

McDonogh Mounts A Late Rally To Win the Ray Oliver Crown

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The Eagles have tournament high 7 finalists, come away with 4 titles. Good Counsel Crowns 5 Champions.

Going into the final round of wrestling at the Ray Oliver Tournament the host school had a small lead over Good Counsel. The final round had plenty of intrigue, and saw Good Counsel take the lead before McDonogh's big guns closed the deal in the upper weights.

After Kevin Budock's win at 132 the Falcons went ahead 187.5 to 186.5. The lead increased after Matt Kelly upset Georgetown Prep's Michael Sprague in the 138lb final.

Toby Hague (152) registered a fall over Hayfield's Mark Allan to pull McDonogh within a point of Good Counsel (193.5-192.5). The Eagles took the lead, and never relinquished it, after Myles Martin's pin in the 170lb final. Mike Smith (220) and Wyatt Cook (285) won titles by fall and decision respectively to seal the deal for McDonogh, 208.5 to 197.5.

The win avenged a loss to Good Counsel at last year's state tournament, which decided the number one team in the final state rankings.

The Eagles had nine grapplers earn a spot on the podium. Four of them were champions (Cook, Hague, Martin, and Smith). Coming up short in their quest for gold were TK Megonigal (113), Cameron Harrell (145), and Bobby Twigg (160). Quinn Devaney (126, 5th) and Sam Martino (138, 4th) were McDonogh's other placewinners.

Martin is ranked No.5 in the nation by Intermat and he showed why with an amazing run through the tournament. Martin pinned all four of his opponents, including a 56 second fall of fourth seeded Vernon Hadley (Hayfield, VA) in the semi-finals.

Smith was another Eagle wrestler that dominated his fellow grapplers. He picked up two pins and a second period tech-fall in his three matches.

Harrell put up quite a fight against nationally ranked Alfred Bannister of Bishop McNamara (#6 by Intermat). Bannister has rarely been challenged when facing Maryland wrestlers over the last year or so, but Harrell gave him all he could handle in their 3-2 bout.

Good Counsel had a tournament high five champions among their six finalists. Budock, Kelly, Adam Whitesell (113), Bailey Thomas (126), and Kevin Snyder (195) took home gold. Nick Miller (182) finished in second after dropping his finals match 8-2 to Jarren Wilson from Delaware's Smyrna.

Kelly had an impressive run this weekend. He came in as the second seed, but the state rankings had Spalding's Matt Pente ahead of him. Kelly defeated Pente 6-3 in the semi-finals before pulling another upset in the finals over Sprague.

Whitesell pulled off an upset of his own in the finals with his 6-1 win over McDonogh's Megonigal. Megonigal came in ranked No.2 in the state by the Maryland State Wrestling Association, and Whitesell was No.3.

Freshman Bailey Thomas announced his arrival on the high school scene, much like teammate Kevin Budock last year, with a title. Thomas knocked off the top seed, Smyrna's Othniel Edmond, in the quarter-finals with a 9-0 major decision. Thomas picked up a fall in the semi-finals before downing Caesar Rodney's Brandon Scott 11-6 in the finals.

The Falcons had three other placers in Jake Collins (3rd, 120), Paul Hutton (5th, 145), and Donovan McAfee (4th, 170).

Third place Smyrna had four finalists and came away with one champion. Wilson won the 182lb title. Chase Archangelo (106), Brent Fleetwood (120), and Tyler Carney (132) finished as runner-ups.

Caesar Rodney from Delaware placed three grapplers in the finals. Micah Hight (120) pulled off an upset of the nation's 11th best 120lber according to InterMat with a 5-1 decision. Coming in second for Riders were Scott (126) and Zach Parker (285).

The 120lb class was the most stacked weight in the tournament. In addition to Fleetwood, Georgetown Prep's Eric Hong is ranked 12th in the nation at 113 by InterMat. Hong placed third after losing to Fleetwood in the semi-finals 6-2.

Other champions were Michael Doetsch (Severn, 106), and Logan Breitenbach (Spalding, 160). Breitenbach, who is ranked No.11 in the country by InterMat, finished with two tech-falls (both in the second period) and a 49 second pin.

