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DISTRICT 1 DIVING: Souderton's Evers 4th in 3A, 3 others qualify for PIAAs

By KEV HUNTER
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UPPER DUBLIN — Souderton Area's Matt Evers is headed back to states, and the senior locked up the spot just the way he would have liked.

"I was happy with the way I finished," Evers said following Friday night's District One Diving competition at Upper Dublin High School. "I started off as I expected I would — not too bad, but I think I finished nicely, so I was happy with that."

Evers' strong final round up on the board helped propel the senior to a score of 464.40, good for fourth place in Class AAA. For the Big Red senior, the postseason is now officially underway.

"Definitely better than leagues," he said of his performance, which came a week after he battled to a second-place finish at SOL Continental's. "Leagues was a little rough for me, so it was nice to come back with a better meet."

Evers' conference rival, Continental champ Geoffroy Gagnon of North Penn, also enjoyed a solid performance at Upper Dublin and earned a fifth-place finish with a score of 446.40. The Knights' standout will be making his first trip to Bucknell.

Also making their first trip to the big meet will be Methacton's Daniel Roy, who placed seventh on Friday with a 419.60, and Central Bucks West's Matt McCool, a ninth-place finisher with a 396.85.

Evers improved upon his sixth-place finish at districts last winter to earn his second consecutive spot at the state championships.

"As a whole, this year was better," the senior said.

William Tennent's Ian Forlini pulled off a three-peat in the event, winning for the third consecutive time with a score of 556.15.

"I felt a little bit of pressure, but just to do well again and try to advance my scores," the junior said.

Sun Valley's Michael Proietto (422.80) and Upper Moreland's Dan Wilcox (395.85) earned the two qualifying spots in Class 2A.

The girls diving championships will be held today at Upper Dublin, starting at 10:30 a.m.

All of the divers will have a long rest now as they prepare for the state championships three weeks from now at Bucknell.

"It does feel good," Evers said of the opportunity to go back. "The competition was great today and everybody dove awesome. We'll all be ready for states."

District One
Boys Diving Championships

at Upper Dublin

Class 3A State Qualifiers: 1. Ian Forlini (William Tennent) 556.15; 2. Liam Fitzgerald (West Chester Rustin) 478.45; 3. Will Beliveau (Pennsbury) 469.50; 4. Matt Evers (Souderton) 464.40; 5. Geoffroy Gagnon (North Penn) 446.40; 6. Kevin Toner (Upper Dublin) 431.90; 7. Daniel Roy (Methacton) 419.60; 8. Chase Ott (Perkiomen Valley) 397.60; 9. Matt McCool (CB West) 396.85; 10. Nash Nickerson (CB South) 396.50.

Class 2A State Qualifiers: 1. Michael Proietto (Sun Valley) 422.80; 2. Dan Wilcox (Upper Moreland) 395.85.

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