

BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING

Fick secures state diving gold

Seven earn all-state honors as Ponies place sixth in team standings

BY STUART GROSCKREUTZ  
THE GAZETTE

MINNEAPOLIS — Sitting on a narrow lead after the semifinals, Stillwater’s Josiah Fick finished the job with three strong dives to extend his lead while winning the individual state championship at the Class AA boys’ swimming and diving state meet on Saturday, March 2 at the Jean K. Freeman Aquatic Center on the University of Minnesota campus.

Fick posted a winning total of 389.35 to outlast Sam Wallace (371.00) of Bloomington Jefferson and Tyler Barrett (366.40) of St. Michael-Albertville.

“It feels amazing,” Fick said. “It’s been a goal of mine since I started diving in eighth grade, and here we are.”

The junior provided the biggest

highlight for the Ponies, who were kept busy with state finalists in 9 of 12 events. Stillwater racked up 131 points to place sixth overall in the team standings.

Edina captured the state team championship with 268 points, followed by runner-up Chanhasen/Chaska (205) and third-place Wayzata (176).

Stillwater also received all-state performances from Will Whittington in the 200 and 500 freestyle events, Johann Noer, Zach Auleciems, Brodie Watson and Joseph Saldin in the 200 medley relay, and Aidan Bloomquist, Auleciems, Saldin and Whittington in the 200 freestyle relay.

Fick ranked third after five dives during the preliminaries, but moved into the lead after the semifinals with a score of 276.95, just ahead of Barrett (269.05), Wallace (263.40) and

Farmington’s Seth Krause (262.45).

Even while not feeling well, Fick received scores in the low 30s on his first and third dives of the final round, but also landed a 52.0 on his second dive to solidify his position at the top.

“I was really happy to see him perform,” Ponies coach Brian Luke said. “That’s a lot of pressure, and he was ill. He ran a 102.9 fever in prelims and 101.9 in the finals. I thought that was pretty good. It just shows his determination. If you’ve got that much determination, you’re going to have to bet on him to get the job done.”

He became the third diver in the Stillwater boys’ program to win a state championship, joining a list that includes Steve Hamerski (1986) and John Schmidt (2001 and 2002).

See Swimming, Page B2



Stillwater junior Josiah Fick stands alone atop the medal stand after collecting his gold medal in diving during the Class AA boys’ swimming and diving state meet on Saturday, March 2 at the Jean K. Freeman Aquatic Center in Minneapolis. (Gazette staff photo by Stuart Grosckreutz)

WRESTLING

Ponies raise the bar at state



Stillwater’s Reid Ballantyne has his hand raised in victory after the sophomore captures his third consecutive individual state wrestling championship on Saturday, March 2 at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. Ballantyne needed just 29 seconds to pin his opponent in the finals to cap a memorable state tournament for the Ponies, who finished with four state place winners and placed second in the state team tournament. Below, Anthony Tuttle battles Connor Raines of Shakopee in the 160-pound match during the state team finals. (Gazette/ECM photos by Mike Shaughnessy, above, and Stuart Grosckreutz, below)

Ballantyne overcomes injuries to win third consecutive state title

BY STUART GROSCKREUTZ  
THE GAZETTE

ST. PAUL — It was a painful, but successful, state wrestling tournament for Stillwater’s Reid Ballantyne, who ripped through the 126-pound weight class to win his third consecutive Class AAA individual state championship on Saturday, March 2 at the Xcel Energy Center.

The sophomore also captured state titles at 106 pounds in 2017 and again at 120 pounds a year ago, making him Stillwater’s first-ever three-time state champion in the sport.

See Ballantyne, Page B4



Stillwater’s remarkable run ends with loss to top-seeded Shakopee in the state finals

BY STUART GROSCKREUTZ  
THE GAZETTE

ST. PAUL — Unheralded and unranked coming into the season, the Stillwater wrestling team capped a historic season for the program while climbing all the way to second place in the Class AAA state meet on Thursday, Feb. 28 at the Xcel Energy Center.

After posting victories over East Ridge and St. Michael-Albertville, the second-seeded Ponies carried a 25-match winning streak into the finals before falling to top-seeded Shakopee 35-22. It was the only blemish in a memorable campaign for Stillwater (25-1).

See Team, Page B4



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GIRLS BASKETBALL

# Stillwater turns back pesky Royals to advance

BY STUART GROSKREUTZ  
THE GAZETTE

HASTINGS — Unlike a year ago when a cold-shooting game ended its season, the Stillwater girls’ basketball team survived the latest scare and advanced with a 70-63 victory over Woodbury in the semifinals of the Section 4AAAA tournament on Saturday, March 2 at Hastings High School.

It was the 20th victory in a row for the top-seeded Ponies (25-2), who were scheduled to face third-seeded White Bear Lake in the section championship game at Hastings on Thursday, March 7. This marks Stillwater’s first appearances in the section finals since the 1999-00 season.

The Bears advanced with a 49-39 semifinal victory over No. 2 seed Cretin-Derham Hall.

Stillwater defeated the Royals by 16 and 29 points during the

regular season and appeared in control after jumping out to a 10-1 lead that was extended to 34-20 at halftime.

Woodbury (10-17) started strong in the second half and pulled within 44-42 with nine minutes remaining.

The Ponies never really found the range, but outscored Woodbury 29-9 at the free throw line. It was a stark contrast from the quarterfinals when Stillwater 10 different players made at least one 3-pointer in a lop-sided victory over North St. Paul.

Sara Scalia was a perfect 7 for 7 from three-point range in that game, but misfired on all 10 threes attempted against Woodbury, though she still led the Ponies with 18 points.

“We had the same looks we’ve been knocking down, but when



Pratt

we hit 21 threes against North St. Paul I think we used them all up,” Ponies coach Willie Taylor said. “I would be shocked if we shoot poorly like that two games in a row.”

Woodbury’s Carley West led all scorers with 20 points and drew the defensive assignment of guarding Scalia, a University of Minnesota recruit.

“She has played her best games against us,” Taylor said of West. “Sara has faced good defenders this year and she’s made tough shots, but this game they just weren’t going in.”

Solape Amuson scored 15 points, but she was one of four Royals to foul out when she departed with 2:15 remaining. Woodbury was still very much in the game while trailing 62-60 with 1:30 remaining, but the Po-

nies finished the game with an 8-3 run.

“I’m just happy we won,” Taylor said. “Games like that is why teams lose. Those are the upsets you start hearing about.”

Alexis Pratt contributed 17 points for the Ponies and her defense is one of the things that pulled Stillwater through, despite getting outrebounded 46-38. Grace Cote and Amber Scalia added 11 points apiece for the Ponies.

