While wrestling in a weak bracket at the Chase County Invitational at Imperial, Neb. Saturday, Jan. 17, 125-lb. junior Chad Stroh bumped his season record to 22-0 and earned the Outstanding Wrestler award for the tourney.

As a team, the Dragons placed fourth, only seven and a half points behind the second-place team.

Mark Edmonds also placed first, at 103 lbs., while Seth Baker (135 lbs.) and Luke Garrett (160) both took second and Skyler Dittmer (130) finished third.

In the junior varsity tournament at Imperial, four Dragons found success. Parker Redfern (135 lbs.) and Brandon Price (145) both placed first, while Mitch Wittman (171) and Casey Sage (189) finished second.

Coach Duane Stroh said some individuals wrestled well, but as a whole, they just didn't take advantage of opportunities like they did the previous week when the Dragons won the Boulder Valley Invite.

Some questionable calls made a difference in several matches, according to coach Stroh.

Sidney won Saturday's varsity tournament with 135.5 points, followed by Ogallala 107, Chase County 105.5, Holyoke 99.5, Chadron 89.5, North Platte 89, Hitchcock County 72, Bridgeport 56, Garden County 53, Cambridge 42, Wray JV 26, Perkins County 8 and Dundy County 2.

This week, the Dragons will return to Imperial for dual action Thursday, Jan. 22 at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 24, they're fired up for the always-competitive Lexington, Neb. tournament.

Individual results from the Chase County Invite follow:

Varsity tourney

103 lbs.—Mark Edmonds placed first, bumping his season record to 18-1. He pinned Dane Aurich of Sidney in 3:35 and tech falled Keith Cochran of Chase County 15-0.

119 lbs.—Brian Strong had a rough day, according to coach Stroh. He defeated Justin Broberg of Chadron in a major 10-2 decision, but then lost two matches. Broberg went on to place third. Strong lost a 3-13 major decision to a tough Ryan Roach of Sidney and lost a 5-7 decision to Cody Richards of North Platte in a match in which the ref got confused, according to coach Stroh.

125 lbs.—Chad Stroh placed first, pinning all three of his opponents in the first period. Coach Stroh said he made Chad earn 11 points before going for the pin. He pinned Gatlin Moul of Ogallala in 1:34, John Haun of Sidney in 1:08 and Taylor Hoeft of North Platte in 1:09.

130 lbs.—Skyler Dittmer placed third. He pinned Anthony Rodriguez of Cambridge in 1:49, got caught in a cradle and was pinned in 1:24 by Omar Martinez of Wray on a questionable call, pinned Colten Scherbarth of Chadron in 1:30 and pinned Issaih Rivas of Ogallala in :47.

135 lbs.—Seth Baker placed second in a really good day on the mats, said coach Stroh. He won a 12-3 major decision over Garrett Frederick of Chadron, pinned his cousin Justin Lueth of Chase County in 3:59 and lost a 0-7 decision to Hunter Roseberry of Sidney.

Coach Stroh said Baker is much-improved and is wrestling well. He's especially pleased with Baker's performance the last two weeks, in which he's had six wins and two losses.

145 lbs.—Broc Pelle entered what coach Stroh called "by far the toughest bracket in the tournament," and competed hard. He was pinned in 2:31 by Jeremiah Lueth of Chase County, and "just got out of his mojo," said Stroh. He then lost a 4-6 decision to Riley Kosmicki of Perkins County.

160 lbs.—Luke Garrett placed second. He was sick during the tournament and had a rough day, but still managed to get to the championship, said coach Stroh.

He pinned Levi Campfield of Wray in 2:21, earned a come-from-behind pin in 5:10 over McCabe Johnson of Garden County and lost the championship to Will Brown of Chadron in a 1-16 tech fall.

Junior Varsity tourney

135 lbs.—Parker Redfern placed first, pinning his way through the championship. He pinned Christian Miyamoto of Perkins County in 3:27 and pinned Isaac Johnson of Cambridge in 1:02.

145 lbs.—Brandon Price placed first, bumping his record to 7-6. “He looked like a world champion,” praised coach Stroh, adding Price is getting better all-around every week. He pinned Andrew McCurdy of Cambridge in 2:28 and pinned Andrew Jacobsen of Sidney in :35.

171 lbs.—Mitch Wittman placed second. Coach Stroh noted he just keeps getting better every week. He was pinned by Jesse Callahan of Hitchcock County in 2:59, then pinned Jared Hensen of Wray in 3:26.

189 lbs.—Casey Sage won his first match ever and finished second in the tourney. He was pinned in 2:27 by Kyle Christofferson of Sidney and pinned Curt Lewin of Chadron in 1:48.