



Jarek Gozdieski WF 160-lbs
Aaron Feliz Parsippany



Cougar Brian McGovern
Turner Haddad GL 132-lbs

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Velez, Murray Win Region 3 Mat Crowns; Fuller 2nd; Barber, DiGiovanni, Cappello 3rd

(HP) in the preliminaries. Gozdieski and ElKhoury lost their respective quarterfinal wrestlebacks.

Raider Tom Cunningham lost his 132-lb preliminary, 11-5, to Bob Dinger (Msx), and Zecca (HP) pinned Raider Jeff Lieblich in 2:44 at 138-lbs. At 145-lbs, Cougar Andrew Tompkins came so close to recording a takedown just before the buzzer in regulation but ended up losing a 3-1 overtime heartbreaker to Neo-Joe Lughas (PI). At 220-lbs, Barringer's Victor Rivera pinned Cougar Mike Pastor in 5:14.

"Freshman, sophomore, junior! I was proud of how all 11 kids who came into this tournament wrestled, especially for the younger guys. It's going to be great for them next year. As far

as I know, DiGiovanni is only the second freshman ever in Cranford wrestling history to qualify for states. DiGiovanni, Niko! Those two guys wrestled back. A lot of times, they can fall into a tank, but they kept their heads up and earned their spot. And Gavin keeps going up. He lives for the big stuff. The next thing is the biggest," Cougar Head Coach Pat Gorman said.

"This has been a good tournament for our entire team. From yesterday on, this was about mental toughness. Everybody is beat up. We needed to suck it up and they battled. Even the losses, I thought Jarek [Gozdieski] and Frega wrestled all out on the mat. If one person believed in John Fuller in this gym, it was the right person. It was John Fuller. As the tournament went on, you could see his confidence growing. Velez and Barber both fought through some adversity. Velez

didn't look like himself in the quarterfinals. We were worried if we would see Nick Velez at his best, and we got the answer. He beat two awesome kids. That's

been a year in the works. Barber had a tough semifinal. If you watch the consolations, they lose that next round if they are not able to gain that mental compo-

sure to wrestle back. Matt wrestled out of it and earned his trip to Atlantic City," Blue Devil Head Coach Glen Kurz said.

CHAMPIONSHIP BOUTS:

- 145: — Dan Reed (D) d Jazikoff (SoP) 9-7
- 152: — Velez (W) d Sikel (SoP) 3-2
- 160: — Anthony Bassolino (HP) d Brian Matthews (RP) 3-2
- 170: — Josef Johnson (D) p Vince Mattia (WP) 5:58
- 182: — Balboni (Br) md Woods (RP) 18-4
- 195: — Jeff Velez (Br) md D'Uva (Par Hills) 16-6
- 220: — Steve Hill (Par Hills) d Donovan Martone (Mad) 9-5
- Hwt: — Nick LaShell (HP) Anthony Carbajal (WH) 7-3
- 106: — Ty Agaisse (D) won injury default over Nick Ferro (SHP)
- 113: — Ramo (HP) d Fuller (W), 7-3
- 120: — Nick Ferro (D) d Anthony Cefalo (HP), 5-4 UTB
- 126: — Christian Innarella (D) md Tyler Gazaway (New Prov), 12-1
- 132: — Megaldo (WH) p Christian Bassolino (HP), 5:33
- 138: — Murray (C) d Murray (WH) 3-0



Mike Ridge SPF 182-lbs
Collin Lynch So Pl

Probitas Verus Honos