Team Scores (top 10)

- 1-McDonogh 208.5
- 2-Good Counsel 197.5
- 3-Smyrna (DE) 168
- 4-Caesar Rodney (DE) 167
- 5-Hayfield (VA) 117.5
- 6-Georgetown Prep 116
- 7-St. John's (D.C.) 96.5
- 8-Spalding 86
- 9-St. Mark's (DE) 76.5
- 10-Centreville (VA) 61

Championship Finals

- 106-Michael Doetsch (Severn) dec. Chase Archangelo (Smyrna), 6-2
- 113-Adam Whitesell (Good Counsel) dec. TK Megonigal (McDonogh), 6-1
- 120-Micah Hight (Caesar Rodney) dec. Brent Fleetwood (Smyrna), 5-1
- 126-Bailey Thomas (Good Counsel) dec. Brandon Scott (Caesar Rodney), 11-6
- 132-Kevin Budock (Good Counsel) dec. Tyler Carney (Smyrna), 1-0
- 138-Matt Kelly (Good Counsel) dec. Michael Sprague (Georgetown Prep), 3-2
- 145-Alfred Bannister (Bishop McNamara) dec. Cameron Harrell (McDonogh), 3-2
- 152-Toby Hague (McDonogh) pinned Mark Allan (Hayfield), 3:24
- 160-Logan Breitenbach (Spalding) tech-fall Bobby Twigg (McDonogh), 15-0 (3:07)
- 170-Myles Martin (McDonogh) pinned Josh Simon (St. John's), 3:42
- 182-Jarren Wilson (Smyrna) dec. Nick Miller (Good Counsel), 8-2
- 195-Kevin Snyder (Good Counsel) dec. Garrett Pfeiffer (Gilman), 7-2
- 220-Mike Smith (McDonogh) pinned Paul Triandafilou (Georgetown Prep), 5:53
- 285-Wyatt Cook (McDonogh) dec. Zack Parker (Caesar Rodney), 7-3

Third Place Matches

106-Nick Klink (Caesar Rodney) dec. Nick Goray (Spalding), 3-2
113-Victor Echeverria (Centreville) dec. Justin Engelmann (St. Mark's), 9-3
120-Eric Hong (Georgetown Prep) pinned Jake Collins (Good Counsel), 4:50
126-Othniel Edmond (Smyrna) pinned Devin Saunders (Hayfield), 2:02
132-Mike Vietri (St. Mark's) dec. Colin Kowalski (Georgetown Prep), 2-1
138-Matt Pente (Spalding) dec. Sam Martino (McDonogh), 1-0
145-Tony Scarfo (Caesar Rodney) dec. Kalen Wilson (Smyrna), 5-0
152-Eli Hutchinson (Smyrna) maj. dec. Connor Mitchell (Centreville), 10-2
160-Matt Allan (Hayfield) dec. Brett Simon (St. John's), 6-2
170-Vernon Hadley (Hayfield) dec. Donovan McAfee (Good Counsel), 5-3
182-Patrick Wenzlaff (St. John's) dec. Jacob Parker (Spalding), 4-0
195-Brian Hennissey (St. John's) dec. Tyler Perreten (Severn), 9-2
220-Troy McNally (Caesar Rodney) dec. Thomas McNamara (St. John's), 6-2
285-Patrick Stewart (Georgetown Prep) pinned Cordell Soileau (Hayfield), 4:47

Fifth Place Matches

106-Grant Saunders (Hayfield) dec. Adam Cafurello (Centreville), 2-0
113-Mason Harrington (Caesar Rodney) dec. Daniel Simonovsky (Broadneck), 4-2
120-Breaden Alevizatos (Gilman) maj. dec. Khoi Tran (Langley), 11-1
126-Quinn Devaney (McDonogh) pinned Jonathan Biagini (Gonzaga), 4:10
132-Bryan Wand (Broadneck) dec. Tommy Gallucci (Caesar Rodney), 3-2
138-Jacob Adams (Langley) dec. Connor Joyce (Broadneck), 3-0
145-Paul Hutton (Good Counsel) dec. Thomas Otlowski (St. Mark's), 3-1
152-Jack Munro (St. Mark's) pinned Spencer Gottshall (Georgetown Prep), :59
160-Ronnie Wuest (Smyrna) dec. Andrew Sudler (Caesar Rodney), 3-0
170-Shaine Middleton (Broadneck) dec. Michael Clavier (Caesar Rodney), 9-7 OT
182-Kendall Wicks (Caesar Rodney) dec. Ron Mattox (Broadneck), 5-0
195-Adrian Valera (Hayfield) won by forfeit by Marquelle Bennett (Smyrna)
220-Lawrence Wright (Centreville) maj. dec. Keith Medley (St. Mark's), 13-4
285-Kenari Megahed (St. Mark's) won by forfeit by Robert Kreczmer (Spalding)