

## **Good Counsel Upsets McDonogh at MIS Tournament**

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*Final Three Wrestlers Win Championships to Seal 1.5 point Win*

The Good Counsel Falcons swooped in and stole the state title from the Eagle's nest at the Maryland Independent Schools State Championships at the McDonogh School in Owings Mills.

Good Counsel was the #2 team in the state in the latest rankings by the Maryland State Wrestling Association. McDonogh has been #1 all season, and at times looked unbeatable.

The Falcons were neck in neck with the Eagles throughout the flight. The team score was tight all day Saturday, but after the consolation semi-finals McDonogh had a double digit lead, winning by more than 15 points. Good Counsel chipped away at the lead during the final round.

It came down to the final three weights. Good Counsel needed two pins and any kind of win for the title.

The Falcons Spencer Neff (#1 by the MSWA) pinned #5 Zach Abey (Spalding) at 195 to get the ball rolling. #1 Kyle Snyder pinned Gilman's Shane Cockerille (#2) at 220.

This setup a situation that favored Good Counsel, a win at heavyweight would seal the victory. Jemal Averette (#5) was favored to defeat #24 Antonio Santoro (Pallotti). Averette came through with a 6-1 win, and the title 266-264.5 over McDonogh.

Falcons head coach Skylar Saar leaped in jubilation as the rest of the Falcon's exploded with joy.

"There was a time in the semi-finals when I didn't think we had a shot," said Saar. "We had some kids really step up and battle."

"Spencer Neff, we said we needed a pin before (the match). He wasn't going to take anything less than that. When you wrestle Kyle, it's like wrestling a freight train that never stops coming."

"The whole team, I couldn't be more proud of the team," Saar continued. "I thought we had a chance to do it. I didn't know it would come down to this. I always thought it would come down to our big three. It did, and they didn't disappoint."

Snyder, the #1 220lber in the country, was awarded the trophy for most falls in the tournament.

Good Counsel had one other finalist in freshman sensation Kevin Budock (120, #3). Budock defeated Spalding's Wolfie Bradley (#7) by major decision 13-3 to pick up valuable bonus points.

The Falcons had three grapplers finish in third place Adam Whitesell (106, #4), Jhared Simmons (126, #18), and Matt Kelly (132, #9).

Simmons beat McDonogh's Sam Martino (#8) two times, the first in the quarter-finals and the second in the consolation finals. Kelly also beat a higher ranked opponent two times in the tournament. He defeated #5 Matt Pente (Spalding) in the quarter-finals, and in the consolation finals.

Nick Miller (#20) took 4<sup>th</sup> for the Falcons. Philip Robilotto (170, #6) placed 5<sup>th</sup>. Paul Hutton (113, #13) and Donovan McAfee (160, #26) finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place.

McDonogh had a strong final round performance barely coming up short for the title. The Eagles had six grapplers in the finals and came away with four champions.

"I knew going into the tournament that this (finishing 2<sup>nd</sup>) could happen," said McDonogh Coach Pete Welch. "I don't think our kids wrestled particularly badly. I think our kids still wrestled well."

"I just think our two teams are that close. There was a strong possibility that it could play out this way, especially with the three big guys at the top that can get it done. Good for them, they deserve it."

#3 TK Megonigal (106), #1 Jack Clark (145), #1 Myles Martin (160), and #2 Tyler Patrick (182) won crowns for McDonogh. Xavi Ramos (138, #2) and Toby Hague (152, #2) came in second.

Martin had an easy path to the title after St. Mary's Ryken's Josh Llopez was withdrawn from the tournament due to a personal issue. Martin and Llopez are both nationally ranked by InterMat, #8 and #10 respectively. Martin had a first round technical fall, then pinned his final four opponents in the second period or earlier. Clark is also nationally ranked by InterMat, coming in at #14.

Patrick won his first state crown with a 3-1 decision over DeMatha's Clay Conaway (#4 by the MSHA).

"I've been working for it since freshman year," said Patrick. "When I saw my brother out there when he was a senior, and he captured the state title it was a big inspiration for me. It's big, it feels great."

The Eagles had two wrestlers take 4<sup>th</sup> place; Martino (126) and Mike Smith (195, #7). Logan Meister (132, #4) took 5<sup>th</sup> place. Travis Wood (220) and Dan Maltsev (285, #17) came in 6<sup>th</sup>. Theo Duncan (170, #18) finished in 7<sup>th</sup>.

John Carroll finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> with 216 points. The Patriots had three grapplers in the finals, and crowned two state champions.

