

2000 Great Lakes League...

It's time for league wrestling tournaments

By MICHAEL MOHR

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The days are getting longer and seem to be getting a little warmer. That can only mean that high school wrestling is coming to a close and the tournaments are on their way.

With area wrestlers looking ahead to sectional and district tournaments, this weekend's league tournaments play an important role in preparing the kids for the coming weeks.

In the Great Lakes League, the favorite is Bedford. The Kicking Mules once again have a very strong program and have shown it throughout the season.

Fremont Ross's Zac Potridge has a good shot at a title, as do Rick Legg and Mike Adams.

The favorite to win the Midland Athletic League tournament is Mohawk. The Warriors are ranked ninth in Division III in the most recent state poll.

For St. Joseph Central Catholic, four wrestlers have good chances to win titles: Dan Szymanowski, Brian Lenhart, Jerry Freeh and Dave Klotz.

The Sandusky Bay Conference tournament looks to be a very solid one, as usual. The favorites coming in are Sandusky St. Mary and Oak Harbor, which finished first and second respectively in the SBC Duals.

Wrestling

Clyde and Sandusky Perkins are two other teams that could make a run at the title.

"It's an extremely tough tournament," said Clyde coach Dale Carroll. "Oak Harbor and St. Mary both beat us in the duals. So for us to win, we've got to place 12 kids in the top four, and pins could be extremely important."

Doug West and Rondall Blackburn look to continue their SBC tournament success. They have won it the past two years and will play key roles if Clyde hopes to come away with the title.

Three area school will battle it out in the Suburban Lakes League tournament. Lakota, Woodmore and Gibsonburg will all be fighting for the title.

"Seven SLL teams are in the same (Northwood) sectional," said Lakota coach Joe Wyant. "It's the best Division III sectional in northwest Ohio and it will be tough for us from here on out."

The team to beat is Elwood. The Royals are closely followed by Genoa and Lakota.

Contenders for titles include Lakota's Brian Jacobs at 152, Eric Ochs at 189, Ben Miller and Chad Conrad from Gibsonburg, and Juventino Guillen, John Bedford, Bill Weiland and Ray Lewis for Woodmore.

Great Lakes League

FINDLAY — Zac Potridge was the lone individual champion for Fremont Ross, as the Little Giants took sixth place at the Great Lakes League tournament.

Bedford easily won the league with 270.5, with Clay finishing second (177) and Fostoria third (161). Ross finished with 107 points.

Potridge started with a pin over Sandusky's Dustin Smith, and decisioned Clay's Jason Baer to reach the finals, where he beat Dennis Brighton of Bedford.

Rick Legg took second at 215. After a first round bye, Legg pinned Clay's Ryan Pfefferle in 3:03 before falling to Bedford's Jim Schmidt in the final.

Tobe Forshtay and Mike Adams each took third for Ross. Forshtay beat Whitmer's Brent Maldonado in the consolation final at 171, and Adams beat Mike McDonald of Bedford in the 275 consolation final.

Cody Amor took fourth at 140, falling in the consolation final to Josh Palmer of Findlay. Kyle Wensinger was fifth at 119, beating Whitmer's Tim Root.

Tommy Wagner (135), Luke Swint (189), Derek Earhart (112), Dale Wisniewski (145) and Jake Weichman (125) all took sixth.

Wrestling

High School

Great Lakes League

1-Bedford 270.5, 2-Clay 177, 3-Fostoria 161, 4-Sandusky 127.5, 5-Whitmer 120, 6-Ross 107, 7-Findlay 105.5

Ross results

103: 1-Zac Potridge; 112: 6-Derek Earhart; 119: 5-Kyle Wensinger; 125: 6-Jake Weichman; 135: 6-Tommy Wagner; 140: 4- Cody Amor; 145: 6-Dale Wisniewski; 171: 3-Tobe Forshay; 189: 6-Luke Swint; 215: 2-Rick Legg; 275: 3-Mike Adams