

Day One ended with #1 Wadsworth slipping just ahead of 13 time champion St. Ed's in the team race, a defending state champ being upset, former state champs and teammates heading toward a collision course, and a girl one step closer to history.

Wadsworth is off to a good start in their quest to topple defending champion St. Edward, finishing the day with a slim 2 point lead in the team race. Heavyweight Ben Buzzelli pinned his opponent to push the Grizzlies into the lead. In Division 3, Chanel passed Monroeville to take the lead. Both team races are expected to go down to the wire this year. Not so in Division 2, where Graham has a healthy 20 point lead after just one round of championship bracket wrestling.

Mantua Crestwood senior Paige Nemec won her 103 lb consolation match, and is now just one win away from becoming the first female to place in the State Tournament in Ohio.

Tucker Armstrong, who moved from California to St. Paris Graham to win a state championship there, then lost his starting position to Felipe Martinez. So Armstrong left for California again. Now, he's back in Ohio, wrestling for Kenton Ridge, and competing in the same weight class as Martinez. A Saturday night showdown between these two former teammates could be on the way. They have met 5 times this year so far, with Martinez winning all of them - but the biggest match of the rivalry may be forthcoming.

Defending State Champ Shawn Fayette, of Miamisburg, lost in the opening round to Orth, from Oregon Clay, on a deciding takedown and near fall point in the closing moments.

Many of the top-ranked wrestlers in the state are featured in our pictures section below. Be sure to check it out!

-Randy Simpson