

4 Dragons in the Big Show

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

Four Dragons from Holyoke High School will be making the big trip to the Colorado State Wrestling mats as a result of their efforts at the Feb. 11-12 regional tournament held at NJC in Sterling.

The Pepsi Center in Denver will again host the Colorado State Wrestling Championships Feb. 17-19.

Skyler Dittmer and Broc Pelle, at 135 lbs. and 171 lbs. respectively, enter the state tournament as regional champions.

Mark Edmonds at 125 lbs. is a returning state champion and goes in as regional runner-up, hoping to avenge his regional loss. Parker Redfern at 160 lbs. also claimed regional runner-up honors to head to the state tournament.

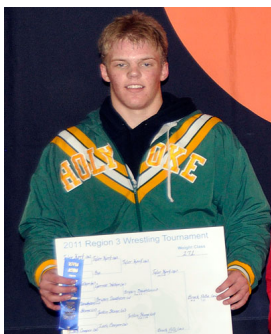
“We hope to put all four on the podium,” said coach Jack Garrison.



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135-lb. champ Skyler Dittmer gets a hug from his sister Peyton.
—Enterprise photo



(Below) 171-lb. champion Broc Pelle takes the stand to accept his first-place award. □□□□□□□□ —Enterprise photo

Edmonds, a junior, finished third at 103 lbs. as a freshman and won the 112-lb. championship last year.

His regional opponent in the championship, Alex Klopp of Yuma, has the #1 seed in the state tourney bracket. Coach Garrison said he hopes there will be a rematch in the state finals.

Senior Skyler Dittmer is making his third trip to the state mats. He finished third at 130 lbs. two years ago and fourth at 130 last year, Dittmer enters the 135-lb. bracket as this year's #1 seed.

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Pelle, a junior, won one match on the state mats at 140 lbs. two years ago. He took a year off and is making a strong return as he vies for state mat honors.

HHS junior Redfern is making his first trip to the state tournament, and Garrison sees him as a tough contender, as well.



Mark Edmonds, pictured at right, works to take control of Alex Klopp of Yuma in the 125-lb. regional championship. Klopp managed a three-point win, which Edmonds hopes to avenge in the state championship this weekend in Denver. —Enterprise photo

Opening round opponents announced

State tournament brackets were released by Colorado High School Activities Association Sunday afternoon. First-round opponents for Holyoke wrestlers follow:

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Edmonds takes a 36-5 record into the tournament and will meet Robert Gonzales, a sophomore from Del Norte with a 28-13 record.

Dittmer's 32-6 season record will meet Center freshman Gustavo Nungarary (9-24).

Redfern takes an 11-4 record to state and will meet senior Chase Hill from West Grand (27-11) in the opening round.

Pelle (34-4) will face junior Berrie Archuleta of John Mall (21-18) in round one.



Parker Redfern, pictured on top, is on his way to an upset win in the semifinals when he pinned #1 tourney seed Roland Valadez of Lyons in 160-lb. competition. □
—Enterprise photo

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State tourney schedule

Thursday, Feb. 17—prelims, 3-6:15 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 18—quarterfinals, 10 a.m., followed by first-round consolations; second-round consolations, 5:45-7 p.m.; and semifinals, 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 19—third-round consolations, 11 a.m., followed by semifinal consolations; fifth-place matches, 2:30 p.m., followed by third-place matches; parade of champions and final matches, 6:30 p.m.