

## Six Dragons place; four headed to state

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

---

Four Dragons made it to regional wrestling championship matches last weekend, resulting in two champs and two runners-up.

All four will head to the Colorado State Wrestling Championships Feb. 17-19 at the Pepsi Center in Denver.

Skyler Dittmer at 135 lbs. and Broc Pelle at 171 claimed regional champion honors, while Mark Edmonds (125) and Parker Redfern (160) placed second to earn berths in the state tourney brackets.

Regional action was held Feb. 11-12 at NJC in Sterling.



**State qualifying HHS wrestlers and their coaches are pictured from left, front row, qualifiers Skyler Dittmer, Broc Pelle, Parker Redfern and Mark Edmonds; and back row, coaches Dusty McConnell and Jack Garrison. —Enterprise photo**

## **Six Dragons place; four headed to state**

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

---

Astolfo Rojo (189 lbs.) and Jesus Hermosillo (215) were one place short of qualifying for state, but can be proud of a strong finish to their seasons.

Hermosillo had not wrestled the fourth-place finisher in the tourney and was allowed to challenge Luke Davis of Fleming for the trip to state. Davis retained his tourney berth with a 5-0 win over the Dragon wrestler in the challenge match.

“We had a great tournament,” said coach Jack Garrison, noting the boys were right where they needed to be. While it would have been nice to have a couple more team members headed to state, Garrison is well-pleased with the team members’ accomplishments.

Akron won the team trophy at regionals, followed by Yuma, while Holyoke placed fifth.

### **Individual match results**

Individual match results from last weekend’s regional tournament follow:

125 lbs.—Mark Edmonds placed second. He pinned Tryston Keefe of Wiggins in 2:35, pinned Levi Hottinger of Akron in 1:19 and lost a 4-7 decision in the championship to Alex Klopp of Yuma.

“Mark had a heck of a good tournament,” said Garrison. It was a disappointing finish, however, for the returning state champion.

## Six Dragons place; four headed to state

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

---

Klopp and Edmonds were tied 4-4 going into the final period of the championship match. Edmonds will clearly be looking to avenge that loss, and hopes to meet Klopp again in the state championship.

135 lbs.—Skyler Dittmer placed first. He pinned Khy Rigel of Fleming in 5:35 and won a 16-11 decision over Matt Seifert of Yuma in the championship.

“Skyler has lots of guts and just keeps coming at you,” said coach Garrison, praising the Dragon senior’s wrestling.

Dittmer trailed 2-6 after one period of action in Saturday’s championship. He quickly turned that into a 7-6 lead in the second, but when the period ended he was down by three, 8-11.

Dittmer tied the score at 11-11 in the third period and never looked back, putting Seifert on his back as the match ended in a 16-11 victory.



**Dragon Skyler Dittmer has Fleming’s Khy Rigel on his back in the 135-lb. semifinal match of Saturday’s regional wrestling tournament at NJC in Sterling. Dittmer pinned Rigel in the third period and went**

## Six Dragons place; four headed to state

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

---

on to win the regional championship. —Enterprise photo

160 lbs.—Parker Redfern placed second. He won a 6-2 decision over Travis Groves of Wiggins, upset #1 regional seed Roland Valadez of Lyons with a pin in 1:28 and lost an 8-12 decision to Kale Hubert of Akron in the finals.

Garrison was full of praise for Redfern, citing his effort to come back and beat the #1 seed after having been out of competition since before Christmas. Not only was it a win, but a pin in the first period.

“He has good skills and wrestled very smart,” said Garrison.

Redfern led 3-2 at the end of the first period of his championship match, but trailed 3-5 heading into the final two minutes.

Fighting hard, he tied it at 5-all, then fell behind, then tied it again at 7-7, but Akron’s Hubert took it from there to claim the 12-8 win.



## Six Dragons place; four headed to state

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

---

**Broc Pelle puts Yuma's Tyler Korf on his back in second-period action of the 171-lb. regional championship Saturday. The quick move was whistled off the mat, but Pelle maintained the lead throughout the match and led 4-2 at the final buzzer.□□**

**—Enterprise photo**

171 lbs.—Broc Pelle placed first. He pinned Ryan Rhea of Akron in 1:28, pinned Justin Stone of Fleming in 1:14 and won a 4-2 decision in the championship over Tyler Korf of Yuma, who was seeded first in the regional tourney.

“If I had to give a tough-man award, it would go to Broc,” said coach Garrison. He added Pelle is so coachable. “He’s like a sponge—he absorbs everything you tell him.”

After winning first-period pins in his first two matches, Pelle wrestled tough in the final bout.

Neither Korf not Pelle scored in the first period, but Pelle held a 3-0 lead heading into the third stanza.

Korf put two on the scoreboard before Pelle added another two to claim the 4-2 victory and a regional championship.

189 lbs.—Astolfo Rojo placed fifth. He was pinned in 1:36 by Jacob Linnebur of Byers, who placed fourth; pinned Tyler Horalek of Fleming in 4:48; lost a 0-17 tech fall to Levi Campfield of Wray who placed third; and pinned Marcos Rod-riguez of Lyons in :37.

# Six Dragons place; four headed to state

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

---

