

## **MARCH 1, 2024**

The wrestling season came to an end for our last wrestler over the weekend. Congratulations to Owen Kulb on an amazing season. Owen qualified for the state championship tournament where he went 2-2, making him one of the top 16 wrestlers in the entire state. He finished his season with a total record of 32-9 and now has 88 career wins with a senior year season still to go. Congratulations to Owen and all of our wrestlers on a great season.

## **FEBRUARY 26, 2024**

The Region 8 Championships were held at Egg Harbor Township High School on Friday and Saturday. Owen Kulb started his weekend with a 16-0 technical fall win then a 9-1 major decision win before dropping a decision to the district 31 and eventual region 8 champ from Delsea. Owen kept battling and took an 11-10 win into the consolation finals where he earned a trip to the state championships in Atlantic City, widely regarded as one of the toughest in-state tournaments in the country. New Jersey wrestling region 8, fourth place; Owen Kulb has cemented himself as one of the top 32 wrestlers in the state at 120lbs. Congratulations to Owen and best of luck at Boardwalk Hall next weekend.

## **FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

The HiT Squad wrestling team was in action on Saturday at the district 30 individual championships. The tournament was held at Williamstown High School and four Triton students placed! Erek Schwinge, Chris Kulb and Isaiah Garcia all finished 3rd and Owen Kulb took 2nd, all advancing to the Region 8 tournament. Regions are held this Friday and Saturday at Egg Harbor Township High School where the top four wrestlers in each weight class will earn the right to wrestle at the prestigious New Jersey State Championships at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City. This is an exciting time of year for our wrestlers. Good luck to all of you this weekend!

## **FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

This is a reminder that tomorrow night is the final home match of the season for the HiT Squad wrestling team. Class of 24 president and team captain Isaiah Garcia will be taking the mat at home for the last time of his career. In addition to Isaiah, three other Triton students are regularly in the lineup and each of them have already won over 20 matches! These wrestlers work so hard, are so much fun to watch and have definitely earned your support. Tomorrow night, 5:00 JV and 6:00 varsity in the main gym at Highland- HiT Squad vs Timber Creek. Let's pack the house.

## **FEBRUARY 7, 2024**

The HiT Squad wrestling team is asking for your support in packing the gym for their last home match of the year. The match is this Friday at Highland and the opponent is district rival Timber Creek. It's also youth night so you'll get a glimpse into the future as kids from the youth wrestling program will take part in pre-match ceremonies. Several of the kids are future Triton students and in some cases have parents that are alumni. Triton and Highland aren't fully united on much but two things we definitely have in common are this wrestling team and our desire to beat Timber Creek in everything we do. Go out and show your support on Friday night. The JV matches start at 5:00 and varsity around 6:00. Go HiT Squad!!

## **FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

There was Group 5 South playoff action at Southern Regional High School last night as the 4th seeded HiT Squad wrestling took on 5th seed Lenape in the first round. The match began with a technical fall victory by Owen Kulb then went back and forth and stayed close until the very end. It was 29-27 with two matches remaining when Erek Schwinge scored a technical fall win of his own and sealed the victory for his team with a final score of 34-33. That's where the good times came to an end. The HiT Squad

wrestled their hearts out and were competitive in several matches but lost to Southern, the returning Group 5 State Champs by a score of 65-12. Owen Kulb did get a win by pin in the match.

The HiT Squad returns to action at Highland Friday night in a cross town rivalry match vs Timber Creek then a quad in Toms River on Saturday as they look to stay sharp and ready for the individual tournament season. Congratulations to the team for making the playoffs and getting a playoff win. Best of luck moving forward into the post season.

#### **FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

The HiT Squad was in action over the weekend in a home quad at Highland. All four teams that participated in this quad are playoff teams so it was a good one in a crowded gym. The morning began with Delran, The match was tied at 12 going into the 113lb match where Aidan Slimm ignited the momentum swing with a pin after just 40 seconds. Chris Kulb and Owen Kulb then followed suit with pins of their own and the HiT Squad never looked back, winning the match 38-36. In the next match, Erek Schwinge, Aidan Slimm, Chris Kulb, Owen Kulb, and Isaiah Garcia all recorded wins in a 51-27 victory over Lower Cape May. In the final match of the day the HiT Squad dropped a heart breaker to Ocean City, 35-33. That match and this quad were much needed tests going into tonight's playoff matches at Southern Regional where the HiT Squad will first square off with Lenape. The winner of that match will wrestle the winner of Southern and Eastern, also tonight. Good luck to our wrestlers!

#### **JANUARY 30, 2024**

We weren't able to get to this yesterday but the HiT Squad wrestling team had a great day on Saturday, sweeping a quad with a 78-6 win over St. Joe's, 39-30 over Audubon and 41-34 over Hammonton. It was some of the best and toughest wrestling this team has done all year while head coach Mr. Plefka earned his 100th career victory. Chris Kulb and Owen Kulb each went 3-0 on the day. Next up for the HiT Squad is a home quad at Highland this Saturday vs Delran, Ocean City and Lower Cape May before heading into the playoffs next week. Good luck to our wrestlers, great job on Saturday and congratulations to Coach Plefka on 100 wins.

#### **JANUARY 12, 2024**

The HiT Squad wrestling team sent a strong message to the rest of South Jersey Group 5 last night in the form of a dominant 57-12 win over a scrappy Vineland team. Triton wrestlers came up huge with pins by Erek Schwinge, Chris Kulb, Owen Kulb, and Isaiah Garcia. Aidan Slimm added a clutch decision win in what was probably the match of the night. The wrestlers improved their record to 10-2 going into their next competition, a tri-meet against Egg Harbor Township and Red Bank Catholic. Great job by the HiT Squad and good luck to them tomorrow at EHT.