“What ended up winning the game for us was the defense played by Alexis Pratt,” Taylor said. “I just can’t imagine there’s another guard in the state that impacts the game like she does. Amber also made some key plays for us.”

Liza Karlen finished with a team-high eight rebounds for Stillwater, which shot just 15.8 percent (3-19) on 3-pointers and 38.1 percent (16-42) inside the

arc. The Ponies hit 29 of 41 free throws (70.7 percent), compared to just 50 percent (9-18) for the Royals.

“I think Woodbury’s coach (Megan Kirchenwitz) is a very good coach and her players were ready to play and they played well,” Taylor said. “Woodbury has lost more games than they’ve won, but they’ve had a lot of close games against good teams.”

Woodbury	20	43	—	63
Stillwater	34	36	—	70

**Woodbury (pts):** Clarice Lebow 3, Carley West 20, Alexandrya Paulson 3, Lizzy Dodge 8, Calie Mundahl 6, Katie Vaske 7, Megan Hurley 1 and Solape Amusan 15.

**Stillwater:** Alexis Pratt 17, Allison Benning 1, Sara Scalia 18, Amber Scalia 11, Tori Chute 2, Mary Fultz 1, Delaney Wagner 3, Grace Cote 11 and Liza Karlen 6.

**3-pointers:** Wo (6-14): Paulson, Vaske, Amuson, Mundahl 2 and Lebow; St (3-19): Pratt 2 and Cote.

**Free throws:** Wo, 9-18; St, 29-41.

## SWIMMING

(Continued from page B1)

In addition to Schmidt and Fick, diving coach Carrie Madline has also coached Maggie Keefer (2008 and 2009) and Liz Click (2014) to girls’ state championships.

“She’s always had a diver at the state meet and she gets all these all-conference divers,” Luke said. “It’s one thing when every year we keep having successful divers, it says you’re doing something right. She’s been a great boon to what we’re doing.”

Fick’s illness impacted his practices all week, including his session on the day before finals.

“Yesterday’s practice warm-up was very hard,” Fick said. “I was not able to do much. It’s feeling a little tough, but after the win I’m very excited.”

“He just dove a few times,” Luke added. “If you have a head cold and fever, anything in your head, when you dive into the water the pressure increases. It’s like somebody hitting you in the head with a sledgehammer. I think after he went through a few dives he went, that’s enough of that.”

It has been a steady progression for Fick, competing in his fourth state meet. He started diving in eighth grade and took to the sport quickly, qualifying for state each year.

“It came to me pretty easily,” Fick said. “I had done like acrobatic, backyard trampoline stuff, but that was about it.”

After placing 30th and



Stillwater’s Brodie Watson competes in the 200 individual medley during the Class AA boys’ swimming and diving state meet on Saturday, March 2 at the Jean K. Freeman Aquatic Center in Minneapolis. Below, junior diver Josiah Fick performs his final dive on the way to a winning total of 389.35. (Gazette/ECM photos by Stuart Groskreutz, above, and Mark Trockman, below)

25th in eighth and ninth grade and failing to advance to the semifinals, Fick climbed all the way to ninth a year ago.

“The first two years I was just excited to be there and have a great experience,” Fick said. “I wasn’t expecting to do amazing, I was hoping for it. Last year I got ninth place, which was very exciting.”

Another year of improvement and the graduation of each of the top six finishers at state a year ago led to the most challenging push of all to the top of the podium.

The performance capped an unbeaten season for Fick.

“He’s just so powerful,” Luke said. “He can tip the board, and he’s not a very big kid. When he tips it it’s being done by strength and he gets so high. What he does is so above what the average person does.”

In the wake of his biggest victory to date, Fick reflected on a brief conversation with Luke in January.

“Coach Luke pulled me aside at the beginning of practice and said, ‘do you believe that you can win state?’” Fick recalled. “I said, yes I do. He said ‘good, because I do, too.’”

“It felt a little far out, but I knew I had what it took. That fueled me for sure and got me very excited.”

Fick had plenty of company at state as the Ponies featured entries in 11 of 12 events going into the state meet and ended with finalists in nine events.

Will Whittington earned all-state honors for the second year in a row while placing third in the 500 freestyle and fourth in the 200 freestyle.

The sophomore touched the wall in 1:41.06 to finish

less than four seconds behind winner Andrew Gray (1:37.68) of Edina in the 200.

In the 500 free, Whittington (4:36.05) finished behind seniors Sean Dwyer (4:32.00) of Prior Lake and Timothy Rizzo (4:34.29) of Woodbury.

“It was pretty good,” Whittington said. “I think my 500 was pretty good. I’m definitely excited for next year. I’m hopefully winning that next year. Pretty glad with the times tonight and next year is pretty hopeful.”

Whittington ranks second on Stillwater’s all-time list in both events.

“He was a little under the weather, too, but that’s the way it goes,” Luke said. “He did really well all year and he’s a great swimmer and fun to watch. He’s a great workout swimmer, too. He’s one of the hardest workers I’ve seen, and powerful. When he puts his hand in the water, off he goes.”

Whittington and Rizzo have raced each other countless times and posted the two fastest times in the prelims, with Rizzo less than half a second ahead of Whittington. Dwyer was seeded third in the finals, within a second of Rizzo’s time.

“It’s great racing off Tim,” Whittington said. “I’ve been racing him for years now and we’ve been going with some pretty constant times back and forth and it’s been really



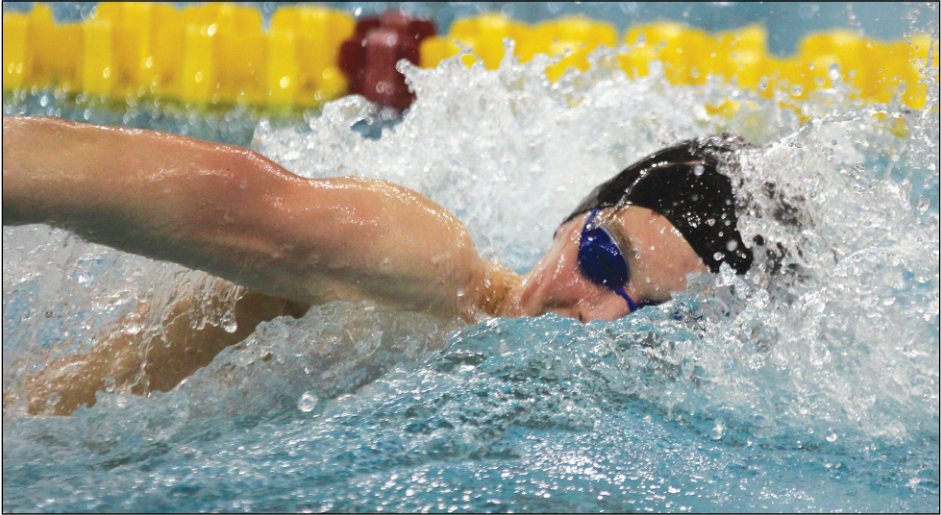
great pacing off him. I race him winter and summer and I just really gun for him year after year.”

