

#1 McDonogh Pulls Away From the Pack Late, Wins 2013 MIAA Tournament

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Eagles Place Seven in the Finals, Come Away with Five Champions.

There weren't a lot of individual surprises at the 2013 MIAA Conference Wrestling Tournament this weekend at Mount St. Joe. There was, however, a closer than expected team race for most of the day on Saturday. McDonogh, ranked #1 by the Maryland State Wrestling Association, held a 15 point lead over #3 John Carroll going into the placement round.

On the strength of five champions the Eagles flew away from the pack during the final round. McDonogh won the title with 248.5 points, 32.5 points more than runner-up John Carroll (216).

Rounding out the top five were #5 Spalding (3rd with 191 points), Loyola (4th, 146.5), and Mt. St. Joe (5th, 132).

"It was a good win. It was much closer than the score indicated," said McDonogh Head Coach Pete Welch. "We knew last night it was going to be a dogfight today. A couple things went our way early on."

"We knew it would come down to the placement matches. Going into that place round, we were only like 15 points ahead. Which is close, and they (John Carroll) still had a lot of guys wrestling. We didn't lose many in the place round. It was close, but we did well."

Champions for the Eagles were, TK Megonigal (106) #5 by the MSWA, #2 Xavi Ramos (138), Jack Clark (145), Myles Martin (160) ranked #8 nationally by Intermat, and Tyler Patrick (182, #2).

Finishing in second were #5 Logan Meister (132) and Toby Hague #2 at 152.

Jack Clark, ranked #14 in the country by Intermat, was named the outstanding wrestler. Clark had an impressive run through the tournament, picking up three first period falls, with the longest match lasting 1:17. In the finals, Clark authored a strong performance, scoring a 22-7 technical fall over Cole Graves (#5).

"I'm excited. I've never won outstanding wrestler in high school yet," Clark said. "It feels good."

"I just wanted to get bonus points for my team. All week they were telling us to get bonus points. It's all about the bonus points. I knew I could get the tech, so I just kept pushing for it."

Finishing third for McDonogh were Mike Smith (195, #6) and Travis Wood (220). #8 Sam Martino was fourth at 126. Theo Duncan (#16) took fifth at 170.

Runner-up John Carroll placed three wrestlers in the finals, and came away with two champions. Winning crowns for the Patriots were #2 Scott Strappelli (132) and #3 Hunter Ritter (170). Coming up short in their title quest was CJ Skokowski (#18, 106).

Strappelli won a hard fought match over McDonogh's Logan Meister. Strappelli was in control for most of the match, and came away with an 8-5 decision.

Sophomore Hunter Ritter pulled off a surprising upset at 170. The surprise wasn't necessarily that Ritter beat #2 Conan Schuster (Loyola), but the ease with which it was done. Ritter won by major decision, 8-0, in a match that he was in total control of.

"I feel good. I know a lot of people weren't pulling for me," Ritter said. "I had confidence that I'd beat him. I guess it showed on the mat."

John Carroll's title hopes were dealt a blow when 145lb grappler George Weber, #2 in the state, missed weight by two tenths of a pound. Weber wasn't the favorite to win, but anything can happen. The biggest blow was the loss of his potential team points.

The Patriots had three grapplers place third; #15 Austin Smith (113), #8 Zach Dwyer (120), and Artie Milner (138, #27). Fourth place finishers were, Chris Almony (152, #10), Christian Scott (160, honorable mention), and 220lb Any Reininger.

Third place Spalding crowned three champions, out of four finalists. Winning gold for the Cavaliers were, Wolfie Bradley (120, #7), #1 Logan Breitenbach (152), and Zach Abey (195, #7). Graves took home a silver medal at 145.

Breitenbach was involved in a clash with the #2 wrestler in the state, Toby Hague. Breitenbach won a strategic battle 1-0.

Abey was part of perhaps the most exciting bout of the final round. Abey faced off against Mt. St. Joe's Dan Hawkins (#5). The first period concluded with a flurry of moves that found Hawkins battling off his back at the buzzer.

Hawkins stormed back into the match on his feet by hitting some nice takedowns. Late in the third period a questionable takedown was awarded to Abey until the assistant referee presented a point of view that nullified the takedown.

