

Rojas, three Rockets win opening matches

News-Messenger reports

COLUMBUS — Four area wrestlers are still alive in their quest for a state championship after the first day of the state wrestling tournament.

In Division I, Fremont Ross's Yohe Rojas won his opening match, defeating Ashton Keichner 12-6 of Vandalia Butler at 135 pounds. Rojas will face Joe Parra of Barberton in a match Friday morning.

Fremont Ross coach Mike Mezinger said that despite the win, Rojas was frustrated at himself.

"He didn't look his best," Mezinger said. "He felt he looked sloppy."

Mezinger chalked it up to nerves. Rojas, a senior, is making his first appearance at the state meet.

In Division II, three of the four

Oak Harbor wrestlers that advanced to state won their opening bout. Drew Stone pinned Chagrin Falls Kenston's Tre Smith in 3:07. Now Stone will face Brian McGovern of Columbus DeSales. Ian Miller beat Chaz Gresham of Goshen 8-4 at 135 pounds. He'll face Coventry's Randy Henline.

At 160 pounds, Mike Mallernee beat Shane Eshelman of Milton-Union 10-1. Mallernee will face Adam Walters of Chesterland West Geauga today.

At 140, Oak Harbor's Konner Witt lost 7-4 to Conrad Roach of Canal Winchester. Witt beat Dylan Moeglin of New Lexington 4-2 in a consolation match.

Bellevue heavyweight Markie Brooks lost his opening round to Josh Jackson of Uhrichsville Claymont, 5-2. Brooks rebounded to pin Ricky Williams of Geneva in



Lee Welch/News-Messenger correspondent

Fremont Ross's Yohe Rojas takes down Ashton Kelchner of Vandalia during a 135-pound wrestling match at the Division I state wrestling tournament Thursday.

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In Division I, Fremont Ross's Yohe Rojas lost his first match of the day at 135 pounds to Barberton's Joe Parra 11-7 to drop into the consolation bracket. There he faced Mike Hillock of Massillon Perry, where he lost 3-1.