

# 1981 State Wrestling Tournament Results

Benjamin Russell of Alex City won its first title since 1969 by capturing the 4A state wrestling championship Feb. 13-14 at Vestavia Hills High School in Birmingham.

Benjamin Russell, which climaxed a run of 11 straight state crowns with that 1969 championship, scored 125 points to nudge defending champion Robert E. Lee of Montgomery by 1 1/2 points.

Cordell Riggins keyed Russell's championship performance by winning the individual title in the 126-pound class. Frank Barry, Nolan Graves and Danny Gaston were runners-up for the champs.

Following runner-up Lee were Erwin 105 1/2, Vestavia Hills 97 and Scottsboro 96 1/2.

## 4A RESULTS

98-Todd Schifanella, Gardendale, def. Shawn Little, Lee (Montgomery); 105-Eric Daniels, Butler, def. Todd Beamon, Lee, (Montgomery); 123-Rich Matjasic, Johnson, def. Frank Barry, Benjamin Russell; 119-Carl Lowe, Huntsville, def. Tony Jeffrey, Scottsboro.

126-Cordell Riggins, Benjamin Russell, def. Maurice Harris, Prattville; 132-Harvey Smith, Tuscaloosa County, def. Duane Sims, Scottsboro; 138-Greg Killough, Scottsboro, def. Ray Harrison, Erwin;

145-Chris McCallum, Vestavia Hills, def. John Pearson, Erwin; 155-Mike Noe, Erwin, def. Nolan Graves, Benjamin Russell; 167-Sam Duncan, Lee (Montgomery) def. Sylester Picking, Banks; 185-Chris Tidwell, Butler, def. Danny Gaston, Benjamin Russell; Heavyweight-Hardy Walker, Grissom, def. Eric Wright, Lee (Montgomery).

TEAM SCORING: Benjamin Russell 125, Lee (Montgomery) 123 1/2, Erwin 105 1/2, Vestavia Hills 97, Scottsboro 96 1/2, Butler 85 1/2, Gardendale 81, Grissom 81, Huntsville 56, Jeff Davis 55 1/2, Tuscaloosa County 50 1/2, Prattville 49 1/2, Johnson 40, Mountain Brook 35, Berry 30, Hueytown 28, Auburn 23, Lee (Huntsville) 21 1/2, Hewett-Trussville 21 1/2, Lanier 20, Albertville 18, Banks 17 1/2, Shades Valley 14, Carver (Montgomery) 7, Anniston 4, Homewood 3, Minor 3, Arab 3, Opelika 1.

MOST PINS: Hardy Walker, Grissom, 4 (heavyweight)

MOST VALUABLE WRESTLER: Rich Matjasic, Johnson.

BEST MATCH: Eric Daniels, Butler, def. Todd Beamon, Lee (Montgomery) in 105-pound class.

Pinson Valley, boasting three individual state champions, captured its second A-2A-3A wrestling championship Feb. 13-14 at Oxford.

Pinson Valley outdistanced the field with 148 points, followed by Deshler with 98 and McAdory with 90.

Steve Davis, Larry Sanford and Richard Cowden were individual state champions for Pinson Valley.

## A-2A-3A RESULTS

98-Tony Pryor, Jacksonville, def. Mike Willingham, Deshler. 105-Marty Willingham, Deshler, def. Keith West, Alabama School for Blind; 112-Benji Balentine, Deshler, def. Joey Maryanow, Pinson Valley;

119-John Crow, Hartselle, def. Barry Dunn, Pinson Valley; 126-Steve Davis, Pinson Valley, def. Mark Gates, Deshler; 132-Larry Sanford, Pinson Valley, def. Ronnie Leonard, Fairfield; 138-Richard Cowden, Pinson Valley, def. John Mackinaw, John Carroll.

145-Vince Armstrong, Alabama School for Blind, def. Bobby Ballard, Athens; 155-Jim Brook, McAdory, def. John Mothershed, Sheffield; 167-Wade McClure, Wellborn, def. Randy Smith, Pickens County;

185-Danny Parham, St. Clair County, def. Davis Jordan, McAdory; Heavyweight-Terry Nash, East Lawrence, def. Sammy Wisdom, Muscle Shoals.

## A-2A-3A STANDINGS

Pinson Valley 148, Deshler 98, McAdory 90, Hartselle 64 1/2, Oxford 63 1/2, Wellborn 62, Alabama School for the Blind 61, Jacksonville 59 1/2, Pickens County, 58 1/2, Fairfield 40, Central (Florence) 37, St. Clair County 37, Pleasant Grove 34, St. Paul's 28, Ft. Payne 26, Muscle Shoals 26, Athens 25 1/2, Southside (Gadsden) 23 1/2, Sheffield 23, East Lawrence 22 1/2, Weaver 20, Brookwood 15 1/2, Oak Grove 13, Tarrent 13, Corner 4, Fultondale 3, Dora, Gunterville, Montevallo, Moody, UMS Preparatory.

MOST PINS: Gary Sparks, Oxford, 4 (heavyweight); Steve Davis, Pinson Valley, 4 (126)

MOST VALUABLE WRESTLER: Vince Armstrong, Alabama School for Blind.

BEST MATCH: Steve Davis, Pinson Valley, def. Mark Gates, Deshler (126-pound class)