Prairie grapplers claim 2nd at Waterloo

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WATERLOO -- The second verse was similar to the first for the Cedar Rapids Prairie wrestling team Saturday.

For the second straight week, the Hawks were defeated by West Delaware in the championship round of a major tournament.

Last week it was the Five Seasons Duals in Cedar Rapids. This week it was the prestigious Battle of Waterloo at Young Arena.

West Delaware clipped Prairie, 38-24, Saturday to leave Prairie with the silver medal again.

The final round of the 32-team tournament was a four-team round robin between four of the top wrestling programs in Iowa with West Delaware (No.1 in Class 2A), Davenport Assumption (No.2 in Class 2A), Linn-Mar (No.2 in Class 3A) and Prairie (No.4 in Class 3A).

The Linn-Mar Lions lost all three of their matches to finish in fourth place. Linn-Mar lost to Assumption (45-25), West Delaware (42-28) and Prairie (41-21).

Prairie began the final round with its 14-point loss to West Delaware, then rebounded with victories over Assumption (32-22) and Linn-Mar (41-21).

Josh Wenger (126), Cam Rathje (170) and Austin Gould (182) went undefeated for the Prairie Hawks on Saturday. Wenger went 3-0 with two major decisions. Rathje was 3-0 with a pin, major decision and forfeit. Gould was 3-0 with a disqualification, major decision and pin.

Alijah Jeffery (120), Joel Northrup (145) and Ross Lembeck (152) went 3-0 for Linn-Mar. Jeffery had two pins and a major decision. Northrup collected a pin and major decision. Lembeck had two pins.

220 - Justin Green (LM) dec. Jesse Hynek, 3-2.

PRAIRIE 41, LINN-MAR 21

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285 - Andrew Netolicky (P) won by forfeit.

106 - Sam Uthoff (P) dec. Noah Ajram, 3-0.

113 - Zack Fiser (P) dec. John Clymer, 6-0.

120 - Alijah Jeffery (LM) pinned Jayden Flege, 5:08.