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Three individual champions for Dutch at wrestling opener

STEVENS POINT, WIS. — Three bracket champions in the upper half of the lineup highlighted the opening weekend of action for the Central College wrestling team at the Pointer Open Saturday.

The Dutch were victorious at 165, 184 and 285 pounds in a tournament that had no team scores.

“Overall, it was a really good start to the season,” coach Eric Van Kley said. “Having three champions is a good thing to see.”

In his first collegiate competition at the highest weight class, **Duncan Lee (junior, Newton)** went 4-0 at 285 pounds. He had two first-period falls on the day.

“I think he showed some promise,” Van Kley said. “He wrestled smart and adjusted well to the higher weight class.”

The preseason No. 9 wrestler in the country at 165 pounds, **Jeremy Vester (senior, Oak Harbor, Wash.)** won a trio of close matches for his first tournament title of the season and fifth of his career.

“He had an outstanding day,” Van Kley said. “He had hard-fought matches in the semifinals and finals that were won in the third set. At the same time, there are things he needs to get better at.”

At 184 pounds, **Griffen McBride (junior, Pleasantville)** and **Lane Rumelhart (senior, Guthrie Center)** shared the title after each went 2-0 and advanced to the finals.

“To have Lane and Griffen as co-champs is a good thing,” Van Kley said. “We thought 184 was a weight class we could be good at. Those two make each other better every day.”

At 149 pounds, Central took two of the top-three spots as **Rob Areyano (freshman, Selma, Calif.)** was second, **Jordan Challen (senior, Jefferson, Greene County HS)** was third. It was a similar story at 174 pounds where **Chance Benadum**

...County HS) was similar to his a similar story at 177 pounds where **Chance Benham** (sophomore, Dos Palos, Calif.) was the runner-up and **Jeremy Scheuermann** (senior, Jefferson, Greene County HS) took bronze.

“We showed a lot of depth across the board,” Van Kley said.

Central will travel to Decatur, Illinois for the Millikin Open next Saturday.

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