Whittington suffered a wrist injury a few weeks before sections — an injury sustained during one of the season’s several snow days.

“I was playing hockey with Josiah Fick and I just

lightly fell and I fractured the distal radius in my wrist,” Whittington said. “I spent a whole week with it and it was pretty painful. I went to the doctor and they said you have a fracture you’re out for two weeks — and in two weeks it was sections. Coach

See Swimming, Page B3



Stillwater’s Will Whittington swims to a fourth-place finish in the 200 freestyle. (Gazette staff photo by Stuart Groskreutz)

### Grace Cote Girls basketball

A reliable, but often overlooked, contributor for the conference champion Stillwater girls’ basketball team, Grace Cote scored 11 points to help the Ponies turn back Woodbury 70-63 in the Section 4AAAA semifinals.

The 5-foot-11 junior, who averages 6.4 points per game, has been remarkably accurate from the outside this season while draining 35 of 73 three-point attempts (47.9 percent). She is also shooting better than 50 percent (22 of 43) on two-point field goals for the Ponies (25-2), who carried a 20-game winning streak into the section finals on March 7.



## SAHS Athletes of the Week

### Reid Ballantyne Wrestling

After missing a portion of the season because of injury, Reid Ballantyne returned in time to give the conference and section champion Stillwater wrestling team a big boost down the stretch.

The sophomore won three matches while helping the Ponies cap a 25-1 season with a runner-up showing in the Class AAA state team tournament and also won four straight matches to win his third consecutive individual state championship. Wrestling at 126 pounds, Ballantyne became Stillwater’s first-ever three-time state champion in the sport.



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## LOCAL SCHEDULE

**Friday, March 8**  
Nothing scheduled

**Saturday, March 9**  
Nothing scheduled

**Sunday, March 10**  
Nothing scheduled

**Monday, March 11**  
Nothing scheduled

**Tuesday, March 12**  
Nothing scheduled

**Wednesday, March 13**  
**Girls basketball** — State quarterfinals at Williams Arena, TBA

**Thursday, March 14**  
**Girls basketball** — State tournament, TBA

**Friday, March 15**  
Nothing scheduled

**Saturday, March 16**  
**Girls basketball** — State tournament, TBA

**Sunday, March 17**  
Nothing scheduled

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## BOYS BASKETBALL

# C-DH pulls away from Ponies

BY STUART GROSKREUTZ  
THE GAZETTE

ST. PAUL — Stillwater drew a tough assignment for the Section 4AAAA boys' basketball quarterfinals and was unable to keep pace in the second half while falling to second-seeded Cretin-Derham Hall 75-60 on Wednesday, March 6.

The Ponies (12-15) closed out the first half on a 6-0 run to pull within 34-30 at the break, but Cretin-Derham Hall outscored the Ponies 41-30 in the second half.

The Raiders (21-6) also defeated Stillwater in the section quarterfinals on the way to their first-ever state championship a year ago.

Cretin-Derham Hall turned up the pressure in the second half, contributing to 22 turnovers for the Ponies.

"They started pressing us and we didn't handle it very well," Ponies coach Brady Hannigan said.

Ben Recksiedler led Stillwater with 18 points and Nate Shikenjanski added 14 points.

"I was proud of our guys," Hannigan said. "They're just too good of a team and we didn't execute a few things."

Curtis Jones paced the Raiders with 19 points and Tre Holloman added 18 points. They combined for 25 of Cretin Derham Hall's 41

points in the second half, many in transition after turnovers.

"We never quit, which is a good thing," Hannigan said. "Our guys did a good job with that."

It was been a turnaround season for the Ponies, who won just four games a year ago and seven combined the previous two seasons.

"I thought this year we had a talented group of seniors who bought into what we were doing," Hannigan said. "It was their third year in our program and these guys have put in three years of hard work. They earned every win they got this year."

The Raiders advance to play third-seeded Tartan in the first of two semifinals at Hastings on Saturday, March 9. Top-seeded East Ridge will face fifth-seeded St. Paul Central in the other semifinal.

<b>Stillwater</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Cretin-Derham Hall</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>75</b>

**Stillwater (pts):** Nate Shikenjanski 14, Aaron Parker 3, Cody Branch 5, Ben Recksiedler 18, Ben Smalley 9, Holton King 5 and Trenton Attwood 6.

**Cretin-Derham Hall:** Amari Carter 11, Jaeden King 7, Curtis Jones 19, Tre Holloman 18, Ben Gallaher 3, Al Flemming 2, Josiah Remus-Ford 13 and Will Burke 2.

### Stillwater 56, Woodbury 43

At Oak Park Heights, needing a win to snap a four-game losing streak and likely avoid getting the

No. 8 seed for the Section 4AAAA tourney, the Ponies outscored Woodbury 25-12 in the second half of a 56-43 Suburban East Conference victory on Friday, March 1 at Stillwater Area High School.

The teams were tied 31-all at halftime, but the Ponies prevented Woodbury from scoring for nearly the first 13 minutes of the second half while building a 47-31 lead.

It was a great way to celebrate Senior Night, Ponies coach Brady Hannigan suggested.

"It was a very good win and it was nice for those guys to win on Senior Night, which we haven't done the past two years," the coach said. "Those guys deserved every bit of that win."

Stillwater's Trenton Attwood led all scorers with 23 points while Ben Recksiedler added 12 and Nate Shikenjanski chipped in with 10.

The Ponies scored the first 16 points of the second half, until Mac Lockner scored on a lay-up with 5:10 remaining in the game.

<b>Woodbury</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Stillwater</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>56</b>

**Woodbury (pts):** McK Robertson 5, Devin Padelford 2, Bradley Cimperman 12, Blake Rohrer 8, Parker McMorrow 4, Mac Lockner 6, Rodney Erickson 4 and Joe Frommelt 2.

**Stillwater:** Nate Shikenjanski 10, Aaron Parker 2, Ben Recksiedler 12, Ben Smalley 9 and Trenton Attwood 23.

## ST. CROIX PREP

# Lions come up short against second-seeded Concordia Academy in section semifinals

## THE GAZETTE

The St. Croix Preparatory Academy girls' basketball team was stopped by No. 2 seed Concordia Academy 65-31 in the semifinals of the Section 4AA tournament on Tuesday, March 5 at Concordia Academy.

