

BATTERY CREEK WRESTLING - Beaufort Today (SC) - February 15, 2017 - page 1B

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Battery Creek wrestling's quest for a third state title in four years was thwarted by the West Oak Warriors in Saturday's SCHSL Class AAA championship match.

West Oak won its second team title in three years with a thoroughly competitive 33-24 win over the Dolphins at Dreher High School in Columbia.

The Dolphins had the advantage of 12 free points off two West Oak forfeits, but the pesky Warriors fought back.

Trailing 24-18 with three weight classes left, the Warriors' Jordan Lee and Justin Smith earned back-to-back pins over the Dolphins' Tommy Bearden and Bison Frazier, respectively, to bring the score to a 30-24 West Oak advantage.

Sophomore Matthew Williams sealed the win by holding off **Battery Creek**'s Nate Torres in the final weight class for three points and a 33-24 final score.

Battery Creek had dominated the Lower State road to the finals, outscoring its four opponents by a combined 281-24. But coach Nate Day said the Dolphins finally met their match Saturday.

"We knew it was going to be a tight one," Day said. "The kids fought hard. We lost a couple close ones and won a couple close ones. It was just a good high school match."

Omar Daniels and Obie Wilson won with forfeits for **Battery Creek**. Tyrus Singleton, Turhon White and Khalil Chisholm were the three outright winners for the state runner-up.

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