

SUMMERVILLE 52, STRATFORD 13

IRMO-Summerville ran its season record to 18-0 and extended a three-year dual meet winning streak to 61 in a row Friday night with a 52-13 victory over Lowcountry rival Stratford in the Class AAAA quarterfinals at Irmo High School.

The Green Wave will make its bid for a third straight state championship under coach Kenny Walker, and the eighth in program history, today at the same site, starting with a semifinal showdown against **Dutch Fork**.

The semifinal round will begin at 11 a.m. with the championship match to follow at 1 p.m.

Summerville and **Dutch Fork** are hardly strangers. Summerville defeated **Dutch Fork** in each of the last two big-school title bouts - 33-18 in 2001, 32-31 a year ago.

"It should be interesting," said Walker. "We wrestled early in the season, and we both had people out of the lineup, so we'll both get the chance to go at each other with our best people. It will come down to bonus points, and what team can stay off their backs."

The Wave wrestlers were never in trouble against the Knights, but were frustrated by the lack of pins.

In fact, the only falls came from Ian Barker at 112, Brad Kieber at 135 and Jada Ross at 215. Khalif Chavis (189), Andrew Young (119) and Tony Simmons had to settle for five-point technical falls.

"It was the third time we wrestled Stratford this year, and we've scored pretty much the same in all the matches, so I wasn't displeased," said Walker.

Barker, Young and Gerald Turner (130) remained undefeated, but Turner did not get his customary pin in the first bout of the match, settling for a lackluster 5-0 decision.

Ross, hampered by a Shrine Bowl football injury, has been a welcomed addition of late. He is 3-0 in the playoffs, 5-0 overall.

"It's great to have Jada's senior leadership, and he's wrestled himself into shape to the point that I think he can go six minutes if he has to," said Walker.

Stratford, eliminated by Summerville in the semifinals a year ago, bowed out with a 14-5 record.

The Knights' points came from a decision by Caleb Capocciana at 152, a major decision by Patrick Hazel at 171 and a heavyweight pin by Jon Breaux.

"I wasn't happy with the loss, but I was pleased with our effort," said Knights coach Willie Nearhood.

Spring Valley will face Fort Mill in the other semifinal match. Spring Valley defeated Byrnes 40-31, while Fort Mill rallied to nip Lexington, 32-31.