Had Abey been given the points, it would've almost certainly put the match away. Instead, Hawkins tried furiously to score a late takedown for the win to no avail. Abey held on for the 8-7 win.

Matt Pente (#4 at 132) and Jacob Parker (170, #9) placed third for the Cavaliers.

Pente lost a tough semi-final bout to McDough's Meister. Pente defeated Meister in a dual meet earlier this season.

Loyola (honorable mention in the MSWA Tournament rankings) had three wrestlers in the finals, but didn't see any champions. Falling short in the final round for the Dons were #3 David Mohler (138), Schuster (170), and Jake Nordhausen (182, #10).

Mt. St. Joe (#16 tournament team) suffered the same fate as Loyola. The Gaels had three grapplers reach the finals, and came away with no champions. Zeke Salvo #3 at 126, Hawkins, and heavyweight Shane Lowman (#27) took home silver medals.

Salvo pulled off a mild upset in the semi-finals when he defeated #2 Tyshawn Williams (Curley) in an exciting match, 9-8. The win avenged an early season loss in the finals of the Glenn Jones Charger Classic.

Williams would go on to take third for the Friars. Curley's Naron Gilmer (120, #10) and Fred Johnson (160, #23) were runners-up.

St. Paul's was two for two in the finals. At 113 Ryan Friedman (#2) won by major decision, 9-1, over Pallotti's Justin Chenault (#14).

#1 Jack Mutchnik defeated Mt. St. Joe's Salvo in a startling 10-1 victory. Mutchnik and Salvo had two previous meetings, both won by Mutchnik. The first was in OT at the Beast of the East on a questionable call, and the second in a dual meet 3-1. So the win by major decision was unexpected.

In addition to Chenault, Pallotti had two other finalists. Heavyweight Antonio Santoro (#26) defeated Mt. St. Joe's Lowman for the third time this year, 3-2 in sudden death overtime. Yamil Cristobal (220, #27) came in second place.

Cristobal's opponent, Shane Cockerille (#3) was Gilman's lone finalist. Cockerille won 12-2 in what will be his last season of wrestling. The senior is head to the University of Maryland to play football in the fall.

Link to brackets:

http://c813999.r99.cf2.rackcdn.com/uploads/miaamd2013_2013_full.pdf

Team Scores

1-McDonogh 248.5
2-John Carroll 216
3-Spalding 191
4-Loyola 146.5
5-Mt. St. Joe 132
6-Curley 120
7-St. Paul's 112
8-Gilman 92
9-Pallotti 89
10-St. Mary's 68
11-Boys Latin 58
12-Calvert Hall 40.5
13-Severn 27
14-Mt. Carmel 21.5
15-Friends 4
16-Annapolis Area Christian 3

Championship Finals

106-TK Megonigal (McDonogh) maj. dec. CJ Skokowski (John Carroll), 12-3
113-Ryan Friedman (St. Paul's) maj. dec. Justin Chenault (Pallotti), 9-1
120-Wolfie Bradley (Spalding) dec. Naron Gilmer (Curley), 5-0
126-Jack Mutchnik (St. Paul's) maj. dec. Zeke Salvo (Mt. St. Joe), 10-1
132-Scott Strappelli (John Carroll) dec. Logan Meister (McDonogh), 8-5
138-Xavi Ramos (McDonogh) dec. David Mohler (Loyola), 4-1
145-Jack Clark (McDonogh) tech-fall Cole Graves (Spalding), 22-7
152-Logan Breitenbach (Spalding) dec. Toby Hague (McDonogh), 1-0
160-Myles Martin (McDonogh) pinned Fred Johnson (Curley), 2:10
170-Hunter Ritter (John Carroll) maj. dec. Conan Schuster (Loyola), 8-0
182-Tyler Patrick (McDonogh) pinned Jake Nordhausen (Loyola), 1:07
195-Zach Abey (Spalding) dec. Dan Hawkins (Mt. St. Joe), 8-7
220-Shane Cockerille (Gilman) maj. dec. Yamil Cristobal (Pallotti), 12-2
285-Antonio Santoro (Pallotti) dec. Shane Lowman (Mt. St. Joe), 3-2 sudden death OT

