

District 4 Dual pairings all set

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The Daily Item

By Harold Raker

Tigers, Defenders, Dragons open at home

Five Valley teams have qualified for Wednesday's preliminary round of the District 4 Class AA Team Tournament and three of them—No. 2 seed Southern Columbia, No. 4 Lewisburg and No. 5 Warrior Run—will open the tournament at home. No. 9 Line Mountain will travel to No. 8 Troy and No. 15 Mifflinburg will go to Southern.

In addition, Danville will host a pig-tail match tonight versus Canton with the winner advancing to the preliminaries. Canton or Danville will travel to No. 1 Towanda.

All meets will begin at 7:00pm.

The quarterfinal winners will move on to Milton on Saturday, when the quarterfinals, semifinals, consolations and championship matches will be held.

Quarterfinals begin at 11 a.m. with semifinals and consolation quarterfinals at 1, semifinals and consolation semis at 3 and finals at 6.

The class AAA field consists of No. 1 Jersey Shore and No. 2 Shikellamy. The Bulldogs and Braves will wrestle in the final at 6. The same two teams are wrestling tonight at Shikellamy in what will determine the championship of the Heartland Athletic Conference Division 1.

The top three AA teams and the winner in AAA will move on to the state tournament.

All but the third-place AA team will go directly to Hershey for the tournament on Feb. 6-8. The third-place team will wrestle the District 11 runner-up on Monday, Feb. 3 at 6 p.m. at Whitehall High School.

Last year, Central Columbia defeated Benton in the AA final and Jersey Shore defeated Shikellamy for the AAA title.

Seedings are determined by winning percentage and three tiebreakers were needed to set the field, district chairman Steve Goble said.

Lewisburg and Wyalusing were each 13-4 after Saturday's deadline. The Rams won the higher seed in a coin flip done before the start of the Towanda/Wyalusing match. Line Mountain and Troy were tied at .667, but Troy got the higher seed, and the home date, via having more matches (12-6 as opposed to 10-5).

Benton also lost its tie-breaker to Williamson as the latter wrestled more matches. Benton was 9-5 and Williamson was 18-10.

District 4 Team Tournament pairings

(Pigtail and preliminary rounds start at 7 p.m.)

Pigtail round (tonight)

Canton (12-11) at Danville (12-10)

Preliminary Round (Wednesday)

No. 16 Canton/Danville at No. 1 Towanda (23-2)

No. 15 Mifflinburg (8-6) at No. 2 Southern Columbia (12-2)

No. 14 Muncy (11-8) at No. 3 Wyalusing (13-4)

No. 13 Montgomery (12-8) at No. 4 Lewisburg (13-4)

No. 12 North Penn (14-9) at No. 5 Warrior Run (12-4)

No. 11 Benton (9-5) at No. 6 Hughesville (13-5)

No. 10 Williamson (18-10) at No. 7 Montoursville (12-5)

No. 9 Line Mountain (10-5) at No. 8 Troy (12-6)