

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Wrestling: Towns County pays tribute to seniors at King of the Mountain

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Young Harris - Towns County Wrestling recognized its three seniors at Saturday's King of the Mountain tournament.

Austin Edrington, Matthew Ledford, Blythe Smith and their families were honored prior to the start of the championship matches during the second and final day of action at last weekend's event at the Towns County Recreation and Conference Center.

In all, 22 teams brought wrestlers to what has become the premier wrestling tournament in northeast Georgia. When the dust settled, Harris County was crowned the team champion with 198.5 points -- 31 points better than second-place West Oak, SC.

With only four wrestlers in action, Towns County finished 18th with 13 points -- two points back of 17th place St. Francis.

At 220 pounds, Ledford earned a first-round bye before making quick work of West Oak's Jacob Renzo with a 27-second pinfall. In the third round, Ledford would fall to the eventual tournament champion, Joe Swain of Murphy, NC, who pinned Ledford just shy of the 3-minute mark.

In the consolation brackets, Ledford received another tough draw when he faced the eventual third-place finisher Quinterio Hyman of Hart County. Hyman went on to pin Ledford in 1-minute, 42 seconds to eliminate Ledford just one round shy of the third-place match.

At 126 pounds, junior Garrett Oakes scored a first-round pin of Andrews, NC's Cade Vaughn. After falling to Gilmer's Gabriel Rymer in round two, Oakes bounced back with a 46-second pinfall of Union County's Damon Wallace.



L-R: Towns County Wrestling seniors Blythe Smith, Matthew Ledford and Austin Edrington were recognized alongside their families during the Senior Night ceremony that followed last weekend's King of the Mountain. Photo/Todd Forrest

Oakes was eliminated in the following round by Morgan County's Griffin McAlister via pinfall at 3:04.

Smith was in action at 160 pounds and suffered a second-round pinfall to Gilmer's Hunter Brown. In the consols, Smith fell to Savannah Christian's Lincoln Jepson by pinfall.

At 170 pounds, Edrington also dropped a second-round match to Harris County's Ryan Gilbert. He was later eliminated by Savannah Christian's Chase Beard via a 7-4 decision.



Towns County in action at KOM. This year's tournament featured a JV and a female division. Photos/Lowell Nicholson and Todd Forrest