At 132 Scott Strappelli (#2) faced Georgetown Prep's Daniel Sanchez (#1) in the finals. Strappelli won his first state crown over Sanchez when both were freshman. The seniors wrestled an exciting match that saw Strappelli come out on top 5-1. Sanchez was nursing a sore elbow, which he appeared to reinjure at the end of the match. Strappelli was also awarded the trophy for most career points of all seniors in the MIS Tournament.

"Obviously it feels pretty awesome. All the hard work pays off," said Strappelli. "It's pretty ironic because I had him my freshman year in the state finals and I did what I needed to do then, and I did what I needed to do now."

Sophomore Hunter Ritter (#3) was the Patriots other state champion. Ritter pinned the #1 ranked wrestler in the state, Troy Murtha (Georgetown Prep), at the 2:36 mark of the second period of the 170lb final. Ritter was named the Outstanding Wrestler in the "A" division because of his performance.

"I was the underdog again," Ritter said. "I stayed at it, studied his matches a little bit. I had confidence in my moves."

"I had a bunch of coaches come up to me right after the match and say they were going to put my name in for Outstanding Wrestler. It was suspenseful, but I got it. It feels great."

CJ Skokowski (#19) finished as a state runner-up for John Carroll at 106. In the semi-finals Skokowski pulled off a huge upset, defeating #4 Whitesell 4-2.

Zach Dwyer (120, #10), George Weber (145, #2), and Chris Almony (152, #10) finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Austin Smith (113, #15) was 4<sup>th</sup>. Christian Scott (160, #28) placed 5<sup>th</sup>. Artie Milner (138, #26) and Dan Kelble (195) came in 7<sup>th</sup> for the Patriots.

Georgetown Prep was 4<sup>th</sup> with 198 points. The Little Hoyas placed five wrestlers in the finals, but all five came up short in their title quests.

Colin Kowalski (113, #8), Sanchez, Michael Sprague (145, #4), Brendan Coyne (160, honorable mention), and Murtha took home silver for Georgetown Prep.

Kowalski and Sprague pulled off upsets in the semi-final round to reach the finals. Kowalski beat #3 Steven Simpson (St. Mary's Ryken) in sudden death overtime. It was Kowalski's first win over Simpson, as Simpson was 7-0 over Kowalski the last two years.

Sprague's upset was not as big, but it was still a surprise. Sprague defeated #2 Weber in overtime. Weber had previously beaten Sprague in the consolation finals of last year's National Prep Tournament.

James McCord (138, #8) placed 4<sup>th</sup>. Coming in 5<sup>th</sup> for the Little Hoyas were Abraham Pishevar (182, #29), Paul Triandifilou (195, HM), and #21 Patrick Stewart (220). Alec Boyle (126) took 8<sup>th</sup> place.

The Spalding Cavaliers round out the top five (188 points). Bradley, Abey, and #1 Logan Breitenbach (152) made the finals for the Cavaliers.

Breitenbach was the lone champion. He again faced #2 Hague in a repeat of the MIAA Tournament Finals. This time Breitenbach won the match 3-0.

Jacob Parker (182, #9) was a 4<sup>th</sup> place finisher for Spalding. Pente and Cole Graves (145, #5) took 4<sup>th</sup>. Jimmy Malone (160, #29) and heavyweight Melvin Gowl came in 7<sup>th</sup>.

Both Eberhard brothers made it to the podium. Freshman Jack (HM) came in 8<sup>th</sup> at 113, and sophomore Joey (#25) finished in 7<sup>th</sup>.

St. Paul's came away with two champions. #2 Ryan Friedman (113) won his first state title and #1 Jack Mutchnik (126) captured his second straight state championship.

Bishop McNamara's Alfred Bannister (#5 in the country by InterMat) won his third consecutive state title in convincing fashion. Bannister registered a 26-8 technical fall over Maryland's second ranked 138 lber, Ramos. Bannister was awarded the Outstanding Wrestler Trophy in the "B" division.

"This feels great. I'm proud, but that fourth time state title is what I'm aiming for," Bannister said.

Mt. St. Joe's #2 Zeke Salvo (126) was another finalist in the tournament. He came up short in his quest for a second state title. Salvo won his first crown last year as a sophomore at Perry Hall. He wrestled a much closer bout vs. Mutchnik this week than at the MIAA Tournament, falling 6-4 in the finals.

The MIS Tournament has steadily grown over the years, and is now looked at as a premier event.

"I'm most proud of how far the tournament has come," Pete Welch said. "19 years ago we didn't have a state tournament. A few guys in a room started talking about the idea."

