



## WALTON-VERONA BEARCATS HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

***BUILDING A Tradition of Excellence***

December 3, 2019

Turkey day is passed and now it is time to hit the mats! The 2019-2020 high school wrestling season officially kicks off for the Walton-Verona High School Bearcats this Saturday as we host the annual Bearcat Brawl Dual Tournament. A young team pulled out a 7<sup>th</sup> place finish at state in 2019 and this year's crew will begin the season ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the state. The Bearcats look to continue a streak of four straight top-10 state tournament finishes based around three returning state placers (Moore 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mayer 3<sup>rd</sup>, Gibson 7<sup>th</sup>) and three solid seniors (Tristen Spalding, Colton Maines, Daulton Mayer).

A new addition to the coaching staff this season is Kevin Schweitzer. Coach Schweitzer has been highly involved with our off season program over the last couple summers. The Bearcat wrestling strength and conditioning program has been a strong point for the team, but Coach Schweitzer will bring a new focus and energy to take our team to another level. Welcome Kevin as an official part of the team!

This year the Bearcat Brawl will be a slightly smaller event, with 8 teams. Top competition will come from returning Bearcat Brawl champions Indian Hills (OH) and #19 Lafayette. Other teams in the event are Grant County, Cooper, Boyle County, Boone County, and Bardstown.

The following Bearcat wrestlers begin the season ranked in the top 20 of their weight class as the team will kick off the season ranked #5 in the state:

1<sup>st</sup> @ 106 lbs: Sophomore Spencer Moore – after a freshman campaign that resulted in a 48-6 record and state runner-up finish, Spencer will enter this season as the pre-season favorite and is ranked #8 nationally

18<sup>th</sup> @ 113 lbs: Freshman Mason Schweitzer – a solid 8<sup>th</sup> grade season ended with a spot on the MS state podium; a full off season of hard work now has Mason ready to contribute in the varsity lineup

3<sup>rd</sup> @ 145 lbs: Senior Tristen Spalding – Tristen has come up just short the last two seasons of replicating his podium finish as a freshman, but one of the best all-around athletes at WVHS has a shot to finish his HS career with a high finish

4<sup>th</sup> @ 182 lbs: Junior Brandon Gibson – we saw a big step forward from Brandon as he racked up 39 wins and pulled out some big matches at the Horse Park to finish on the podium

1<sup>st</sup> @ 195 lbs: Senior Daulton Mayer – the Thomas More University commit looks to finish his HS career with a title after a 47-4 junior year with a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish

18<sup>th</sup> @ 195 lbs: Sophomore Zach Watson – tough, young returning state qualifier could score important team points to help WV bring home a team trophy

Season kickoff will be at home as the Bearcats host the Bearcat Brawl this Saturday, December 7. Come out and support the Bearcat Wrestling Team at WVHS this weekend.

Stay tuned for information on home meets and updates on rankings, schedules, and results! Follow us on social media:

Twitter (@WV\_Wrestling1) and Instagram (wv\_bearcats\_wrestling)