

Franklin High School to Host Baltimore County Tournament This Weekend

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February 14, 2013

Owings Mills and Hereford Head the Battle for the Team Title

Owings Mills (ranked #15 by the Maryland State Wrestling Association) and Hereford (#23) appear to be the frontrunners in this year's Baltimore County Tournament at Franklin High School. Owings Mills has won the last three county titles.

195 is possibly the toughest weight in the tournament. Sparrows Point's James Krug (#8 in the latest rankings by the MSWA) and Western Tech's Payton Beachum (#12) are returning 1A/2A state placers. Krug (5th in states at 182) received the top seed, but Beachum (6th in states at 195) was seeded 4th.

Baltimore County, as well as a few other counties, uses a point system for the seeding process. Unfortunately this doesn't always lead to the fairest seeding scenario.

Brock Turnbaugh (Hereford, #20) was seeded second at 195, and Tarrence Henry (Catonsville, #30) is the 3rd seed.

152 may be the deepest weight class. At the top of the bracket is Owings Mills' Antwan Reddick (#8). Reddick was a 3A/4A state runner-up last year at DuVal High School in Prince George's County.

The bracket is filled with three other state ranked wrestlers, and one listed as honorable mention by the MSWA. Sean Hoffman (Dulaney, #28), Tony Simuel (Western Tech, #29), Catonsville's Joseth Hylton (HM), Hereford's Dylan Gray, and Malachi Burden (Carver A&T, #30) are seeded 2nd-6th respectively.

Hoffman, Simuel, and Burden have taken turns beating each other over the last two years, hence their close order in the state rankings.

Three time state placer, and one time 1A/2A State Champion, Demetrius Johnson (Owings Mills) is ranked 3rd at 145 by the MSWA. Johnson is the top seed in this weight class. Second seeded Jacob Asher (Dulaney, #20), and 3rd seeded Ori Shimony (Pikesville, #19) are the other ranked wrestlers. Shimony defeated Asher at the Loch Raven Duals this year. Asher has win over Shimony from last season.

The top two seeds at 220 dropped from 285lbs for the postseason. #1 seed Mike Swiger (Hereford) is ranked 8th by the MSWA. Second seeded Stephan Burden (Kenwood) is #18 in the state. Jordan Reynolds (Catonsville) is seeded 3rd, and #17 Jordan Gale (Chesapeake) is the 4th seed.

At 220, returning 3A/4A State Champion Matt Green (Perry Hall, #1 in the state) is seeded 1st. Green won his state title at 220 last season. Milford Mill's Steven Gbale (#12) is the 2nd seed. Dundalk's Wayne Maddox (#13) is seeded 3rd. The 4th seed is Patrick Anderson (Hereford, #20). Randallstown's Greg Smith (#19) is the 5th seed.

Gbale has a win over Maddox at the Franklin Tournament. Maddox was one win from placing at last year's state tournament.

Hereford's Anthony Genco (#7) was 5th in the 3A/4A states at 106 last year. Owings Mills' Brendan Bekar (#19) is also a state placer. Bekar was 6th at 113 in the 1A/2A division. Genco and Bekar are the top two seeds. Quail El-Ghazouni (Franklin, #30) is seeded 3rd.

120 features four state ranked wrestlers. Ben Montayne (Franklin, #23) is the top seed. Pikesville's Khai Atkinson (#30) is seeded 2nd. Sparrows Point's Randy Watson (#17) is the three seed, and Dylan Ruiz (Dulaney, #25) comes in seeded 4th. Watson has a win over Genco in a dual meet earlier this year. Montayne beat Atkinson at the Loch Raven Duals, 8-3.

At 106 Owings Mills' Jake Rendelman is heavily favored to win the crown, and is ranked #8 by the MSWA. Rendelman has a major decision over returning state placer Garrett Buckely (Catoclin) at the Bauerlein Duals, and defeated Glenelg's Tim Null (#14) in the state duals semi-finals.

Kenwood's Dominic Purcell is the 2nd seed, and Doug Ramirez (Eastern Tech) is the 3rd seed. Purcell beat Ramirez in a regular season dual meet.

Alfred Martinez (Dundalk, #29) dropped to 126 from 132, and secured the #1 seed over Franklin's Nick Montayne (#28). Evan Laryea (Milford Mill) is seeded 3rd, Joe Jaen (Pikesville) 4th. Montayne major decisioned Martinez 10-1 at last year's county tournament. Montayne defeated Laryea in a dual and in the Franklin Tournament finals, and beat Jaen 12-6 at the Loch Raven Duals.

Returning 1A/2A State Champion Tejon Anthony (Western Tech, #10) is the top seed and big time favorite at 132. Perry Hall's DJ Grindle (HM) is the 2nd seed. Kevin Wheeler (Hereford) is seeded 3rd, Holden Taylor (Franklin) 4th.

Pikesville's Travon Wright (#10) is another heavy favorite to win gold. Wright is the top seed at 138. Towson's Liam St. John comes in as the 2nd seed. Dulaney's Pat Hoffman is the seeded 3rd, and Carver A&T's Kendall Costley received the 4th seed.

160 features two state ranked wrestlers. Kenwood's #19 Nyonbou Farley and Pikesville's Cameron Hall-Hurt #18 are the top two seeds in respective order. Hurtt beat Farley by major decision, 15-7, at last year's county tournament. Again, we see the flaws of point system seeding.

170 is wide open. Abdul El-Omari (Owings Mills) is the #1 seed. Milford Mill's Nathaneil Dunchie is the 2nd seed. Trevar Jackson is #29 in the state rankings after dropping from 182 is the 3rd seed here.

Owings Mills' Komil Juraev is the state's 16th ranked 182lber, and the top seed. Towson's Nathan Nenortas is seeded 2nd, and Hereford's Joe Miller is the 3rd seed. Dundalk's Joe Byrd comes in seeded 4th.

Complete seeds are can be found at:

<http://marylandwrestling.org/forum/viewtopic.php?f=7&t=30793&sid=766a95b676b793d336bfd549d27b3de5>

The schedule:

Wrestling will begin @ 4pm on Friday (Prelims, Quarters & 1st round of Consi's)

Wrestling will begin @ 9:30am on Sat w/ the Semis scheduled for 11am & the Championship Finals (1 mat, under the spotlight) @ 5pm!