

## WALTON-VERONA BEARCATS HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

## **BUILDING** A Tradition of Excellence

## February 12, 2020

This past weekend the Bearcats kicked off the post season and battled tough at Ryle for the Region 6 Championship. Year in and year out Region 6 is the toughest in the state and presents a challenge for our wrestlers to qualify for the state tournament, but once again our kids showed great effort and we are sending 8 wrestlers plus an alternate to Lexington. That brings the program to a total of 68 state qualifiers, and 18 region champions in our 11 year history. Overall, we finished 4<sup>th</sup> as a team behind the big school traditional powers Campbell County, Ryle, and Simon Kenton. Following are the individual regional results:

106 Spencer Moore - the #1 seed teched and pinned his way to a regional title including a 22-5 win over a top 10 opponent in the finals

113 Mason Schweitzer – the #5 seed pulled an upset in the quarterfinals over a senior from Campbell County ranked  $14^{th}$  in the state who had beat him a few weeks ago; the win helped get Mason into the top 4 and qualified for state

120 Hunter Isaacs – the #4 seed got 2 ranked wins to outperform his seed and finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in the region

126 Peyton Mayer – unseeded and went 0-2 on the weekend

132 Chris Harward – the #6 seed held his seed finishing 6th in a very tough weight class

145 Tristen Spalding – the #2 seed got dominant wins over 2 top 10 foes to finish with a regional championship

152 Nathan Harward – unseeded and went 1-2 on the weekend

160 Luke Hyden – the #4 seed youngster pulled off 4 pins on his way to a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish

170 Colton Maines – the #4 seed split matches with his opponent from Holmes and finished 5th on the weekend

182 Brandon Gibson – the #2 seed powered through to the regional finals ending with a runner-up finish

195 Daulton Mayer – the #1 seed pinned his way to a regional title

220 Zach Watson – the #3 seed battled back from an early upset to finish 4th in the region

The WVHS wrestling team is heading to the KHSAA State Championship coming off 4 consecutive top 10 finishes in the single class event. The Bearcats qualified 8 of the 14 weight classes to the two day tournament and are ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the state as a team heading into the weekend with 4 individuals projected to make the podium at their weight class and 2 favorites to bring home a state title.

At 106 pounds Spencer Moore is 43-0 finishing first at the regional tournament and is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the state. After an overtime loss in the state finals last year, Spencer is expecting to end the year on top this time around.

At 113 pounds Mason Schweitzer is 24-17 finishing 4<sup>th</sup> at the regional tournament. He is ranked 21<sup>st</sup> in the state as a freshman and will be making his first trip to the high school state event.

At 120 pounds Hunter Isaacs is 21-16 finishing  $3^{rd}$  in the region. Hunter is ranked  $19^{th}$  in the state and the freshman will also be making his first trip to high school state.

At 145 pounds Senior Tristen Spalding has record of 41-5 on the year and is ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the state. After a dominant run to the regional championship, Tristen is poised to not only return to the podium for the first time since he was a freshman, but also make a run at the state championship.

At 160 pounds 7<sup>th</sup> grader Luke Hyden is 16-8 in varsity action and is ranked 27<sup>th</sup> in the state. Going 4-1 with 4 pins at the tough region 6 tournament, this middle schooler is going to surprise some upper classmen at the horse park this weekend.

At 170 pounds Senior Colton Maines finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the region 6 tournament and will be at alternate at the state championship.

At 182 pounds Brandon Gibson is 42-5 and was the region 6 runner-up. Brandon is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state and is looking to make a deep, deep run at a state title.

At 195 pounds Senior Daulton Mayer is 42-2 on the year and is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the state. Daulton pinned through the region and is looking to move up from 3<sup>rd</sup> on the podium last year to bring home the gold.

At 220 pounds Zach Watson is 18-11 with a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish at the regional tournament. Zach is ranked 27<sup>th</sup> in the state and is returning to state for the second time in his two varsity seasons.

Action begins in Lexington Friday morning and will conclude with the state finals on Saturday afternoon.

The following Bearcat wrestlers are ranked in the top 25 of their weight class as the team is ranked #7 in the state (current record):

1<sup>st</sup> @ 106 lbs: Sophomore Spencer Moore (43-0)

21st @ 113 lbs: Freshman Mason Schweitzer (24-17)

19th @ 120 lbs: Freshman Hunter Isaacs (21-16)

5<sup>th</sup> @ 145 lbs: Senior Tristen Spalding (41-5)

3<sup>rd</sup> @ 182 lbs: Junior Brandon Gibson (42-5)

1<sup>st</sup> @ 195 lbs: Senior Daulton Mayer (42-2)

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)