



**By Alan Carman**

### ***The Imperial Republican***

Despite being the smallest school at the tournament, Chase County improved on last year's finish taking eighth place out of 10 teams at Saturday's Holdrege wrestling tournament.

Head Coach Matt Vlasin said he was pleased with the outcome of his team and saw improvement over last week.

"It's tough when you go against teams like Lexington who have 44 kids out," he said. Our eight wrestlers showed great intensity and finished every match whether they were winning or not."

Jeremiah Lueth brought home the gold in the 140 pound weight class. After winning his first two matches by decision, Lueth faced a very determined Keldon Osterman of McCook.

Lueth was able to use Osterman's aggressiveness against him by timing a throw when Osterman shot in on him. Lueth threw him straight to his back and into a pin.

The Longhorns also brought home a pair of second place medals and a third.

Keithan Cochran had a bye to start the tourney followed by a pin over Cody Rhodes of York. In the finals Cochran faced Jesus Gauna of McCook.

Coach Vlasin saw a few small mistakes in the match which allowed Gauna to score. In the third period Cochran got Gauna down but was unable to get him turned, losing the decision 6-3 for a second place finish.

Nathan Hinojosa brought home the other second place finish. After starting with a bye, Hinojosa pinned Joey Nunez of Lincoln North Star with just two seconds left in the second period.

In the finals, he faced undefeated Jake Griess of Grand Island Northwest. In the second period, the much taller Griess was able to use his leverage when Hinojosa got a little out of position and get the takedown which led to a pin.

Chase County's Trevor Fuehrer brought home a third place medal. He moved down to the 171 pound weight class after seeing action at 189 last week.

Fuehrer also started the day with a bye, then lost his next match, getting pinned in 1:27 of the first period. That seemed to light a fire in Fuehrer who came back very strong with two pins over Jake McCormick of Broken Bow and Jared Sanford of Minden to take third place.

Michael May faced a little bad luck when they had nine wrestlers in the 130 pound weight class. Since there are only eight spots in the bracket, tournament officials drew names to see who would face off in the bunny bracket. May and Kyle Groshong of McCook were drawn. May lost the match which knocked him out of the tournament.

Misael Garcia, Steven Way and Andrei Rodriguez also participated at the meet. Coach Vlasin noted they are all showing improvement but just need to get over the hump to get a little more confidence.

"They just need to work on finishing shots," Vlasin said.

Today (Thursday), the junior varsity wrestlers will travel to McCook for a 3 p.m. MT tournament. Coach Vlasin planned on taking three wrestlers to this meet to gain some experience.

On Saturday, the varsity will travel to Sidney for a 9 a.m. tournament, finishing out the 2009 portion of the season.



Here are results from Holdrege:

112 Keithan Cochran bye, pinned Cody Rhodes (York) in 1:46, lost decision to Jesus Gauna (McC) for second place.

119 Misael Garcia pinned by Nate Morgan (McC) 3:01, pinned by Mitchell Larkin (York) 2:07.

130 Michael May lost in bunny bracket to Kyle Groshong (McC).

140 Jeremiah Lueth decision over Trevor Birdzell (LNS) 9-0, decision over Dallen Johnston (Hol) 4-3, pinned Keldon Osterman (McC) 3:31 for first place.

152 Steven Way pinned by Jack Raffety (Min) 1:54, bye, pinned by Davon Brown (LNS) 3:47.

160 Andrei Rodriguez tech fall to Jeremiah Starostka (GICC) 19-3, pinned by Lucas Burch (Lex) 4:20.

171 Trevor Fuehrer bye, pinned by Justin Rochrich (GINW) 1:27, pinned Jake McCormick (BB) 4:53, pinned Jared Sanford (Min) 2:47 for third place.

285 Nathan Hinojosa bye, pinned Joey Nunez (LNS) 3:58, pinned by Jake Griess (GINW) 2:17 for second place.