

By Alan Carman

The Imperial Republican

The Chase County wrestlers were down to just five at Saturday's Broken Bow Invitational. Coach Matt Vlasin is hoping that number will be up to seven by the Holdrege tournament this Saturday.

Vlasin noted that his wrestlers just couldn't get things going at the Broken Bow meet. Michael May looked very good in his first match of the day, but ran into some very stiff competition from there.

After pinning Josh Puncochar of Grand Island Central Catholic in his first match, May ran up against last year's state champ, Tristan Bethenhausen from West Point/Beemer. Bethenhausen pinned May in 2:45 in the second round and then went on to win the tournament by pinning Ryan Malesek of Central City in 3:34.

May dropped to the consolation bracket where he met the eventual third place finisher, Derek Goodwin of Holdrege. Goodwin pinned May in 1:02 of the second period to end his day.

The rest of the wrestlers struggled on the day, unable to find a victory. Coach Vlasin said there were a lot of good things he saw from his wrestlers, but they need to work on their ability to finish off a match.

Broken Bow results

126 Hunter Dillan pinned by Austen Eisenhauer, WPB 4:32, pinned by Noah Grayek, OVN 2:31.

132 David Almanza pinned by Adam Keating, KC 1:38, pinned by Justin Eisenhauer, WPB 5:32.

145 Michael May pinned Josh Puncochar, GICC 2:28, pinned by Tristan Bethenhausen, WPB 2:45, pinned by Derek Goodwin, HOL 2:02.

152 Khristofer Kuhlmann pinned by Dusty Staab, ORD 1:15, bye, pinned by John Jahnika, WPB 1:47.

285 Luis Rodriguez pinned by Zach Zeleski, OVN 1:43, pinned by Blaine Paup, CC 1:49.

Team scoring—Central City 161, Madison 154, West Point/Beemer 129.5, Ord 104, Holdrege 92, Perkins County 59, Kearney Catholic 53, Grand Island Central Catholic 52, Overton 37, Broken Bow 32, St. Paul 24, Chase County 4.

Next action for the Longhorns will be the Holdrege tournament on Saturday. Varsity wrestling will start at 11 a.m. MT.