

Falcons have district champ, send 5 to regional

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Farmington High had one champion and four other regional qualifiers in the Division II individual wrestling tournament Saturday at Southgate Anderson.

Senior Jon Simmons won the 119-pound title, defeating Andy Boardman of Monroe Jefferson by decision in the finals, 8-5.

Simmons, pinned Redford Thurston's Adam Jeziorowski in 5:09, won by default over Tobie Robinette of Ypsilanti and won a major decision over Jefferson's Evan Major, 12-0.

"I knew he was capable of (winning the district)," Farmington coach Al Beyer said. "He had a real good day. He wrestled smart and scored when he had to score."

Simmons, who only started wrestling midway through last season, is doing well for a wrestler in just his first full year of competition, he added.

Beyer believes Simmons is just as capable of winning the regional title Saturday at Oak Park, too.

"But you can never let your guard down, because I've seen fourth-place finishers beat first-

place finishers," he said. "Basically, every Saturday is like a new season."

"Kids don't need to look at other kids' records. It's irrelevant. When you get this far, it's mostly mental."

Farmington seniors Mark Ostach (152), Ben Lukas (171) and Kyle Domagalski (215) finished third at their weights, and the fifth qualifier was junior Aaron Turk, who was fourth at 130.

Domagalski had to win his last three bouts after losing his first to Redford Union's Ollie Muscarella, 14-4. He avenged that loss in the finals by pinning Muscarella in 4:14.

"That was the first time they ever wrestled, and I think (Domagalski) got used to his style and figured him out a little bit," Beyer said. "If he wins, it's his pin somebody. He doesn't win many matches other than by pin."

"There's a tendency to have a little letdown after you've qualified (for the regional), but he wrestled a good match."

After his first-round loss, Domagalski pinned Jefferson's Kris Gromacki (3:38), and despite trailing on points late in the third period, 12-4, also

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pinned Ypsilanti's Josh Clay (4:27) to lock up a regional berth.

The first period of consolation matches are just one minute in length.

Domagalski was on his back the whole second period but managed to avoid being pinned by Clay. He escaped with less than a minute to go and pinned Clay instead.

"I never saw a look of determination like he had," Beyer said. "He went right after (Clay). He grabbed him by the head, threw him to the mat and pinned him. He had a headlock so tight nobody could get out of it."

"(Clay) had the match won. It was pure desire and determination that won that match for (Domagalski), and that match was going to qualify him to go. If he lost, he was done; so it was a do-or-die situation."

"The one thing about Kyle is hardly anybody can pin him. The fact he didn't give up that pin and stayed above gave him an opportunity to come back."

Ostach defeated Southgate's Jason Hodgkinson, 4-1, and was ahead of Trenton's Adam Jar-

siewicz, 7-1, when Jarsiewicz caught him with a move and recorded a pin at 4:34.

"When that happens, the best thing you can do is forget that match and concentrate on the next one," Beyer said. "If you dwell on the one you just lost, you're going to lose the second one, too."

Ostach came back to pin Gibraltar Carlson's Charlie Sierens in 1:41 and defeated Hodgkinson again on points, 7-5.

"He had a real good day except for the brief second that cost him that match, and I think he learned from it," Beyer said.

"Fortunately, it wasn't a lesson that put him out of the tournament, and he'll be able to go on from there."

Lukas started by pinning Allen Park's Kyle McKay (5:10) but was pinned by the eventual champion, Justin Gessner of Jefferson (3:10).

In a match he had to win, he edged Ypsilanti Lincoln's Mitch Johnson, 4-3, and won his final bout over Carleton Airport's Anthony Abela, 10-5.

"He had a tough match with the Lincoln kid," Beyer said. "Those (qualifying matches) are real intense to watch, because the loser doesn't come back and

the winner goes on.

"(Lukas) wrestled real smart. He looked better as the day went along. I don't know everyone who will be there (at the regional), but I would be surprised if he doesn't qualify for state."

Turk was a pleasant surprise, according to Beyer. He beat Jefferson's Chris McKinney (5:29), lost to Carlson's Dave Rizick (15-4), beat Carlson's Vincent Marquer (2-0) and Trenton's David Ward (4-0) and lost to Lincoln's Bobby Curtis (4:13).

Turk was seeded seventh but moved up three notches to qualify for the regional.

