

(125) led the way for the Eagles winning the silver medal, while his fellow captains, Christian Hernandez (160) and Connor Lynch (119), placed third and fourth respectively. For the first time, sophomore Sam Mason (135) earned the bronze with an outstanding performance, and Cameron Fontenot (103) continued to improve upon a strong freshman season with a fourth place finish as well. I owe a debt of gratitude to all the parents, students, and alumni support that went into putting on this first rate event.

1/4 -5 Friday/Saturday Cy-Fair Inv. Berry Center 5:00

Once again, the last men standing in this fierce competition were the triumvirate of Connor Lynch (119), Matt Bench (125), and Christian Hernandez (160). Connor finished seventh in a 32 man bracket, while Bench dropped down a weight class to be more competitive and finished fourth. Christian fell to the same foe from Brazoswood in the semis, but wrestled back courageously to win the bronze with a close victory over his consolation finals opponent from Morton Ranch.

12/22 Saturday Bryan Inv. Bryan 8:00

The wrestling captains, Connor Lynch (119), Matt Bench (130), and Christian Hernandez (160), each placed in the tough “Doc Hess” Wrestling Invitational in Bryan, Texas. After a tough start early in the season, Connor regained some of his confidence by defeating two TAPPS opponents to place third in this competition. Matt started to wrestle to his potential with a fourth place finish. Finally, Christian continued to lead the team with his second place performance.

12/14-15 Friday/Saturday Mayde Creek Inv. Mayde Creek 5:00

Three wrestlers battled to top finishes this past weekend at Mayde Creek. Matthew Fote (145) won his first tournament in decisive fashion proving his mettle and highlighting his burgeoning talent. Meanwhile, Matt Bench (130) began to demonstrate his prowess on the mat garnering the bronze, and Michael Mahoney (180) earned his second medal of the year with a standout performance.

12/ 7-8 Friday/Saturday Woodlands Inv. TWHS 5:00

In the first day of the competition, the Eagle wrestlers performed admirably with seven out of ten boys still in the competition. Sam Mason (135), Cameron Fontenot (103), and Christian Hernandez (160) all advanced to the championship quarterfinals. Unfortunately, after the smoke cleared on Saturday only Christian was left standing when his teammates fell one-by-one to the stiff competition at the tournament. The senior captain managed to win the bronze in a very tough bracket that featured outstanding talent from El Paso, Dallas, Louisiana, and the Houston area.

12/6 Thursday Strake/Episcopal Episcopal 5:00

At Episcopal HS, the Eagles won some key matches in both duals but failed to carry the day as a team. Sam Mason (135) started to show his potential as he turned in a dominant performance against his opponent from Episcopal, while Christian Hernandez (180) wrestled up and still won with poise and grace. Connor Lynch (119), Matt Bench (130), Michael Mahoney (180), and Christian Hernandez (171) battled to victory in action against Strake.

12/4 Tuesday Klein Oak/Cy-Wood Klein Oak. 5:00

The junior varsity squad took on 5A powerhouses Klein Oak and Cy-Woods. The result may have seemed rather lopsided, but the only way our boys will get better is by seeing the best competition. This is one of the cardinal rules of wrestling: you will only get better if you face the best. Coach Hanus spoke in glowing terms about our boys' intensity and perseverance in the face of staunch opposition.

11/30-12/1 Friday/Saturday Churchill Inv. S.A. Churchill 5:00

The wrestling team traveled to San Antonio to compete in the annual Churchill Charger Classic. Michael Mahoney (180) steamrolled through the competition to earn a berth in the finals where he placed second, earning his first hardware as a varsity wrestler. Senior Christian Hernandez (171) garnered the bronze, and Connor Lynch (119) and Cameron Fontenot (103) both placed fourth. With each match our boys are gaining invaluable mat experience and more confidence in their moves and technique. We did not win as many

matches as we might have hoped for, but the experience will pay dividends at TAPPS competition in February.

11/28 Wednesday Cy-Fair Cy-Fair 5:00

The Eagle wrestlers ran into a buzz saw at the Cy-Fair dual tonight. Our boys really took a good thumping from the more experienced 5A public school squad, but they kept their heads up and did not quit wrestling on the mat. Experiences like this can be frustrating; however, they provide some of the best opportunities for our boys to see what quality competition looks like and to learn how they need to drill in the room if they hope to be competitive at the higher echelons of wrestling in the Houston area. Paul Pratt (215) and Andy Fontenot (130) recorded wins in this tough dual.

11/13 Tuesday SJS & Episcopal St. John's 5:00

The wrestling team traveled to St. John's school to begin its quest for a TAPPS title. The Eagle grapplers marked the occasion with a 52-36 victory over St. John's School in front of their home crowd. Leading the way were Connor Lynch (119), Michael Saccone (125), Andy Fontenot (135), Matthew Fote (152), Tyler Tribble (160), Christian Hernandez (171), and Cameron Fontenot (103) who all recorded pins over their adversaries. In the action against Episcopal, St. Thomas lost the dual with a lackluster performance, but Connor Lynch and Christian Hernandez earned individual victories