Jade Fisher led the Lions with 13 points while Annika White and Emma Ylonen added seven points apiece.

The Lions (14-15), who were the No. 6 seed, routed Trinity 53-13 in the opening round on Feb. 28 before upending third-seeded Minneapolis Edison 56-37 on March 2 in the quarterfinals. Fisher poured in a team-high 22 points and Ylonen added 12 in the victory over Edison.

Fisher also supplied 19 points and White contributed 14 in the victory over Trinity at SCPA. The Lions jumped out to a 33-1 lead at halftime.

### SCPA boys top Hill-Murray for third win in a row

The SCPA boys closed out the regular season with a 97-84 nonconference triumph over Hill-Murray on Friday, March 1. It was the third straight victory for the Lions.

Addison Metcalf totaled 23 points to lead the Lions, who featured six players with 12 or more points. Other top scorers for SCPA included: Nolan Grubisch (16), Andrew Howard (14), Jayton Metcalf (14), Daniel McCarrell (12) and Barrett Benson (12).

The Lions (20-6), who ended the season ranked No. 8 in Class AA, received the No. 2 seed and will host an opponent to be determined in the Section 4AA quarterfinals on Saturday, March 9. If SCPA advances, it would also host a semifinal game on Tuesday, March 12.

Top-seeded Minnehaha Academy (23-2) is seeded No. 1 in Section 4AA. The section finals are set for March 15 at St. Paul Washington Technology.



Johann Noer competes for the Ponies at state in the 100 backstroke, where he placed 13th. Below, Zach Auleciems wins the consolation heat in the finals to place ninth in the 100 breaststroke. (Gazette staff photos by Stuart Groskreutz)

## SWIMMING

(Continued from page B2)

Luke said go see a specialist and get a MRI on it and so we got an MRI and they said 'you're fine, you can keep swimming. Here's your brace.'

"After I got my brace on it was starting to heal and it felt good."

Whittington also anchored Stillwater's fifth-place 200 freestyle relay team that included Aidan Bloomquist, Zach Auleciems and Joseph Saldin. The Ponies finished in a time of 1:26.63, which was about half a second faster than their time in prelims.

Bloomquist, Brodie Watson and Holden Hammerlund also joined Whittington to place 12th in the 400 freestyle relay with a time of 3:13.23.

"The 400 free relay wasn't bad, but we just missed out (on the championship finals)," Luke said. "We had to get a little faster than section finals, but just recreated it to just miss. At that level, three- or four-tenths of a second is a big thing."

Stillwater opened the finals with an eighth-place finish in the 200 medley relay as Noer, Zach Auleciems, Watson and Saldin finished in 1:36.92.

Bloomquist (1:56.43) and Watson (1:41.46) finished 11th and 16th in the 200 individual medley.

Noer placed 13th in the 100 backstroke with a time of 53.59 while Zach Auleciems won the consolation heat to place ninth in the 100 breastroke in 58.14. His younger brother, Grant Auleciems, ranked 21st in the breastroke with a time of 1:00.43

after the prelims the previous night.

The breastroke was a fast event this year, with champion Hayden Zheng of St. Louis Park setting an all-time state record and each of the top five finishers in the finals earning Automatic All-American or All-American Consideration times.

"You had go 57 to get in top heat," Luke said. "That's moving along."

Zach Auleciems also finished 18th in the 50 freestyle with a time of 22.09 and Watson placed 22nd in the 100 butterfly (52.92).

It was another banner season for the Ponies, who won their fifth straight Suburban East Conference championship and eighth consecutive Section 4AA title. Stillwater also placed fourth at True Team state.

"It was great year," Luke said.

"I think it was a great season," Whittington added. "I'm really happy winning the conference and winning section and I'm really excited for next year, too. We could have a better team next year."

Zach Auleciems and Noer were the only seniors among Stillwater's participants at the MSHSL state meet.

"I thought we did pretty decent," Luke said. "A couple spots, we got ninth in breast and 400 free relay. That was kind of unfortunate, but other than that I think we got in the right heat and did a good job in the finals. I wouldn't say it was a perfect meet, but a very good meet."

### Team standings (top 10)

1. Edina 268; 2. Chanhassen-Chaska 205; 3. Wayzata 176; 4.



Eden Prairie 175; 5. Minnetonka 153; 6. Stillwater 131; 7. tie, Rochester Century 100 and Lakeville North 100; 9. Eagan 98.5; 10. Rochester Mayo 98.

### Individual results

**200 medley relay** — 1. Wayzata, 1:30.03; 8. Stillwater (Johann Noer, Zach Auleciems, Brodie Watson and Joseph Saldin) 1:37.00. Prelims: 8. Stillwater, 1:36.92.

**200 freestyle** — 1. Andrew Gray (Edina) 1:37.68; 4. Will Whittington (St) 1:41.06. Prelims: 4. Whittington, 1:41.46.

**200 individual medley** — 1. Hayden Zheng (St. Louis Park) 1:48.25; 11. Aidan Bloomquist (St) 1:56.43; 16. Brodie Watson (St) 1:59.16. Prelims: 11. Bloomquist, 1:56.13; 14. Watson, 1:57.48.

**50 freestyle** — 1. Peter Larson (Ed) 20.06. Prelims: 18. Zach Auleciems (St) 22.09.

**Diving** — 1. Josiah Fick (St) 389.35. Semifinals: 1. Fick, 276.95. Prelims: 3. Fick, 180.30.

**100 butterfly** — 1. Andrew Trepanier (Lakeville North) 48.49. Prelims: 22. Brodie Watson (St) 52.92.

**100 freestyle** — 1. Peter Larson (Ed) 43.77.

**500 freestyle** — 1. Sean Dwyer (Prior Lake) 4:32.00; 3. Will Whittington (St) 4:36.05. Prelims: 2. Whittington, 4:35.63.

**200 freestyle relay** — 1. Edina, 1:23.67; 5. Stillwater (Aidan Bloomquist, Zach Auleciems, Joseph Saldin and Will Whittington) 1:26.63. Prelims: 5. Stillwater, 1:27.04.

**100 backstroke** — 1. Casey Stowe (Wayzata) 48.45; 13. Johann Noer (St) 53.59. Prelims: 16. Noer, 53.82.

**100 breastroke** — \*1. Hayden Zheng (St. Louis Park) 53.86; 9. Zach Auleciems (St) 58.14. Prelims: 9. Zach Auleciems, 58.13; 21. Grant Auleciems (St) 1:00.43.

