WRESTLING

Riggleman, Roaders escape with win

■ Brunswick 41, Oakdale 36

Bv GREG SWATEK

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At the start of the wrestling season, Lane Riggleman still had 10 pounds to

And that was to get down to 285 pounds, which is the heaviest weight class in the state. The Brunswick High senior had already lost 35 pounds since the middle of football season.

But there was more work to be done if he was going to have the chance to wrestle this season and improve on his fifth-place showing last season in the Class 2A-1A state tournament at 285.

"Lots of chicken and broccoli," said Riggleman, a two-time state qualifier and Frederick County champion last season who missed the first four matches of this season while he got his weight in order.

Once on the mat, Riggleman is one of Brunswick's most reliable wrestlers, and he

was once again Friday night, despite giving up a rare takedown in the first minute to Oakdale's Mason Gladhill, who was fresh off of football season.

"You've just got to stay calm and you can't get overwhelmed about everything," said Riggleman, who methodically worked his way back into the match with a couple of escapes before powering Gladhill onto his back and

pinning him in 3 minutes and 16 seconds.



Riggleman

(See ROADERS B2)

Roaders escape with win

(Continued from B1)

After Oakdale made a dramatic comeback in its first match of the season due to the late ending of its football season — the Bears turned a 35-21 deficit with four matches to go into a 36-35 lead with one match left Riggleman's pin tipped the match back in Brunswick's favor.

The Railroaders, ranked 14th out of all the teams in the state, public and private school, by the website Legacy Wrestling, improved to 10-0 this season with a 41-36 victory over the Bears.

"I wasn't really worried," Riggleman said. "But, I mean, there when I got taken down of the state's top wrestlers in and he tried throwing me, I got a little scared. But af-

ter that, when I got up, I was fine."

And so were the Railroaders, who have been busy flexing their early season muscles so far. They won eight over Oakdale's J.J. Hathaway matches in the Armed Forces Duals last week at North Hagerstown High to claim the championship.

They have a pair of girls in their regular lineup, one a girls state champion last season at 115 in Kate Virgilio and one a girls state finalist at 105 pounds in Catie Orndorff.

Orndorff pinned a boy, Oakdale's Kalel Hawkinson, in the first bout of the night Friday at 106 pounds, needing 3:19 to do it.

Brunswick also has one senior Seth Crawford, a state finalist last season at 138 pounds and the top-ranked public school wrestler in the state at 150 this season.

He produced an 18-0 technical fall in 3:44 Friday at 157.

On top of all that, Brunswick has gritty wrestlers like C.J. Watts, who turned a 3-1 deficit into a pin over the Bears' Marty Sandy at 165 pounds.

"I mean, I think we are going to do pretty good," Riggleman said. "After you practice for a while, everything starts coming together, and I think it starts flowing more. And I think we can honestly win the state title."

Oakdale's comeback was fueled by pins from Dylan Swank at 190 and Ryan Crabb at 215.