

## Barry places for Little Redskins

By Mike Cunniff, Herald Sports Writer, Wednesday, January 16, 2008

A 12-year-old Morris wrestler became the first Little Redskin to place in the recent Midwest Classic wrestling tournament. Hunter Barry finished fifth in the 138-pound division in the IKWF/USAW two-day event hosted by the Tinley Park Bulldogs at Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights Saturday and Sunday.

The Midwest Classic is considered by many as the most competitive youth tournament not only in Illinois but throughout the Midwest. A total of 32 teams entered this year's national event.

Barry defeated Eric Viss of Wisconsin 6-1 in his opening match. Barry then upended defending IKWF state champion Alex Martinez of Romeoville in the quarterfinals. "Hunter is wrestling very well right now. He beat two good kids to advance to the semis. This is a tough tournament," said Little Redskins coach Tim Baldrige.

Barry then lost 7-1 to Minooka Little Indians wrestler Calvin Hill. In the first round of the wrestlebacks, Hunter was pinned by Jonathan Decker of Team CIA out of Indianapolis, Ind. Barry then wound up his weekend by beating Connor Winel of the Montini Bronco Wrestling Club) 6-2.

The Little Redskins Wrestling Club will resume competition at the Jon Davis Memorial IKWF Kids Open in Peoria this weekend. Back on Dec. 30, the Little Redskins wound up in fifth place in their Second Annual Invitational. Over 620 wrestlers from 26 clubs were in attendance. Clubs came in from as far south as Mattoon and as far east as Munster, Ind.

"We had a very good mix of clubs this year," said Tournament Director Tony Bonic. "The competition was tougher than last year. I think that is one of the reasons why we get the turnout like we do. The kids wrestled hard. All the coaches were pleased with their effort. We are in the mid of our season now and the hard work is going to pay off at the end of the year."

Winning firsts for the Little Redskins were Cade Menozi in the Tots (ages 5-6); Sean Terando, Cody Baldrige and Tony Menozi in the Bantams (7-8) plus Nick Kelly in the Novice (11-12).

Seconds were carted off by Kevin Countryman and Owen Jungles in Tots; Mike Feeney, Merrick Hairapetian, Colby Eschenbaum, Connor Shaw and Mike Milton in Bantams; William Ringer in the Midgets (9-10) plus Tyler Bordner in the Novice.

Thirds were turned in by Dakota Sater in Tots; Jeffery Palmer, Joe Bonic and Joe Lyle in the Bantams; plus Christian Embrey, Kyle Williams and Nick Sayers in the Midgets. Fourths were claimed by Adrein Martinez in the Tots; Eddie Wolf, Derek Sater, Alec Matteson, Chris Martinez and Zach Sater in Bantams; Seth Eschenbaum and Domenico Pogloano in the Midgets; Shain Hennesey and Dalton Ness in Novice plus Hunter Barry in the Seniors (13-14).

Sam Shaw and Anthony Sams took sixth in the Midgets while Justin Barkley in the Novice. The event is the major fundraiser for the Little Redskins.

On Dec. 16 at the Force Challenge at Plainfield South, Tony Menozi grabbed a first. Kevin Countryman, Michael Feeney, Merrick Hairapetian, Jeff Palmer, Eddie Wolf and Tyler Bordner took seconds while Cade Menozi, William Ringer, Dakota Sater, Derek Sater, Nick Sayers and Conner Shaw claimed thirds. Emmet Chouinard was fourth and Nick Kelly fifth.

Joseph Bonic, Cole Laurie, Tony Menozi, Brian Russell, Emmet Chouinard and Kyle Williams took firsts on Dec. 9 at the Braves Classic at Waubonsie High School in Aurora. Michael Feeney, Kaden Laurie, Cade Menozi, Connor Shaw and Dalton Ness grabbed seconds while Dakota Sater was third. Sam Shaw and Derek Sater added fourths while Austin Laurie finished fifth.