**400 freestyle relay** — 1. Edina, 3:01.76; 12. Stillwater (Aidan Bloomquist, Brodie Watson, Holden Hammerlund and Will Whittington) 3:13.23. Prelims: 9. Stillwater,

3:12.12.

\* All-time state record

Contact Stuart Groskreutz at [stuart.groskreutz@ecm-inc.com](mailto:stuart.groskreutz@ecm-inc.com)

# 10 years ago this week ...

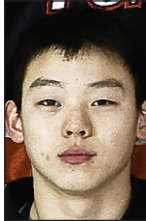
**Boys hockey** — Two decades after the program's last trip to the section championship game, the Stillwater boys' hockey team falls to Hill-Murray 5-4 in double overtime in the Section 4AA finals at the State Fairgrounds Coliseum. Zach Heacox scored at 14:44 of the third period as the Ponies pushed the Pioneers to overtime. Tristan Pennella finishes with 36 saves for the Ponies.

**Girls basketball** — Sisters Taylor and Morgan Stippel combine for 24 points and 26 rebounds to help propel Stillwater to a 53-46 victory over Tartan in the Section 4AAAA quarterfinals.

**Wrestling** — After losing to eventual state champion Apple Valley in the quarterfinals, the Stillwater wrestling team is eliminated after a 37-28 loss to St. Cloud Apollo in the consolation semifinals. Devin Nelson (119 pounds), Cody Madsen (125), Logan Wier (130), Anders Rippe (140), Jack Baglio (145), Tom Powers (160) and J.C. O'Keefe (171) notch victories for the Ponies. In individual competition, Madsen finishes 3-2 to place fourth at 125 pounds.

**Boys swimming and diving** — Five of Stillwater's entries qualify for the finals in the boys' swimming and diving state meet, including Daved Najarian (16th in 50 free and 13th in 100 free), Dan Hennes (14th in diving), Max Hollerbach (16th in 100 breastroke) and 200 freestyle relay team of Sam Magilke, Najarian, Joe Jezorski and Brady Mahoney (15th).

*This is a look back at some of the people and teams making news in the St. Croix Valley 10 years ago, as reported in the Stillwater Gazette.*



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# BALLANTYNE

(Continued from page B1)

“I’m pretty happy,” Ballantyne said.

After reaching the finals, Ballantyne (32-2) did not waste any time. He pinned Ryan Scherber (39-7) of Buffalo in just 29 seconds.

“I felt that if I got his arm I could hit the move and he gave it to me so it worked out,” Ballantyne said. “I was pretty surprised that he wasn’t more prepared for it.”

“Reid told us what he was going to do,” Ponies coach Tim Hartung added. “I just told him there’s no reason to go six. You’re beaten and battered, let’s finish this thing. I don’t think I could have predicted it that fast.

“As much adversity and stuff he’s dealt with, there aren’t many guys who are going to tell you what they’re going to do and go out and do that, but he’s confident enough to say it and follow up. He just came off the mat and said I told you I was going to do that.”

It wasn’t the only highlight of the tournament for the Ponies, who produced four individual place winners just two days after finishing second in the state team tournament. The 10 individual state qualifiers and four place winners are each the most in the program’s history.

Kieler Carlson placed third for the Ponies at 132 pounds and Trey Kruse finished fourth for the second year in a row, this time at 138 pounds. Josh Piechowski battled back after a loss in the semifinals to finish fifth at 182 pounds.

After winning 5 of 10 first-round matches, the Ponies combined to go 4-1 in the quarterfinals — followed by just one victory from Ballantyne in the semifinals. Stillwater was strong in the medal round, however, while winning three out of those four matches to close out the tourney.

“It’s a roller coaster ride, but to really finish off a magical season in the history of the program, we’re proud of the guys for how they competed and the product they put on the mat,” Hartung said.

The second half of the season was an adventurous one for Ballantyne, who missed a month with an ankle injury before returning just in time for the section team tournament. He tore the meniscus in one of his knees during the team tourney and had surgery two days after that. He was not allowed to do much of anything the following week, but returned to win the individual section title with two pins and a major decision.

If that wasn’t enough, he also sprained his ankle in the semifinals of the state team tournament.

After prevailing in all three of matches during the team competition, Ballantyne pinned Seth Nebel (42-9) of Edina in the first period of their match and followed with a 4-0 victory over Martin Stewart (25-9) of Apple Valley for a strong start in the individual tourney.



Stillwater’s Reid Ballantyne works to pin Ryan Scherber of Buffalo in the Class AAA individual state finals at 126 pounds on Saturday, March 2 at the Xcel Center in St. Paul. (Gazette/ECM photo by Mike Shaughnessy)

“He just has another level when he needs it,” Hartung said. “He has a way where it goes into the back of his mind and he competes at a super high level. It’s like he shuts it off.”

Ballantyne, who said he was wrestling “at 70 to 75 percent” cruised into the finals with an 11-0 major decision over Bryce Dager (34-9) of Eden Prairie.

“I just think I had to overcome physical pain, but it’s more mental just believing in myself and knowing I can win even with the injuries I was facing,” Ballantyne said.

Ballantyne was also dealing with a sprained finger and elbow injury sustained in the semifinals on the way to winning his second state title a year ago.

“I’d say this one was harder just because I had to wrestle with injuries longer,” Ballantyne said. “That, and I think legs and ankles and knees are harder to maneuver around because you need your legs for pretty much every thing.”

Ballantyne has lost just three matches in as many seasons, including an injury default in early January at the Cambridge-Isanti quadrangular.

He said the physical pain is easier to stomach than the feeling after losing a match.

“I’d way rather deal with physical pain than losing a match,” Ballantyne said. “I hate losing. It’s worth it to me to deal with some pain and win.”

The only two losses in his career have come in the Rochester Christmas Tournament against Totino-Grace’s Jake Svihel (57-0), who won this year’s Class AA individual state title at 126 pounds.

“Obviously I was mad, but I wasn’t really upset with myself or anybody,” Ballantyne said. “He beat me straight up. I tried my best and gave it my best and gave it everything I had. He beat me and I just had to work harder and get better.”

There have only been five wrestlers to capture five individual state championships and one six-time state champion (Mark Hall of Apple Valley) in Minnesota. Ballantyne wants to add his name to that exclusive list of five-time state champs.

“I want to win the Christmas tournament,” Ballantyne said. “I’ve lost two years in a row and want to win that the next two years. I obviously want to win two more state titles and go undefeated the next two years. I think I can accomplish that.”

