



This year the Sections were held at Neshaminy. The field consisted of the seven schools from the SOL National League and Upper Moreland and Cheltenham from the SOL American League. Council Rock South was the runaway tournament leader with Council Rock North coming in second followed by Neshaminy, Pennsbury and Bensalem rounding out the top five.

During the afternoon break, Neshaminy School suffered a power outage. When the fans returned for the finals the school was running its emergency generator and there was a question as to whether wrestling would continue. To their credit, the tournament staff used a small portable generator to get the score boards up and running and the finals were held under the dim emergency lighting. About half way through the contest the normal power came back on and the remainder of the wrestling finished under the bright lights.

The guys from North had a good day taking home two fourths, three thirds and three seconds. Those that didn't finish in the top four did very well with most contributing their share to the overall team effort; 112-Micah Haynes (1-2), 135-Tyler Kelly (0-2), 152-Aldan Ely (1-2), 160-Drew Dispirito (2-2), 189- Marston Bell (0-2) and 285-James Dutrow (0-2).

In his first match of the day, sixth seeded **Timmy Ambacher** (103) went up against Pennsbury's third seeded Jason Bing. **Timmy** had lost to Bing 1-7 in their league match back in January. Bing was up for this

return bout, taking **Timmy** 17-4. Not to be deterred, **Timmy** fought his way through the consolations beating Neshaminy's Rudolph 10-1 and Truman's Paul Ennis by way of a 4:02 fall to only meet up with Bing once again in the consolation finals. This time was much, much closer with the 3-2 decision going to Bing. With his fourth place finish, **Timmy** will be at Districts next week and who knows, he may just see Bing again and maybe this time will be his time.

From his second seed spot, **Johnny Dutrow** made a charge toward the 119 pound finals with a quick pin over Abington's Kyle McCall and an 11-4 decision over Neshaminy's Ryan O'Connor. That effort earned him a return bout with Pennsbury's undefeated Josh DiSanto. DiSanto pinned **Johnny** in their league match earlier in the season. Not this time, **Johnny** gave DiSanto all he wanted in what turned out to be a slug fest between two great nineteen pounders. The bout went to DiSanto 9-8 but **Johnny** proved he can go one on one with just about any 119 pounder. The finals will more than likely feature these two next week at Districts and it will be another good one.

Shane Longstreth (125) injured his knee in the Truman match and underwent arthroscopic surgery forcing him to miss the Council Rock South and Tennent matches. That layoff didn't seem to affect **Shane** as he started his Sectional Tournament by pinning Mike Molz from Abington in 3:01. In the semi-finals **Shane** shutout Bensalem's Shane Hughes 3-0 to advance to the finals. There he was matched with Truman's Sean Edmondson. A good bout for both but **Shane** came out on the short end of the 4-2 decision. He'll have another week to get ready for Districts and the score might be reversed in next Saturday's finals.

Two weeks earlier **Adam Slezak** had beaten Tennent's Boris Sokhiev by a TF in their league dual meet. In his 130 pound opener at Sections, **Adam** pinned Sokhiev in 1:09. He then lost to the eventual Section Champ, Bensalem's Anthony Prisco in the semis. In the consolations,

Adam took on Matt Maine from Pennsbury and recorded the 6-0 win to put him in the consi finals against Mike McCaughey of Abington. Another 6-0 win and **Adam** put claim to the Section's third place finish. Hopefully he'll get another shot at Prisco and there may well be a different outcome.

Anthony Dutrow pinned Neshaminy's Pat Hasting in thirty seconds in his 140 pound quarter final opener. His next bout was with Brian Lee where **Anthony** pitched an 8-0 shutout over the 140 pound representative from Abington. That setup a return bout with CR South's Matt Martoccio. Martoccio had pinned his way to the finals in his two prior bouts. Surely he would have liked to finish with another pin but **Anthony** just wouldn't have any of that. In the sport of wrestling losing by a tech fall can still be a small victory.

William Tennent's Jon Wolf was seeded forth ahead of CR North's **Hayden Schenker** who was seeded fifth. Sometimes the seeding committee doesn't get it right as was the case here in the 145 pound weight class. **Hayden** proved them wrong, pinning Wolf in 4:23 on his way to a third place finish with wins over Abington's Alden Shea and Dan Balek from Truman. Seeded fifth and placing third has to be a big confidence builder for **Hayden** going into next weeks District's competition.

Speaking of seeding boo-boos , North's **Brenden Poff** was seeded dead last in the ninth spot in the 171 pound weight class. That apparently meant little to **Brendon**. He started off pinning his way out of the pigtails by ending Cheltenham's Troy Wynn's day in 3:39. A loss to Pennsbury's Cornman dropped **Brendon** to the consolations where he met Rich Strain from Tennent and pinned him in 4:37. A forfeit in the consi semi finals and **Brendon** was in the consi finals against Abington's Dave Kim. He was losing to Kim mid way through the second period when he hits a buck & roll and pins Kim in 2:07 to take the third place medal

and a trip to District. Ya gotta love it!!!

Freshman **Tyler Callender** (215) battled some early season illnesses and got off to a slow start this year. His 7-6 record is really no indication of the quality of wrestler he actually is. He started the day pinning Mike O'Brein from Pennsbury in 1:42. A 5-2 loss to Bryan Osei Abington's eventual Section Champ and **Tyler** would finish his day in the consolations. In the consolation semi finals he pinned Truman's Andrew Willis in 1:52 to advance to the consolation finals where he met the number one seed, Brenden Shirley from Tennent. Although he lost 4-2, Tyler wrestled a great bout and has certainly earned the respect of his peers and has made wrestling fans sit up and take notice.

Next Friday and Saturday the District One North Tournament will be held at Council Rock North. Each week for the next two weeks the wrestling gets tougher and tougher. And then the toughest of all, the PIAA State Individual Championships at Hershey on March 10, 11 and 12.