

Press Clippings - 2/26/2024

- Daily Herald - Girls wrestling: Perry, Gomez win 3rd straight state titles

By: Mike Garofola
February 24, 2024



Glenbard North's Gabby Gomez and Loyola's Harlee Hiller compeer in the 115-pound bout at the girls wrestling state finals at Grossinger Motor Arena in Bloomington on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024.

BLOOMINGTON — How do you improve on perfection? If you're Batavia's Sydney Perry and Glenbard North's Gaby Gomez, it's one last masterpiece performance to finish off your high school season.

The dynamic duo would each lift the state championship trophy for the third consecutive season by overwhelming their competition Saturday afternoon in Bloomington at the Grossinger Motors Area at the girls individual state tournament.

The nationally ranked two-some proved too much over the two days here, particularly Perry (41-0) who tech-falled her way to the 145-pound title.

Gomez (38-0) had a little more trouble in her final with No. 2 Harlee Hiller (Loyola Academy) before using a fourth period takedown to secure her third title, and further validate her No. 5 spot in the most recent national poll.

"There's a lot of great memories that I'll take with me. It's been a great run, and has been great seeing our program grow as it has since I came to Batavia," said Perry, No. 3 in the nation, undecided on her college destination.

Teammate Lily Enos (42-11), third at 100 pounds, would help the Bulldogs finish third overall in the race with 46.5 overall points.

Lakes won the first team title with 61.0 points, three more than runner-up Lockport with 58.

MSL rivals and league powerhouse clubs Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg would tie for fourth with 43.0 points.

Two other area wrestlers won state championships: Glenbard West senior Alycia Perez (35-0), No. 1 all season, and now the state champ at 100 pounds following her 1-0 decision over No. 3 Kameyah Young (32-4) from West Aurora.

"Alycia has been nothing short of phenomenal all season long," said Glenbard West coach Ted Glazer.

No. 2 Angelina Gochis (47-5) gave Kaneland its first girls champion when the freshman beat Huntley sophomore Janiah Slaughter, 8-2, in her 105-pound contest, using an all-action tactical approach to score early, and later to help secure her victory.

Slaughter's teammate Aubrey Rohrbacher (45-5) gave the Red Raiders their second medal on the day when the sophomore came back through wrestle-backs to earn a third-place medal.

Ayane Jasinski (Grant, 22-4) would fall short in her bid for a second straight state title in a superb 110-pound weight class that would feature the No. 1 in the nation Morgan Turner from Lockport.

Jasinski would avenge a recent regional loss to Emma Engels (**Bartlett**, 32-16), also a 2023 state champion, with a win in her wrestle-backs semifinal before going on to defeat Rilynn Younker (Litchfield) to earn a third-place medal, the third of a brilliant career.

"It was tough coming back from my loss in the quarterfinals (but) being able to win a big one against Engels was huge for me, and a great way to finish up my career here at Grant,"

said Jasinski.

Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg clubs were able to challenge all weekend long thanks in part to some magnificent work from their top wrestlers, beginning with Hoffman Estates sophomore Sophie Ball (27-1) who suffered her first loss of the season in her final with No. 1 Angelina Cassioppi (17-1) from Hononegah.

"Sophie is one tough kid. She took a lot of hard losses during the off-season, but it has made her become just an unbelievable wrestler, and one of the best around," said Hawks coach Leo Clark just after Ball lost a heartbreaker to Cassioppi, 4-3 at 120 pounds.

Schaumburg would celebrate two state medal winners: Madeleine (Hope) Zerafa-Lazarevic (38-2), second to No. 1 Netavia Wickson (Boylan, 23-2), and the now three time state medalist Valeria Rodriguez (40-3) who was fifth overall after twice taking third.

Victoria Macias (Burlington Central, 115, 36-6) is now a three-time state medal winner and her teammate Ryann Miller (36-5) claimed her first at 170 with a fifth-place finish.

Wheeling sophomore Jasmine Reno (38-2) was third at 190, fourth a year ago, while Nadii Shymkiv (Glenbard East, 105, 22-1) and Kayleigh Loo (25-2) from Downers Grove North brought home state medals at third and fourth, respectively.

The aforementioned state champions from Lakes Community watched the trio of Olivia Heft (120, 33-4), Ava Babbs (126, 32-1) and Josie Larson (190, 32-7) perform at the highest level to help the Eagles stay ahead of the competition.