Kieler Carlson made the most of his first trip to the state tournament while climbing all the way to third place and finishing the season with a 46-10 record.

The junior opened with a 14-2 major decision over Max Johnson (34-18) of Maple Grove and followed with an 11-8 triumph over Connor Higgins (21-9) of Rochester John Marshall in the quarterfinals.

Carlson was stopped by eventual runner-up Adam Mickelson (36-8) of Apple Valley in the semifinals, but bounced back with two victories. He held off Cole Becker (43-9) of St. Michael-Albertville 9-8 in the third-place match.

“Kieler was an interesting story, because as coaches we recognized his talent this year,” Hartung said. “He had a goal to place and we were telling him all year that’s not high enough. We said you cannot settle for sixth place. The way he was wrestling and competing, after he got to the semis you could see he was like I can do this.”

Trey Kruse advanced to the semifinals — in what was considered one of the tougher weight classes — with a technical fall in the opening round and then a 6-4 victory over Gavin Peterson (46-7) of Maple Grove. Eventual champion Sebas Swiggum (53-2) of Apple Valley slipped past Kruse 3-2 in the semifinals before also winning by the same margin in the finals.

Kruse (43-7) followed with a 7-0 victory over Owatonna’s Landen Johnson (42-11) in his next match before falling to Hunter Lyden (52-4) of East Ridge 6-2 in the match for third place.

“Trey did lose a couple matches, but every one was by the hair of your chin,” Hartung said. “He competed hard.”

Josh Piechowski (43-10) recorded a major decision in the first round and followed with a 9-4 victory over Bruce Muehl-

hauser (33-12) of Anoka in the quarterfinals. Cade King (43-5) of Owatonna stopped Piechowski 13-2 in the semifinals and the Stillwater junior also fell short in a 7-0 loss to Grant Litke (45-4) of Little Falls.

Piechowski finished strong, however, with a 15-0 technical fall over Kaden Streed (28-13) of Willmar in the fifth-place match.

“Those were tough weight classes for Trey and Piechowski,” Hartung said.

Competing at state for the second year in a row, Javon Taschuk (41-9) pinned his first opponent in the 120-pound weight class before falling to eventual runner-up Ben Lunn (43-4) of Shakopee 4-2 in overtime.

Taschuk advanced in the wrestlebacks with a 4-2 win over Colton Pool (30-10) of Elk River, but was eliminated by Cole West (38-6) of Woodbury 3-2 in the next round to finish 2-2 in the tournament.

Stillwater’s Anthony Tuttle was pinned by runner-up Brock Rinehart (47-4) of Woodbury in the first round at 160 pounds, but he advanced in wrestlebacks with an 8-2 win over Demetrius Patton (38-9) of Hopkins. Tuttle was eliminated in the next round by Tyler Raway (32-15) of Forest Lake, falling by a score of 7-3.

Also competing for the Ponies were Ben Colagiovanni (29-17) at 113 pounds, Jeffrey Robinson (27-14) at 145 pounds, Hudson Day (20-13) at 170 pounds and will Gleason (32-11) at 195 pounds.

Robinson and Day were the only two who did not get an opportunity to continue in wrestlebacks.

The versatile Robinson, who wrestled at four different weight classes this season, lost to Scott Springer (47-7) of Anoka 11-2 in the first round.

Gleason lost to undefeated Calvin Sund (39-0) by technical fall in the first round before getting edged 6-5 by Joey Johnson (37-8) of Shakopee in the wrestlebacks. After defeating Gleason, Sund pinned each of his next three opponents on the way to the title.

## Notebook

It was Stillwater graduate and two-time individual state alpine skiing champion Andrea Saterbak who helped keep Reid Ballantyne’s state title hopes alive. Saterbak, an orthopedic surgeon for Twin Cities Orthopedics met on a Sunday morning to check out Ballantyne’s knee after he injured it in the section team tournament.

“She stepped in and got the surgery to happen really fast,” Ballantyne said. “I’m really thankful for that. I think that kind of saved everything.”

“Every hour is precious on such a short week, so she said let’s schedule for later today,” Hartung added. “She looked at the MRI and said we’re not taking a big risk here, this is something we should do and give him a chance to get back out there. That was like 9 a.m., and they had him on the table at 1 p.m.

“She just said this is what I do and what I love is to help athletes chasing dreams getting back on the field. She was just all in on it.”

- With Ballantyne’s third championship, Stillwater wrestlers have now captured a total of 10 individual state titles. The other state champions include: Jack McPherson (1966 and 1968), Mark Miller (1977), Ray Wilhelm (1994), Mike Law (1995) and Dustin Dahlblom (2002 and 2003).

- The 10 state qualifiers is the most ever for the Ponies. The previous high was eight wrestlers in 2013 and 2017. Stillwater also exceeded its previous high with four state place winners. The Ponies previously landed three state place winners in 1999 (Karl Knothe 4th, Andrew Pertz 4th and Nate Greenberg 6th) and 2017 (Reid Ballantyne 1st, James Huntley 4th and Connor Weiss 4th).

### Stillwater results

**113 — Ben Colagiovanni (0-2, DNP):** lost to Brandon Psyk (St. Michael-Albertville) 7-0; lost to Patrick Lockwood (Minneapolis Washburn) 8-4.

**120 — Javon Taschuk (2-2, DNP):** pinned Sam Wolff (Chaska/Chanhasen) 1:46; lost to Ben Lunn (Shakopee) SV-1 4-2; dec. Colton Pool (Elk River) 4-2; lost to Cole West (Woodbury) 3-2.

**126 — Reid Ballantyne (4-0, 1st place):** pinned Seth Nebel (Edina) 1:47; dec. Martin Stewart (Apple Valley) 4-0; major dec. Bryce Dager (Eden Prairie) 11-0; pinned Ryan Scherber (Buffalo) :29.

**132 — Kieler Carlson (4-1, 3rd place):** major dec. Max Johnson (Maple Grove) 14-2; dec. Connor Higgins (Rochester John Marshall) 11-8; lost to Adam Mickelson (Apple Valley) 7-2; dec. Azi Rankins (Eden Prairie) 5-3; dec. Cole Becker (St. Michael-Albertville) 9-8.

**138 — Trey Kruse (3-2, 4th place):** tech fall Andrew Wick (Eagan) 15-0; dec. Gavin Peterson (Maple Grove) 6-4; lost to Sebas Swiggum (Apple Valley) 3-2; dec. Landon Johnson (Owatonna) 7-0; lost to Hunter Lyden (East Ridge) 6-2.

