

T.J. Selke had no choice but to go home with the first-place trophy, because he wasn't going to accept another silver medal.

That's what the **Dutch Fork** senior was thinking as he paced and stretched before his **wrestling** match Saturday. That's what the state's top wrestler at 140 pounds thought as he dominated Spring Valley's Chris Hayward.

Selke knew **Dutch Fork** would leave Irmo High School's gym as a champion, and his teammates believed him.

And that's just what they did.

Selke's pin gave the Silver Foxes the points they needed to claim the Class AAAA state championship by the tally of 37-34.

"It feels awesome," he said. "We just wanted it bad."

Two second-place finishes to Summerville were hovering over **Dutch Fork**, and Saturday's semifinals presented another rematch. The Silver Foxes lost earlier this season to their nemesis, but they would not be denied by the Green Wave for the third consecutive season.

"Nobody gave them much of a chance to beat Summerville," **Dutch Fork** coach B.D. LaPrad said. "We couldn't hold anything back. We had two matches today and that was it."

If there was any doubt as to how it would perform in the final after finally knocking off Summerville, giving the Green Wave their first loss of the season, **Dutch Fork** was energized instantly.

Eric Lambert started the match by pinning Justin Lewis at 189 pounds, and Nick Leone did the same to Aram Olson at 215. Neal Selke and Eric Harris scored decisions at 103 and 112, respectively, to grab an early 16-3 lead.

At 119, Matt Firtko pinned Trae Cutter, and Kyle Kimrey pinned Adam Delk at 125 to give the Silver Foxes a commanding 31-3 advantage.

"We had to absolutely win all the close matches, and we weren't able to do that," Viking coach Ken Wilson said.

Selke put the match away. He charged Hayward immediately after the whistle. Hayward struggled to brake the grasp, but less than a minute into the match, Selke had Hayward's arm and leg locked. From then it was a matter of whether Hayward could hold until the period expired. He couldn't and Selke pinned him with 36 seconds remaining.

103: Neal Selke (D) maj. dec. Tyler Thompson (S); 112: Eric Harris (D) dec. Brad Robinson (S); 119: Matt Firtko (D) pin Trae Cutter; 125: Kyle Kimrey (D) pin Adam Delk (S); 130: Bryant Fuller (S) pin Guy Caskey (D); 135: Busch Malloch (S) dec. OT Jacob Neal (D); 140: T.J. Selke (D) pin Chris Hayward (S); 145: Ross Rudolph (S) maj. dec. Chris Carpenter (D); 152: Chap Manning (S) forfeit; 160: Tyler Adams (S) forfeit; 171: Will Kuhn (S) forfeit; 189: Eric Lambert (D) pin Justin Lewis (S); 215: Nick Leone (D) pin Aram Olson (S); 275: Brett Porter field (S) dec. David Estes (D).