

Clark boys, Coronado girls capture state titles

By SAM LEEPER

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Clark bowling coach Jeremy Edwards knows a thing or two about pressure: He started his teaching career and went through the birth of a child in the same year.

On Thursday, Edwards went through another kind of pressure, watching his boys team edge Chaparral to win the state championship at The Orleans.

The Chargers won the first two games by a total of nine pins and defeated the Cowboys, 4-3.

On the girls' side, Coronado capped its undefeated season by winning its second straight crown, 7-0 over Palo Verde.

The Clark boys won the first game by four pins, then claimed the championship after Chaparral's Stan Hughes left one pin in the final frame.

"It's tough just watching, but I'm glad I didn't have to bowl," Edwards said. "These lanes are tough to hit consecutive strikes, so I told the guys don't get down on themselves. If the match came down to hitting spares, then we needed to focus on hitting them."

Jeff Belding led Clark in the first game with a 213. Bryce Gross was its high bowler in the second game with a 246.

Chaparral's Matt Barnett finished with a 221 in the first game, followed by Taylor Warf's 200.

"I know how the lack of winning has become frustrating at Clark," Edwards said. "Hopefully, seeing a victory like this can turn things around. I know they try very hard, and they deserve some positive things to happen."

Hughes led the Cowboys in the second game with a 224, followed by Brandon Parz's 201.

The Coronado girls put the finishing touches on a second straight title by leaving just one open frame in the first

game.

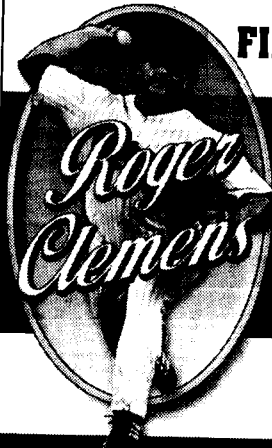
The Cougars won all 54 games bowled this season in 18 matches.

"It's very nice to win this event two years in a row," Coronado coach Bob McKee said. "You know when you play match, each team is going to give it their best. To know these girls turned in this type of effort all year is a credit to them."

Each Cougars bowler eclipsed the 200 mark in the match. Alyssa Madrid rolled a 228 and Alex Katz had a 205 in the first game.

April Urban bowled a 204 and Maddie Pellegrino had a 203 in the second game.

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