**145 — Jeffrey Robinson (0-1, DNP):** lost by major dec. to Scott Springer (Anoka) 11-2.

**160 — Anthony Tuttle (1-2, DNP):** pinned by Brock Rinehart (Woodbury) 2:38; dec. Demetrius Patton (Hopkins) 8-2; lost to Tyler Raway (Forest Lake) 7-3.

**170 — Hudson Day (0-1, DNP):** pinned by Jimmy Brown (Cambridge-Isanti) 1:08.

**182 — Josh Piechowski (3-2, 5th place):** major dec. Kaden Streed (Willmar) 9-0; dec. Bruce Muehlhauser (Anoka) 9-4; lost by major dec. to Cade King (Owatonna) 13-2; lost to Grant Litke (Little Falls) 7-0; tech fall Kaden Streed (Willmar) 15-0.

**195 — Will Gleason (0-2, DNP):** lost by tech fall to Calvin Sund (Prior Lake) 18-3; lost to Joey Johnson (Shakopee) 6-5.



Stillwater fans erupt as Trey Kruse’s hand is raised after winning his match at 145 pounds in the Class AAA state finals against Shakopee on Thursday, Feb. 28 at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. (Gazette staff photo by Stuart Groskreutz)

# TEAM

(Continued from page B1)

“It was a good accomplishment for our season,” said Stillwater junior Trey Kruse. “It was not our ultimate goal but still a good season overall.”

Shakopee, which finished second at state a year ago and did not lose to a Minnesota team this season, was considered a strong favorite after breezing into the finals with a 48-15 win over Northfield and 40-24 triumph over Bemidji.

The Sabers (40-3) jumped out to an 13-0 lead with victories in the first three matches, but Stillwater came charging back with five straight wins to surge in front 19-13.

Shakopee stopped the momentum with a hard-fought victory at 160 pounds and finished off its first-ever state title with wins in five of the last six matches.

“We wouldn’t have done anything different,” Ponies coach Tim Hartung said. “We didn’t make the wrong decisions or any-

thing like that. They were a little more talented than us at a couple of weight classes and that’s really what it comes down to. We just didn’t quite have enough. We had a great season.

“On paper we knew that the match-ups that we had in front of us were going to be tough ones,” Hartung said. “We held in there in a lot of them. We were pretty much thinking we were going to need the last three weight classes and thought it was possible. We didn’t think they were as tough up there as they wrestled tonight.”

It was a gutsy effort from Reid Ballantyne, who won his third straight individual state championship two days later, at 126 pounds that helped sparked Stillwater’s resurgence after falling behind early.

An injured Ballantyne was leading, but in a battle with Shakopee’s Tyler Jones before catching him with a pin at 4:47. The normally reserved sophomore fired up the crowd and his teammates with a hobbled sprint off the mat and high-fives all around.

“He’s banged up, but he’s a warrior,” Hartung said. “I’m so proud of that kid. He’s trying to chase down his third title and he just said I’m here for the team first. He was half-mast out there, but when he sees an opening he pounces like a shark smelling blood in there.

“I’m super proud of him, as I am with all our guys. Just up and down the lineup, we couldn’t ask for much more from our guys. In the end we didn’t have enough power and that’s not on anybody.”

Stillwater’s Kieler Carlson followed with a major decision over John Kroll and Jeffrey Robinson was in control throughout his 4-0 victory over Sam Tremi at 138 pounds to even the team score at 13-all.

Trey Kruse followed with a 4-0 decision over Brandon Kidd at 145 pounds and Will Harter, one of five seniors in the Stillwater’s lineup, added a hard-fought 4-3 victory over DJ Smith at 152 pounds to give the Ponies a 19-13 lead.



# TEAM

(Continued from page B4)

In one of the tightest matches of the dual, Shakopee's Connor Raines scored a takedown with just 15 seconds remaining in a 6-4 win over freshman Anthony Tuttle at 160 pounds. Carson Manville followed with a quick pin against Hudson Day at 170 pounds as the Sabers moved back in front 22-19.

Shakopee extended the lead with Jack Casey's major decision over Porter Estenson at 182 pounds, but Josh Piechowski answered for the Ponies with a 6-5 win over Ben Reiland at 195 pounds.

The Sabers sealed the victory as Joey Johnson outlasted Will Gleason 2-0 in their match at 220 pounds. With the match decided, Tommy Johnson pinned Collin McCarthy in the finale at heavyweight.

"We didn't give it to them. They took it and they deserve it so good job for Shakopee," Hartung said. "We'll be back."

Even with several returning regulars who contributed to section titles the previous two years, and the addition of some key newcomers, a state runner-up finish might have seemed like a stretch coming into the season.

"We knew we had a solid lineup," Hartung said. "You're coming into a season where you get Harter back after a year off, you get Kieler Carlson in, you get Tuttle in, we didn't have those guys last year.

"Our backups that had been in all year long because of injuries did their job. For us to be undefeated coming into this tournament with how many injuries we've had this year was just a true testament to all of our guys buying into the plan and just giving everything every time they stepped on the mat. Guys just filled in and it was amazing."

As Stillwater continued racking up victories on the way to an undefeated run through the Suburban East Conference, which sent three teams to state, the Ponies also found it necessary to update their expectations.

"At the start of the season our goals were pretty much make it to state and try to place top six,"

Kruse said. "Then we sort of realized what we had and literally changed our goal on the wall to be team state champions.

"We just work hard every day, put in work and get better. From the start of the season I thought it was a big surprise to get where we ended up this year, but from the middle of the season not as much of a surprise."

The team also received a nice boost of confidence while knocking off perennial state power Apple Valley in the finals of a tournament at Cretin-Derham Hall on Feb. 2.

"Every goal we set besides win team state, we accomplished," Ballantyne said. "I'm really happy. I think we kind of came out of nowhere and shocked everyone. We belonged there and we all trained really hard this year. I don't think it was any type of miracle, we deserved it. Losing sucks, but we got beat and it happens. Everybody was pretty happy with second place."

Stillwater's path to the finals was not an easy one, but the Ponies won three of the last four matches in a 29-20 semifinal victory over defending state champion St. Michael-Albertville.

The Ponies fell behind 10-0 early, but took control with six straight victories from 120 through 152 pounds — including major decisions from Kruse and Harter in the 145- and 152-pound weight classes.

The third-seeded Knights (22-6), who defeated Bemidji 38-24 to capture third place, responded with victories at 160 and 170 pounds to climb within 20-17 with four matches remaining.

Day won in overtime for the Ponies at 182 pounds while Piechowski and Gleason sealed the victory with decisions at 195 and 220 pounds.