"We had to move it around the St. Alban's Tournament, and the finally we got the weekend we wanted. It's grown and grown into an unbelievable event. The kids that win this tournament are good wrestlers, really good wrestlers. We've come a long way. I'm proud of what this has become."

The next step for the private school wrestlers is the National Prep Tournament on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania.

***Tournament Website with Link to Brackets:***

<http://www.mcdonoghrestling.com/misstatetourn.html>

**Teams Scores "A" Division**

- 1-Good Counsel 266
- 2-McDonogh 264.5
- 3-John Carroll 216
- 4-Georgetown Prep 198.5
- 5-Spalding 188
- 6-Mt. St. Joe 146
- 7-St. Paul's 123
- 8-Curley 117
- Tie-Gilman 117
- 10-Loyola 114.5
- 11-DeMatha 101
- 12-Pallotti 69
- 13-Boys Latin 66
- 14-Landon 39
- 15-Bullis 35
- 16-Calvert Hall

## **Teams Scores "B" Division**

1-St. Mary's Ryken 78.5  
2-St. Mary's 68  
3-Severn 48  
4-St. James 36  
5-Bishop McNamara 35.5  
6-Heights School 25  
7-Maryland School for the Deaf 24  
8-Unattached 21.5  
9-Glenelg Country School 21  
10-Covenant Life School 18  
11-Mt. Carmel 16  
12-St. Andrew's 12  
13-Friends 10  
14-Silver Oak Academy 3  
15-Annapolis Area Christian 2  
16-Mt. Airy Christian -1

## **Championship Finals**

106-TK Magonigal (McDonogh) dec. CJ Skokowski (John Carroll), 7-1  
113-Ryan Friedman (St. Paul's) dec. Colin Kowalski (Georgetown Prep), 6-0  
120-Kevin Budock (Good Counsel) maj. dec. Wolfie Bradley (Spalding), 13-3  
126-Jack Mutchnik (St. Paul's) dec. Zeke Salvo (Mt. St. Joe), 6-4  
132-Scott Strappelli (John Carroll) dec. Daniel Sanchez (Georgetown Prep), 5-1  
138-Alfred Bannister (Bishop McNamara) tech-fall Xavi Ramos (McDonogh), 26-8  
145-Jack Clark (McDonogh) maj. dec. Michael Sprague (Georgetown Prep), 15-6  
152-Logan Breitenbach (Spalding) dec. Toby Hague (McDonogh), 3-0  
160-Myles Martin (McDonogh) pinned Brendan Coyne (Georgetown Prep), 3:32  
170-Hunter Ritter (John Carroll) pinned Troy Murtha (Georgetown Prep), 2:36  
182-Tyler Patrick (McDonogh) dec. Clay Conaway (DeMatha), 3-1  
195-Spencer Neff (Good Counsel) pinned Zach Abey (Spalding), 1:52  
220-Kyle Snyder (Good Counsel) pinned Shane Cockerille (Gilman), 4:21  
285-Jemal Averette (Good Counsel) dec. Antonio Santoro (Pallotti), 6-1

## **Consolation Finals**

106-Adam Whitesell (Good Counsel) pinned Logan Wilson (DeMatha), :44  
113-Steven Simpson (St. Mary's Ryken) pinned Austin Smith (John Carroll), 2:48  
120-Zach Dwyer (John Carroll) dec. Malik Woody (Mt. St. Joe), 3-1 OT  
126-Jhared Simmons (Good Counsel) dec. Sam Martino (McDonogh), 7-3  
132-Matt Kelly (Good Counsel) dec. Matt Pente (Spalding), 3-2  
138-David Mohler (Loyola) dec. James McCord (Georgetown Prep), 6-4 OT  
145-George Weber (John Carroll) dec. Cole Graves (Spalding), 7-1  
152-Max Smith (Unattached) dec. Chris Almony (John Carroll), 7-2  
160-Greg Louzan (St. Paul's) dec. Fred Johnson (Curley), 7-6  
170-Conan Schuster (Loyola) dec. Garrett Pfeifer (Gilman), 6-0  
182-Jacob Parker (Spalding) dec. Nick Miller (Good Counsel), 4-2 OT  
195-Dan Hawkins (Mt. St. Joe) dec. Mike Smith (McDonogh), 5-2  
220-Mac Meehan (DeMatha) dec. Yamil Cristobal (Pallotti), 7-0  
285-Shane Lowman (Mt. St. Joe) dec. Sheldon Johnson (Gilman), 1-0

