Battlefield Duals Recap

By. Mark Fontana

This past weekend the Colonial Forge wrestling team hosted the Battlefield Duals. Beforehand, the Colonial Forge wrestling team helped run a free youth clinic for future Stafford County HS wrestlers.

We want to thank all of those who helped with the tournament. The support was tremendous! A big thank you to Bojangles, Utz, Cic’s Pizza, the Few alumni, Tony Neis, Chuck Murphy, Marco Mason and The FEW (Friends of Eagle Wrestling). Especially all our parents who bought food, helped keep the hospitality room and concessions going, worked tables, and supported our wrestlers! Now to the wrestling!

Forge starts strong vs Brentsville

Forge started off the day with a 47-20 win over Brentsville District. Forge was rolling early winning 6 out of 8 bouts. At 160, Isaiah Jones a few weeks earlier lost by pinfall to Tom Ruhstofer. This time would be different in a highly contested bout seeing Jones out condition his opponent. Isaiah scored the winning takedown in the final 20 seconds to secure his 8-7 victory. Brandson Jones at 195lbs sealed the Forge victory with a 1st period pin fall. This bout saw Alex Watson make his season debut. The Watson a returning state 3rd won a 4-0 dec.

Benedictine Prep outlasts Eagles

In the second bout of the day 5th ranked Benedictine Prep outlasted the Eagles 45-27. Freshman Daniel Merida had a hard fought 8-4 victory to start. Seniors Levi Englman and Jerrod Hunziker bumped up a wt class and had some hard fought victories. After trading falls at 160 & 170, Benedictine Prep finished the match like Alabama did to win its National Championship. Prep won five straight weight classes to seal the dual. At Heavyweight we saw the debut of Zach Lynch who although lost in overtime showed tremendous heart. The coaching staff is looking forward to Lynch contributing in the stretch run of the season.

6A powers meet. Battlefield bests Forge

Battlefield the current #1 ranked team in the state of Virginia and last year’s 6A runner up came ready to wrestle. The dual started off with Beau Curtis besting Alex Smith for the first time in 4 HS meetings by a 1-0 score. Levi Englman put up a 13-0 decision before state champ River Curtis pinned state 5th Joe Vastano. Jerrod Hunziker put together another 13-0 decision. Battlefield put together falls at 152 and 160 before Eze Chukwuezi put on a takedown clinic at 170 winning by a 13-3 score. Battlefield responded with a pin over Forge rookie Augustine Villegas and 8-5 victory over Brandon Jones. Forge and Battlefield traded pins in the next two weights. At 106 a 5 point move from Ryan Menard was key in his 10-6 win over Austin Mitchell. In the final two bouts Forge’s Dan Merida and Battlefield state champ traded pins to close out the dual.

Battlefield 45 Forge 24

Forge closes out against Potomac

Englman finished his 4-0 day with a 9-3 decision. Joe Vastano hit his patented crossface cradle for victory. After an overtime loss at 145 Garrett Swope won by fall with the Pittsburgh Arm Bar to the approval of football coach and Pittsburgh native Rich Munsell. Potomac won back to back matches until Eze Chukwuezi won by fall. Potomac responded with another victory but Forge with wins by Alex Watson, Zach Lynch, and Austin Mitchell put the match out of reach. Potomac ace Devin Sweeney stopped Merida’s chance at a perfect day. Jonah Diaz and Alex Smith closed the dual with pin fall victories. Forge 52 Potomac 25.

Forge is back in action at the Escape the Rock tournament in Council Rock South (Pa).

See past issues and get more information at forgewrestling.com