"On paper it really played out the way it was supposed to," Hartung said. "We knew they were going to get ahead because of our mismatches early. We come storming back and they were going to get a few more in the middle — tough matches though. Our kids fight and they're fighting hard which is all you can ask. We knew we had a little more horsepower at the end and that's exactly how that match went. It was a good dual. It was fun, down to the wire."



Stillwater's Kieler Carlson throws John Kroll of Shakopee to the mat during their match at 132 pounds in the finals of the Class AAA state wrestling team tournament on Thursday, Feb. 28 at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. (Gazette staff photo by Stuart Groskreutz)

In the quarterfinals against East Ridge (19-13), the Ponies won 9 of 14 matches to advance with a 42-17 triumph.

Ballantyne, Carlson, Piechowski and Gleason each recorded pins for the Ponies, who also received a technical fall from Day.

The Ponies previously defeated East Ridge 51-18 in their conference opener on Dec. 6.

## Notebook

This year marked the first time a Section 4AAA team has won a quarterfinal match at the state tournament since Mounds View did on the way to a fourth-place finish in 2007.

With it's victory in the quarterfinals, Stillwater ended a run of 12 straight losses by the Section 4AAA teams in any match at state. Including consolation rounds, the section representative had gone 0-12 since 2013.

• Stillwater's Reid Ballantyne and Will Harter were each named to the 14-member Class AAA All-Tournament Team.

• Before this season, the Ponies had won just one match in six trips to the state team tournament. Stillwater finished 1-2 to place fourth in 1997. The program's other state tourney appearances came in 1996, 2004, 2009, 2017 and 2018.

• Stillwater's Tim Hartung was named the Section 4AAA Head Coach of the Year and Rich Keller was chosen the section's Assistant Coach of the Year by the Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association.

### Shakopee 35, Stillwater 22

**106** — Pierson Manville (Sh) pinned Dylan Dauffenbach, :49; **113** — Paxton Creese (Sh) major dec. Ben Colagiovanni, 20-7; **120** — Ben Lunn (Sh) dec. Javon Taschuk, 4-0; **126** — Reid Ballantyne (St) pinned Tyler Jones, 4:47; **132** — Kieler Carlson (St) major dec. John Kroll, 14-4; **138** — Jeffrey Robinson (St) dec. Sam

## Ponies miss one of their biggest supporters

One of Stillwater's biggest fans did not see the conclusion to a memorable season. Lorraine Keller, whose five boys all wrestled for the Ponies, passed away on Feb. 3 at the age of 95. The mother of long-time Ponies coach Rich Keller, his final conversation with her revolved around Stillwater's memorable victory over Apple Valley the previous day.

"She just said, 'oh my God, I can't believe it,'" Rich said.

The Ponies also paid tribute to Lorraine during their final regular season dual, which had to be rescheduled and moved to Woodbury — and was also the day of Lorraine's funeral.

The rocking chair that Lorraine sat in during home meets was placed adjacent to the mat and, after shaking hands with their opponent, the Stillwater wrestlers placed flowers on the chair.

"I wasn't there, but it was touching what the kids did," Rich said. "The outpouring from the entire wrestling community for mom and my family — which is about 75 of us when we all got together — between the flowers and cards and just outpouring of sympathy, I just couldn't have been more grateful."

Even when she wasn't able to get to as many matches as she was used to, Lorraine was eager for updates on the team.

"She enjoyed hearing about how all those little stinkers, those little buggers, as she called them, did," Rich said.

— Stuart Groskreutz



L. Keller



Stillwater's Javon Taschuk locks up with Ben Lunn of Shakopee during their match in the state team finals at 120 pounds.

Tremi, 4-0; **145** — Trey Kruse (St) dec. Brandon Kidd, 4-0; **152** — Will Harter (St) dec. DJ Smith, 4-3; **160** — Connor Raines (Sh) dec. Anthony Tuttle, 6-4; **170** — Carson Manville (Sh) pinned Hudson Day, :38; **182** — Jack Casey (Sh) major dec. Porter Estenson, 15-6; **195** — Josh Piechowski (St) dec. Ben Reiland, 6-5; **220** — Joey Johnson (Sh) dec. Will Gleason, 2-0; **285** — Tommy Johnson (Sh) pinned Collin McCarthy, 3:44.

### Stillwater 29, St. Michael-Albertville 20

**106** — Jimmy Heil (STMA) pinned Dylan Dauffenbach, :25; **113** — Brandon Psyk (STMA) major dec. Ben Colagiovanni, 10-2; **120** — Javon Taschuk (St) dec. Kaden Amundson, 5-0; **126** — Reid Ballantyne (St) dec. Isaiah Misna, 4-0; **132** — Kieler Carlson (St) dec. Cole Becker, 7-4; **138** — Jeffrey Robinson (St) dec. Dylan Hanson, 6-5; **145** — Trey Kruse (St) major dec. Owen Vike, 11-1; **152** — Will Harter (St) major dec. Hayden LeMonds, 12-0; **160** — Wyatt Lidbeg (STMA) dec. Anthony Tuttle, 7-5; **170** — Jonah Hayes (STMA) major dec. Porter Estenson, 12-3; **182** — Hudson Day (St) SV-1 over Fletcher Nesbit, 5-1; **195** — Josh

Piechowski (St) dec. Carl Leuer, 10-4; **220** — Will Gleason (St) dec. Harrison Wright, 4-2; **285** — T.J. Duerr (STMA) UTB over Collin McCarthy, 5-4.

### Stillwater 42, East Ridge 17

**106** — Matt Hogue (ER) tech fall Dylan Dauffenbach, 20-5; **113** — Ben Colagiovanni (St) dec. Johnny LaCore 12-8; **120** — Javon Taschuk (St) major dec. Vincent Mueller, 13-2; **126** — Reid Ballantyne (St) pinned Will Hones, 1:07; **132** — Kieler Carlson (St) pinned Vito Massa, 1:15; **138** — Ryder Rogotzke (ER) dec. Jeffrey Robinson, 9-8; **145** — Hunter Lyden (ER) dec. Trey Kruse, 6-4; **152** — Will Harter (St) dec. Royce Hogue, 8-2; **160** — Anthony Tuttle (St) dec. Roman Rogotzke, 9-2; **170** — Ethan Pittman (ER) dec. Porter Estenson, 7-3; **182** — Hudson Day (St) tech fall Nick Olson, 17-1; **195** — Josh Piechowski (St) pinned Guy Brufloft, :41; **220** — Will Gleason (St) pinned Jack Mohler, 1:34; **285** — Marco Cavallaro (ER) dec. Collin McCarthy, 7-1.

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