## **5<sup>th</sup> Place Matches**

106-Nick Malinowski (Boys Latin) maj. dec. Chae Neale (Curley), 10-0  
113-Justin Chenault (Pallotti) dec. Paul Hutton (Good Counsel), 3-1  
120-Naron Gilmer (Curley) dec. Blake Matthews (Bullis), 10-3  
126-Tyshawn Williams (Curley) tech-fall Nate Malinowski (Boys Latin), 18-3  
132-Logan Meister (McDonogh) maj. dec. Billy Krop (St. Paul's), 14-3  
138-Shane Wilson (DeMatha) dec. Gabe Pastirik (St. Mary's), 7-4  
145-Walter Johnson (Loyola) pinned Jack Krall (St. Mary's Ryken), 1:17  
152-Bryce Pappas (St. Mary's) dec. Erik Meyer (Curley), 4-2  
160-Christian Scott (John Carroll) won by forfeit over Donovan McAfee (Good Counsel)  
170-Philip Robilotto (Good Counsel) won by forfeit over Evan Dohler (Boys Latin)  
182-Abraham Pishevar (Georgetown Prep) dec. Morgan McColgan (Curley), 3-1 OT  
195-Paul Triandifilou (Georgetown Prep) dec. Roger Boyce (St. Paul's), 3-1 OT  
220-Patrick Stewart (Georgetown Prep) dec. Travis Wood (McDonogh), 3-1 OT  
285-Kevin Sigwart (Curley) won by forfeit over Dan Maltsev (McDonogh)

## **7<sup>th</sup> Place Matches**

106-Turner Wilson (Mt. St. Joe) dec. Matt Siems (Gilman), 4-3  
113-Jack King (Gilman) pinned Jack Eberhard (Spalding) 2:02  
120-Hunter Cotsoradis (Boys Latin) dec. Griffin McWilliams (Pallotti), 2-0  
126-Joey Eberhard (Spalding) dec. Alec Boyle (Georgetown Prep), 9-2  
132-Matt Wagner (Calvert Hall) dec. Larry Lopez (DeMatha), 3-0  
138-Artie Milner (John Carroll) won by forfeit over Seth Rowell (Mt. St. Joe)  
145-Daniel Medcalf (Severn) won by forfeit over Anthony Wyler (Boys Latin)  
152-Brooks Lucier (St. Paul's) maj. dec. Jarett Witzal (Landon), 17-9  
160-Jimmy Malone (Spalding) maj. dec. Sam Wancowicz (Gilman), 9-1  
170-Theo Duncan (McDonogh) dec. Sean Bieschke (Curley), 4-3  
182-Jake Nordhausen (Loyola) pinned Jerome Cosby (Mt. Carmel), 2:59  
195-Dan Kelble (John Carroll) pinned Taran Taylor (Maryland School for the Deaf), 4:57  
220-David Gurski (Mt. St. Joe) pinned Finn Mehigan (Heights School), 3:49  
285-Melvin Gowl (Spalding) pinned Matt Johnston (Landon), 3:41

## **MIS TOURNAMENT FINALS VIDEOS**

106-Megonigal vs. Skokowski

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLoR89StuP8&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=14](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLoR89StuP8&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=14)

113-Friedman vs. Kowalski

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OX04pJp1w\\_o&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=13](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OX04pJp1w_o&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=13)

120-Budock vs. Bradley

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRLTnyq7lfe&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=12](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRLTnyq7lfe&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=12)

126-Mutchnik vs. Salvo

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5vnL9Eult5s&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=11](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5vnL9Eult5s&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=11)

132-Strappelli vs. Sanchez

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jF-plbqN7l&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=10](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jF-plbqN7l&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=10)

138-Bannister vs. Ramos

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RiZJ3-NJa2s&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=9](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RiZJ3-NJa2s&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=9)

145-Clark vs. Sprague

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zw0wggbpVc&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zw0wggbpVc&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=8)

152-Breitenbach vs. Hague

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gvlXVDqSWDA&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=7](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gvlXVDqSWDA&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=7)

160-Martin vs. Coyne

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=90x45pFISgw&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=6](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=90x45pFISgw&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=6)

170-Ritter vs. Murtha

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSjA71vbSzA&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=1](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSjA71vbSzA&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=1)

182-Patrick vs. Conaway

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JrrL61gRIsM&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=2](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JrrL61gRIsM&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q&index=2)

195-Neff vs. Abey

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0r0BdPH9es&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0r0BdPH9es&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q)

220-Snyder vs. Cockerille

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gVbwTrrIQ8E&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gVbwTrrIQ8E&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q)

285-Averette vs. Santoro

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZSIYnfACYA&list=UULalcyZJW3z\\_j-o17F4DE6Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZSIYnfACYA&list=UULalcyZJW3z_j-o17F4DE6Q)