

Wrestlers make short trip to Chase County, Crowell fourth

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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Gage Crowell, above at the DCS Invite, placed fourth at the Chase County Invite Saturday, losing to Tristan Tuma of Gordan-Rushville in two of Crowell's five matches. (Diane Stamm | The Wauneta Breeze)

By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

In the final match before the RPAC meet, the Wauneta-Palisade wrestlers made a trip to Imperial Saturday for the Chase County Invite.

After receiving a first-round bye in the nine-man 160 pound weight bracket, Gage Crowell, seeded fifth, wrestled Trisan Tuma of Gordon-Rushville. Tuma won the match by pin.

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Crowell came back from the loss with pins in the next two rounds over Tristan Kirch of Garden County and Lawrence Schneider of Bridgeport.

Coach Chad Cochran said Crowell wrestled well on the day.

“I was happy to see that he could come back from a first round loss with two quick wins,” Cochran said.

Advancing to the third place match, Crowell once more faced Tuma. Tuma’s only loss on the day came to eventual tournament champ Juan Fraire.

“Gage and I both thought he didn’t wrestle to his full potential in the first match and seemed to be more prepared the second time around, but still couldn’t get the win,” Cochran said, adding, “We were excited with him finishing 4th after being seeded 5th.”

In the 13-man 145 pound bracket, Cody Barrett opened with a loss to eventual tournament champion Tyrell Reichert of Dundy County-Stratton. Reichert is undefeated on the season.

In his second match, Barrett lost to Trent Zink of Ogallala.

“Cody is continuing to work hard in practice and it will pay off eventually,” said Cochran.

RPAC Meet

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Crowell and Barrett's next matches will be in the RPAC meet Saturday at Alma.

Cochran said he expects the RPAC to be competitive.

"I am expecting RPAC to be just as tough, if not tougher than any of our meets so far this year. There are a lot of good teams and wrestlers that we have already faced and some that will be new to us."

Jan. 31 the Broncos will be at Medicine Valley.