestling for 2nd place. Myers finishes up an undefeated high school career with his 4th state title and MOW award. We say good luck at West Virginia. Reed is young and should be a force over the next couple years. Farris has been a top guy here for a couple years and goes out with a 3rd place finish beating Hameidan. Hameidan came on after dropping down from heavyweight. Really surprised me the way he wrestled Myers hard (relatively speaking) in the regional finals. He could be in the hunt next season at 220 or 285. Sherman performed as expected beating Williams twice to finish 5th. Chandler had the hard luck draw hitting Myers in the quarters and then dropped a tough conso quarter match to put him in 7th/8th where he beat Montgomery. Surprising that most of these kids return next season. It will be an interesting battle to see who fills the void left by Myers.

Champion: Brandon Johnson (12, Dixie Heights)

Runner-up: Landin Jones (10, North Oldham)

3. Hayden Vinegar (11, Dupont Manual)	4. Luke Shaffer (12, Ohio County)
5. Jorge Mendes (11, Bourbon County)	6. Nolan Bowman (12, Southern)
7. Sean Sanders (11, Bullitt Central)	8. Andre Williams (12, Doss)

9-12. Jeremy Fow (12, Male), Daniel Sheridan (12, St. Xavier), Raynel Brown (12, Union County), David Nikolao (10, Ft. Campbell)

13-16. Austin Raisor (12, Woodford County), Jordan Mason (12, Campbell County), Corbin Couch (10, Madison Central), Zack Lewis (12, Spencer County)

17-24. Rodney Rednour (12, Wayne County), Bryan Pratt (8, Meade County), Matt Davis (12, South Oldham), Jonah Welch (10, Danville), Noah Wolf (10, Cooper), Lamichael Johnson (12, North Hardin), Ian Roberts (11, Trinity), Spencer Warren (12, Bullitt East)

Highlight match of the tournament: 3rd place match of Vinegar vs. Shaffer

Surprises at this weight: Landon Young's scratch and Williams beating Brown in the match to make the podium.

Ironman: Williams and Bowman losing 1st round and wrestling back to place.

Predictions 4 of 8. It's officially the worst bracket we predicted. Many shifts in the bracket due to the scratch of Young. Now for the good. Johnson from Dixie is a man. Considering he had 17 matches coming into the state tournament. He was unstoppable. He had 5 consecutive pins including the finals. Great job and great career. Jones came in 2nd with a brilliant performance at state. Jones is only a sophomore so chances are we will hear from him again. The 3rd and 4th place match was a good one with Vinegar winning 3-2 over Shaffer. The 5th and 6th place was Mendez over Bowman. Bowman losing first match and coming back for 5th was amazing. Finally, 7th and 8th was Sanders over Williams who also lost first round and came back for 8th. During that run Williams beat #6 Johnson, Couch, and #4 Brown to guarantee placement.

Team Champions

Champion: Fern Creek (3 finalists, 2 champs, 7 placers)

Runner-up: Union County (2 finalists, 2 champs, 6 placers)

3. Trinity (3 finalists, 3 champs, 5 placers)	4. Campbell Co. (3 finalists, 1 champ, 6 placers)
5. Oldham Co. (1 finalist, 1 champ, 5 placers)	6. Woodford Co. (1 finalist, 4 placers)
7. Ryle (2 finalists, 2 champs, 5 placers)	8. St. Xavier (1 finalist, 4 placers)
9. North Hardin (1 finalists, 0 champs, 5 placers)	10. North Oldham (1 finalist, 3 placers)
11. Johnson Central (1 finalist, 1 champs, 4 placers)	12. Moore (2 finalists, 2 placers)
13. Lafayette (1 finalist, 1 champ, 4 placers)	14. Male (1 finalist, 3 placers)
15. Cooper (3 placers)	16. Walton-Verona (3 placers)
17. Simon Kenton (1 finalist, 2 placers)	18. Dixie Heights (2 placers)
19. Ohio Co. (2 placers)	20. Wayne County (1 placer)

Although I was convinced early in the year that Fern Creek had a formidable dual team, I didn't think they had the firepower to pull it off in a tournament format. Not only did they show up ready to compete for individual titles (3 finalists and 2 champions), but they also had kids step it up and earn spots on the podium (7 placers) and win big matches to build up critical team points in the consolation. Union County came in as the pre-tournament favorites and came up just short finishing 5.5 points behind the Tigers. While they generally wrestled up to expectations (placement-wise), any shortfalls were made up by the crazy performance from Avery. Where it seemed like they didn't have it was earning bonus points across the board. Not sure if that is something we can blame on the delay or not, but it just didn't seem like the Union County wrestlers put up majors, techs, and pins at the rate we expected. Both Trinity and Campbell County had their big dogs show up ready to go, putting kids in the finals and on the podium, but they didn't have enough of the role player points to keep up with the leaders. If Krebs would have been healthy we may have seen a 3 horse race for the team title. The surprise of the tournament for me, from a team perspective, was Oldham County. We knew they had some talent, but it was hard to imagine they would be able to put it all together. Coach Riordan had his kids ready to go and they came through with a champ and hand full of medalists that propelled them into the top 5. Woodford County, Ryle, and St. Xavier were all just off the pace. Each of these teams had the talent to be in the conversation, but had some tough draws and tough losses that left them short of the top tier. North Hardin and North Oldham are great stories with kids who gutted out some wins and battled through the consolations to push for a top 10 finish for their teams.