Third Place

106-Nick Malinowski (Boys Latin) maj. dec. Chae Neale (Curley), 9-0
113-Austin Smith (John Carroll) dec. Jack King (Gilman), 7-0
120-Zach Dwyer (John Carroll) dec. Malek Woody (Mt. St. Joe), 4-3
126-Tyshawn Williams (Curley) dec. Sam Martino (McDonogh), 5-2
132-Matt Pente (Spalding) won on forfeit by Billy Krop (St. Paul's)
138-Artie Milner (John Carroll) dec. Gabe Pastirik (St. Mary's), 10-7
145-Walter Johnson (Loyola) maj. dec. Grant Taylor (Mt. Carmel), 9-1
152-Bryce Pappas (St. Mary's) dec. Chris Almony (John Carroll), 8-7
160-Greg Louzan (St. Paul's) dec. Christian Scott (John Carroll), 4-2
170-Garrett Pfeifer (Gilman) dec. Evan Dohler (Boys Latin), 3-0
182-Jacob Parker (Spalding) pinned Andrew Doyle (Mt. St. Joe), 2:56
195-Mike Smith (McDonogh) pinned Neil Amaral (Loyola), 1:47
220-Travis Wood (McDonogh) won on default by Andy Reiningner (John Carroll)
285-Sheldon Johnson (Gilman) dec. Kevin Sigwart (Curley), 6-5

Fifth Place

106-Turner Wilson (Mt. St. Joe) dec. Marcellus Brown (Loyola), 5-4
113-Jack Eberhard (Spalding) pinned Matt Callahan (Loyola), 3:49
120-Griffin McWilliams (Pallotti) dec. Hunter Cotsoradis (Boys Latin), 4-0
126-Devin Davis (John Carroll) dec. Nate Malinowski (Boys Latin), 4-3
132-Matt Wagner (Calvert Hall) dec. Cole Matson (Mt. St. Joe), 8-2
138-Noah Koski (Calvert Hall) pinned Jarred Bushyager (Curley), 1:24
145-Daniel Medcalf (Severn) won by forfeit
152-Erik Meyer (Curley) won on default by Brooks Lucier (St. Paul's)
160-Jimmy Malone (Spalding) dec. Aaron Sampson (Calvert Hall), 8-2
170-Theo Duncan (McDonogh) dec. Sean Bieschke (Curley), 6-4
182-Matt Kerner (St. Mary's) pinned Jay Etkins (John Carroll), :59
195-Dan Kelble (John Carroll) dec. John Whitehead (St. Mary's), 2-1
220-Alex Barnabae (Mt. St. Joe) dec. Sam Roberts (Loyola), 1-0
285-Melvin Gowl (Spalding) pinned Tyler Covey (Loyola), 1:24

MIAA Championship Finals Video

106-Tk Megonigal vs CJ Skokowski

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AURlL_wQWBc&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=7

113-Ryan Friedman vs Justin Chenault

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RS20KcW03o&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=1

120-Wolfie Bradley vs Naron Gilmer

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmCOngXvO0g&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=3

126-Jack Mutchnik vs Zeke Salvo

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WpH9IJXBifs&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=6

132-Scott Strappelli vs Logan Meister

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SR5k2dALJw&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=5

138-Xavi Ramos vs David Mohler

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KAvWZJEx3ts&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=2

145-Jack Clark vs Cole Graves

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aS8xOXIVzvo&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=1

152-Logan Breitenbach vs Toby Hague

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fScJwoJXmNY&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=2

160-Myles Martin vs Fred Johnson

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8j40ZGTqI&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=3

170-Conan Schuster vs Hunter Ritter

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yb8TDSVgsE&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=4

182-Tyler Patrick vs Jake Nordhausen

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eMD7gVwbbil&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=4

195-Dan Hawkins vs Zach Abey

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtGwYXG4m7w&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=1

220-Shane Cockerille vs Yamil Cristobal

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=00frKtgrX4w&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=1

285-Antonio Santoro vs Shane Lowman

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxiK8JBqWp4&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=8