"To be a part of history and win the first team title in this sport is really quite amazing. I am so proud and fortunate to have a group of girls who have helped set the way for the future for Lakes Community," said coach Devon Tortorice.

"There's no doubt that Ava is right there with the best in the state, while Olivia has overcome a variety of injuries to get herself back to a very high level."

"Josie has lost six incredibly close matches against her opponent in the state final, eventual state champion ILene Castrejon (Zion-Benton), but what a season she has had," continued Tortorice.

The final session was an exciting one, with a big crowd on hand to celebrate the fastest

growing sport in the nation, one that has seen a 55% increase in wrestlers, and clearly a group that has improved exponentially in the three years since Illinois became the 36th state to sanction the sport.

- Daily Herald -

High school scores for Feb. 24

February 24, 2024



Hinsdale Central swimmers celebrate their state championship after diving into the water with the trophy during the boys state swimming and diving finals at FMS Natatorium on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024 in Westmont.

Saturday, Feb 24

Girls wrestling

IHSA State finals

Local Area State Champions

Local Area 5th Place results

100: Almendarez (Galesburg) d. Bell (Montini), Inj. 0:00; 110: Strenz (Sandwich) d. Engels (**Bartlett**), Dec 4-1; 115: Macias (Burlington Central) d. Zimmer (DeKalb), Fall 3:30; 120: Heft (Lakes) d. Seymour (Jacksonville), Fall 4:32; 125: White (Bartlett) d. Zugmaier (Edwardsville), M. For. ; 155: Rodriguez (Schaumburg) d. Temple (Clifton Central), Fall 0:14; 170: Miller (Burlington Central) d. Rottmann (Highland), M. For.; 190: Huesca-Rodriguez (West Chicago) d. Cody (Clifton Central), Fall 0:29; 235: Gonzalez (Hoffman Estates) d. Thrush (Ottawa), Fall 3:34.

Boys track

Bolingbrook Art Pahl Invite

1. Bolingbrook 103, 2. Willowbrook 74, 3. Plainfield Central 60, 4. Schaumburg 50, 4. Yorkville 50, 6. Lemont 46, 7. Riverside-Brookfield 39, 8. **Elgin** 17, 9. Bremen 14, 10. **Larkin** 8, 11. Benet 1

Girls track

Wheeling Relays

1. Lake Zurich 112.5, 2. Schaumburg 77, T3. Niles North 48, T3. Vernon Hills 48, 5. Grant 46, 6. Dundee-Crown 42, 7. Libertyville 29.5, 8. Wheeling 28, 9. **South Elgin** 22, 10. Maine East 9, 11. Warren 3

Rockford Auburn Invite

1. Loyola Academy 71, 2. Grayslake Central 60.5, 3. Johnsburg 49.5, 3. Southland College Prep 49.5, 5. Taft 46, 6. Grayslake North 37, 7. Evanston 36.5, 8. Hononegah 36, 9. Boylan Catholic 31, 10. Belvidere 29, 11. R. Auburn 27, 12. Winnebago 25, 13. Belvidere North 21, 14. Freeport 18, 15. R. Lutheran 14, 16. Zion-Benton 11, 17. Springfield Southeast 9, 18. **Elgin** 8

To read the full article please click [here](#).

- Daily Herald - High school scores for Feb. 23 February 23, 2024



Crystal Lake South's Colton Hess tries to grab a rebound in front of Wheaton Academy's Tyler Smith during the IHSA Class 3A Cary-Grove Boys Basketball Regional Championship game on Friday, Feb. 23, 2024 at Cary-Grove High School.

Friday, Feb 23

Girls wrestling

IHSA State Quarterfinals

100: Enos (Batavia) d. Kongkaeow (Round Lake) MD 9-1; Young (West Aurora) d. Grennan (Newman Central Catholic) MD 15-2; Perez (Glenbard West) d. Vazquez (Rickover Naval Academy) Dec 7-0; Bell (Montini) d. Almendarez (Galesburg) Fall 5:12; 105: Slaughter (Huntley) d. Mouzon (Lakes), MD 22-12; Gochis (Kaneland) d. Donaldson (Pekin), TF-1.5 3:02 (20-5); Shymkiv (Glenbard East) d. Lusch (East Peoria), MD 9-0; 110: Paramo (Joliet Central) d. Aarseth (Crystal Lake South), Fall 3:20; Engels (**Bartlett**) d. Younker

