

## **Trio Captures Section Titles, Nine Indians Advance at Section Championships**

**Feb. 28, 2010 by Rick Smith** – North Hills’ seniors Cameron Weber, Ben Amrhein, and T.J. McElwaine all captured section crowns at the ten team WPIAL Class AAA Section 3 Tournament yesterday at Fox Chapel High School. The championship trio will be joined by six other teammates at next weekend’s WPIAL Championships, as a section-high nine Indians advanced by placing in the top four wrestlers in their respective weight classes.

Weber (34-6 on the season) won the 119-pound championship, making a late first period takedown stand up, winning a 2-1 nail-biter over North Allegheny’s Nick Rodgers in the title bout. Amrhein (34-5) battled North Allegheny’s Jared Lux for eight-and-a-half minutes, breaking a thrilling 5-5 tie by riding out the Tigers’ sophomore in the ultimate tie-breaker period to triumph in the 160-pound title match. McElwaine (35-3) put on a takedown clinic on his way to a 9-4 215-pound title bout victory over Butler’s Chris White. McElwaine leads the Indians with an impressive 93 takedowns on the season.

Placing second at the qualifier for North Hills were freshmen Drew Walker (29-9 at 103 pounds), Tyler Walker (24-15 at 112 pounds), and senior Ryan Gibson (25-15 at 140 pounds). Senior heavyweight Mike Dietrich (29-11) finished third, pinning three of his four opponents on the day. Junior Troy Zangaro (130 pounds) and freshman Alen Turcinhodzic (189) also advanced by finishing in fourth place.

Also competing for North Hills yesterday were seniors Ben Smith (189) and Steve Comer (152) and sophomores Jake Campbell (145) and Joden Rocco (135). Junior Kraig Esswein (125) was unable to participate due to illness.

The WPIAL Class AAA Championships will be held at Canon-McMillan High School beginning this Thursday, March 4, 2010. Wrestling begins at 5:30pm on Thursday with pigtail and preliminary round bouts. Friday’s quarterfinals and first round consolations will start at 6:00pm. On Saturday, semifinal bouts, as well as second, third, and fourth round consolations get underway at 10:30am. The all-important third-place consolation finals will begin at 5:30pm, as only the top three finishers in each weight class advance to the following weekend’s state championship tournament in Hershey. The title bouts will start at 7:00pm. Check back later this week for a link to the brackets.

Here’s a link to the final section brackets...

<http://www.wjpa.com/Wrestling/2010/2010Section3-AAABrackets.pdf>