By Alan Carman
The Imperial Republican

In the first action of the 2013 portion of the wrestling season, Chase County had a daunting task. Try to pick up a win at a meet where all teams compete in dual format against one another.

Although Chase County had only five wrestlers in action, they were able to prevail in the final dual of the day.

Placing fifth in the round robin pool of five placed Chase County against the fifth place Kimball wrestlers out of the other pool. Kimball only fielded four wrestlers for the tourney and lost one earlier in the day to injury.

However, this did not keep them from putting up a valiant effort in the final dual of the day, losing to the Chase County Longhorns by just one point, 17-18.

Kearney took top honors with a perfect 5-0 record on the day defeating North Platte High in the final dual of the day 43-15.

Michael May had the best day for the Chase County Longhorns, finishing with a 4-1 record for the day. May was able to move down a weight from his previous meets to the 138 pound division.

Jake Lueth followed at 145 with a 3-2 record on the day. Lueth came very close to a one loss day. In his match against Jacob Thompson of Hershey, Lueth led 9-6 with under 30 seconds remaining. Thompson was able to secure a takedown straight to Lueth's back which gave Thompson five points and the 9-11 decision.

David Almanza finished the day at 2-3 in the 132 pound class and Khris Kuhlmann finished 1-4 at 152 pounds.

Freshmen Caleb Bubak and Hunter Dillan both finished with an 0-5 record in the 113 and 126 pound divisions. Dillan had one of his best matches against Garrett Tinsley of Mitchell.

Dillan led after the first per-iod 5-2 and was dominating in the second period when he went for a mctwister and slipped off into a pin for Tinsley with just seven seconds left in the period.

Dual results:

Round 1: Mitchell 74-Chase County 12
Round 2: Hershey 51-Chase County 18.
Round 3: Valentine 71-Chase County 12.
Round 4: North Platte 82- Chase County 0.
Round 5: Chase County 18- Kimball 17.

Individual results:

113 Caleb Bubak pinned by Zachariah Sanabria (Mit) .50, pinned by Ryan Weatherly (Her) .56, tech-falled by Cameron Perrett (Val) 18-2, pinned by Jonah Navarette (NP) .25, pinned by Rowdy Keller (Kim).
126 Hunter Dillan pinned by Garrett Tinsley (Mit) 3:40, pinned by Chayton Crow (Her) 4:29, pinned by Jacob Hand (Val) 1:14, pinned by Colton Thompson (NP) .47, tech-falled by Justin Mohr (Kim).
132 David Almanza pinned by Cody Mueller (Mit) 3:40, won by forfeit (Her), pinned by Jacob Hand (Val) 1:14, pinned by Dylan Peterson (NP) 1:07, won by forfeit (Kim).
138 Michael May won by forfeit (Mit), pinned Joey Sheets (Her) 1:44, pinned Nate O'Kief (Val) 1:36, decisioned by Paul Kraye (NP) 6-7, won by forfeit (Kim).
145 Jake Lueth pinned Marquis Droddy (Mit) .28, decisioned by Jacob Thompson (Her) 9-11, pinned Jake O'Kief (Val) 5:11, pinned by Austin Matthews (NP) 2:50, won by forfeit (Kim).
152 Khris Kuhlmann pinned by Colton Snyder (Mit) 1:45, won by forfeit (Her), pinned by Tristan Eklund (Val) 2:56, pinned by Shawn Roblee (NP) 1:22, pinned by Jonathan Withrow (Kim).

Next action for the Longhorns will be the home tournament Saturday at the Longhorn gym. Wrestling will begin at 9 a.m. M.T. The format of the tournament has been changed from previous years in that there will be no junior varsity wrestling.

The varsity tournament will be a 16-man bracket instead of the 8-man bracket used in the past. Last year's champions, Chadron, withdrew from the tournament but they have been replaced by Gering.