"He had a heckuva day," Beyer said. "He hurt his ribs in the previous match and wasn't really himself for the last match."

Farmington senior heavyweight Brian Brinsden, a state qualifier last year, was unable to wrestle in the district tournament due to medical reasons.

"Heavyweight was real weak there," Beyer said. "Some of the 215-pounders moved up there when they found he wasn't there, because 215 was so tough. Two-seventy-five was considerably weaker without him there."

The regional meet takes place at Oak Park High School, starting at 10 a.m.

Clarenceville makes strong showing in tournament

Five wrestlers stayed alive for Livonia Clarenceville after Saturday's Division IV individual state district tournament at Clinton.

Moving on to the regional this Saturday at Addison are Josh Rose (heavyweight), Jess Aguilar (171 pounds), Steve Rotenheber (189), Dan Tondreau (112) and Kalen McPherson (215).

"We got a few more than expected," Clarenceville first-year coach Clint Kraft said. "I thought we'd get two or three, but getting five through surprised me."

"Our guys are getting better and better each time out."

Rose, 3-1 on the day, reached the finals before losing to Dundee's Jared Barnes, 10-1. The senior is 37-8 on the year.

Aguilar, a first-year varsity

wrestler, ran his season record to 29-19 after finishing 4-1. The senior took third place when Dundee's Matt Wynn bowed out with an injury.

Rotenheber, a junior, also took third when he pinned Larry Williams of Grass Lake in 1:55. He won three of four matches on the day to up his personal mark to 27-15.

Tondreau, a senior who finished third in the Observerland Invitational, added a fourth in his tough weight class, falling to Jerry Salenbien of Dundee in the consolation final, 6-2. Tondreau is 35-12 overall.

McPherson (31-10) lost his consolation match to Ken Park of Clinton, 14-10, but moved on.

Clarenceville also competed Wednesday night in the four-

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team regional dual tournament at New Haven. The Trojans (12-10-1) took on Brown City (28-6-1) in one semifinal, while Metro Conference co-champion Harper Woods (20-10) met Memphis (12-10) in the other semifinal.

The regional champion advances to the Division IV team dual quarterfinals, 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25 at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.

In the Metro Conference meet Feb. 12 at Harper Woods Lutheran East, Clarenceville, the dual meet champion, finished three points behind Harper Woods, 193-190.

"We wanted to win it outright," Kraft said. "But we started the day slowly. We were down

38 points going into the last two rounds.

"We made up some points in a hurry, but we just didn't have enough."

Tondreau, wrestling at 112, captured his third conference individual title in row. Other Clarenceville champions included freshman Nader Al-Mooshi at 103 and McPherson at 215.

Aguilar (171) and Rotenheber (189) finished as runners-up, while Rose (275), Nick Elam (125), Jason Morin (119), Ernest Reddie (130), George Gastian (140) and Jeff Potter (152) were third, Ryan Smith (160) fourth.

"We placed in 12 of 14 weight classes, and I was happy with that," Kraft said.

Division I at Troy

Redford Catholic Central, boasting five individual champions, advanced a total of nine out of Saturday's Troy High district.

Headed for the regional again this Saturday at Troy includes first-place finishers Chris O'Hara (112), Chris Peterson (130), Jeff Wheeler (135), Mitch Hancock (160) and Ryan Ragowski (171).

Four other Shamrocks took thirds: Aaron Parr (heavyweight), Adam Stacey (103), Nathan Rodriguez (130) and Jay Abshire (140).

Livonia Stevenson got six wrestlers out, including 103-pound defending state champion Josh Gunterman and 162-pounder Imad Kharbush, both district champions.

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Division I at Troy

Feb. 19 at Birmingham Southham
278 pounds: 1. Eric Ghiliani (Oxford) dec. Jon Horvath (Farmington); 3-1; 3. Jim Lenthall (Southham) won by injury default over Josh Johnson (Lapeer West); 10:2; 1. James Ringer (Lapeer West) pin. Coby Carpenter (Farmington); 1:30; 3. Eric Portman (Lapeer East) major decision over Steve Lander (Lapeer West); 1:3; 2.

125: 1. Landon Pothoff (Farmington) major decision over David Schindler (Livonia West); 1:42; 3. Harry Leland (North Farmington) dec. Brandon Nelson (Livonia West); 1:1; 1:30.

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