

## Marauders Capture Bronze Pool Trophy At Chip Valley



Junior Evan Pugh (171lb) working for the splits in one of his three wins on the day. Six Marauders had three wins, while Senior Kyle Gray (285lb) went 4-0 on the day.

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Over the last few years, the Chippewa Valley tournament has been a tough nut to crack for the Mott wrestling team. By the time the Chippewa Valley tournament arrives each season, the ranks of Mott's team have been thinned from injury and illness, making it difficult to compete as a team with any real success. This year, however, the Marauders closed ranks, rose to the occasion, went 2-2 on the day and won the Bronze Pool trophy...all while giving up three voids and 18 points in each dual meet.

The three voids stemmed from the losses of three wrestlers who had been starters all year: Junior 130lb Matt Jundy, Freshman 140lb Deshawn Burley, and Junior 145lb Tyler Truski. Jundy and Truski were sidelined with minor injuries and were actually available on Saturday to wrestle if needed.

Mott drew an initial pool pairing with Port Huron Northern, Madison Heights Lamphere, and Livonia Churchill. In the first match against Port Huron Northern, because of voids on both sides, only ten matches were actually wrestled. Mott won five and PHN won five. The voids were too difficult to overcome and the Marauders lost 39-24.

In the second match of the day, the Marauders took on Livonia Churchill and the story was much the same. Because of Mott's voids at 125lb, 140lb and 145lb, only eleven matches were contested. Against Churchill, Mott won six of the eleven matches, but lost 45-33.

After having lost twice in its initial pool matches, Mott was assigned to the Bronze Pool. The Marauders made short work of Richmond (45-31) and Yale (48-19) and was scheduled to wrestle Cousino, the fourth team in the Bronze Pool. Because of the fact that Cousino and Mott had already wrestled a dual meet at the City Tournament and were scheduled to meet again this week in the MAC Blue Duals finale, a mutual decision was made to not wrestle the final pool match at Chippewa Valley. Given that Cousino had lost to Richmond in the pool wrestling, Mott won the Bronze pool.



Senior 285lb Kyle Gray led the Marauders on the day, winning all four of his matches, including a tough win against state ranked Alex Gaglio of Port Huron Northern. With the wins, Gray pushed his record for the year to 35-1. Six other Marauders won three of four matches: Garret Strube (103lb), Brett Rodzos (130lb), Ben Cantrell (152lb), Rafi Razzouq (160lb), Evan Pugh (171lb) and Quentin Soard (189lb).

The Marauders will be in action again on Thursday night when they wrap up MAC Blue Dual competition with WCS rival Cousino at home. Thursday night is also parent's night. All parents or guardians of all wrestlers are invited to attend and be recognized for their effort and sacrifices in supporting their young men. Please join us.