(Litchfield), Dec 8-3; Strenz (Sandwich) d. Jasinski (Grant), SV-1 (5-3); 115: Gomez (Glenbard North) d. Miloncus (Springfield), Fall 2:16; Guarino (Lincoln-Way Central) d. McCain (Round Lake), MD 12-4; Hiller (Loyola Academy) d. Macias (Burlington Central), Fall 5:00; 120: Swaim (Edwardsville) d. Arzer (Grayslake Central), Fall 0:19; Heft (Lakes) d. Laird (Joliet Catholic Academy), MD 17-5; Ball (Hoffman Estates) d. Seymour (Jacksonville), Dec 9-7; 125: Babbs (Lakes) d. Sheaffer (Kaneland), Dec 6-0; White (**Bartlett**) d. Goss (Chicago Military Academy-Bronzeville), Fall 5:02; 130: Dawson (Collinsville) d. Pianetto Prospect), Fall 0:32; Cailteux (Minooka) d. Rohrbacher (Huntley), Dec 4-3; 140: Zerafa-Lazarevic (Schaumburg) d. Owens (Oakwood), Fall 5:02; 145: Perry (Batavia) d. Ladd (Macomb), TF-1.5 3:45 (24-9); 155: Temple (Clifton Central) d. Carr (Hinsdale South), Fall 3:14; Rodriguez (Schaumburg) d. Hamilton (El Paso-Gridley), Fall 4:45; 170: Rottmann (Highland) d. Miller (Burlington Central), Fall 5:59; Williams (Peoria Notre Dame) d. Loo (Downers Grove North), MD 11-3; 190: Larson (Lakes) d. Rene (Wheeling), Dec 6-3; Huesca-Rodriguez (West Chicago) d. Koumasse (East Moline United), Fall 4:54; 235: Grandberry (Curie) d. Gonzalez (Hoffman Estates), Fall 0:57.

Girls track

Argo Invite

1. Carmel 126, 2. Argo 117, 3. West Chicago 88, 4. Morton 73, 5. Fenwick 60, 6. Romeoville 58.5, 7. Reavis 57.5, 8. Goode STEM Academy 15, 9. Solorio Academy 7

Glenbard South Quad

1. Hinsdale South 46, 2. Glenbard South 39, 3. Noble/ITW Speer 31, 4. Riverside-Brookfield 29

Plainfield North Invite

1. Neuqua Valley 129.5, 2. Plainfield North 114, 3. Maine South 95, 4. Metea Valley 78.5, 5. Lemont 46, 6. Hoffman Estates 45, 7. **Bartlett** 32, 8. Rock Island 21, 9. LaSalle-Peru 16, 10. St. Charles East 8

Wheaton Warrenville South Invite

1. Naperville Central 131, 2. Palatine 62, 3. Waubonsie Valley 50, 4. Wheaton Warrenville South 42, 5. Kaneland 21

Girls wrestling

IHSA State finals

Boys track

Batavia, Downers Grove North, Dundee Crown, Fremd, Grayslake Central, Hinsdale Central, Kaneland, Libertyville, Neuqua Valley, Prospect, Vernon Hills, Warren, Wauconda, WW South at Lakes, 9 a.m.

Benet, **Elgin**, **Larkin**, Schaumburg, Willowbrook at Bolingbrook Art Pahl Invite, 9 a.m.
Conant, Fenton, Vernon Hills at Glenbrook South Invite, 10 a.m.
Downers Grove South, Lake Park, Wheaton North, York at Proviso West, 9 a.m.
Harvest Christian, Hersey, Metea Valley, **South Elgin**, Wheeling at Hononegah, 10 a.m.

Girls track

Barrington, Downers Grove North, Downers Grove South, Glenbard North, Prospect, **Streamwood**, York at Batavia Invite, 9 a.m.
Buffalo Grove, Conant, Elk Grove, Hersey, **Larkin**, Mundelein, Wauconda at Stevenson Invite, 9 a.m.
Cary-Grove, Fremd at Glenbard West Traingular, 9 a.m.
Dundee-Crown, Grant, Lake Zurich, Libertyville, Maine East, Round Lake, Schaumburg, **South Elgin**, Vernon Hills, Warren at Wheeling Relays, 8:30 a.m.
Elgi, Grayslake Central, Grayslake North at Rockford Auburn Invite, 8 a.m.
Huntley, Naperville North, West Aurora, St. Charles North, York at Homewood Flossmor Invite, 8:30 a.m.

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