

1996 Season Review...

FREMONT ROSS

Dec. 6	.....at Oregon Clay, 6:15
Dec. 9	.....at Ashland Tour., 10
Dec. 15	.....at Rogers Tour., 4
Dec. 16	.....at Rogers Tour., 11
Dec. 21	.....Fostoria, 6:15
Dec. 28	.....at Columbian Tour., 4
Dec. 29	.....At Columbian Tour., 10
Jan. 3	.....Bedford, 6:15
Jan. 6	.....Mal Mackey Tour., 11
Jan. 11	.....at Northview, 6:15
Jan. 18	.....N.....at Whitmer, 6:15
Jan. 25	.....Napoleon, 6:15
Feb. 1	.....at Findlay, 6:15
Feb. 10	.....GLL Tour. at Northview, noon
Feb. 13	.....at Sandusky, 7

Ross wrestlers open Wednesday at Clay

By **BOB MARKER**
Sports Editor

Grover Dowell likes the enthusiasm of his seventh Fremont Ross wrestling team. He's banking on that to help the Little Giants this season.

In other areas, well, Dowell has his fingers crossed.

"Experience ..." Dowell's voice tapered off with that word.

The Little Giants have very little of that intangible.

"We will have almost a completely new lineup," the Ross coach said.

Four lettermen, including co-captains Don Wensinger and Brandon Willer, are in the Ross fold. Wensinger will wrestle at

145, Willer at 215 with the other lettermen, Jason Lather at 140 and Jeremy Roosen at 119.

After that, it's a free-for-all at the other spots.

Gone from the Little Giants are state tournament qualifiers Matt Merrill and Jason Hatfield. Both won more than 100 matches and lettered four times for the Little Giants. Also lost to graduation were four-year lettermen Brian Reinbolt and Ken Kreilick.

"We lost a lot of quality athletes," Dowell said late last week. "We are young. We just finished wrestle-offs and it looks like we may only have two seniors in the starting lineup."

Tentatively, Dowell has three

in his lineup for the season opener at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday at Oregon Clay.

Lather and Willer are seniors with classmate Wayne Crawford listed at 160.

Other possibilities to wrestle at Clay are freshmen Matt Gilson (103) and Derek Wensinger (112); sophomores Tyler Lawrence (130) and Eric Lindsey or Aaron Root at 189; Jason Hummel (125), Eric Swinehart (135), Mike Willer (152), Keith Mosser (171) and Ty Stout (275), all juniors.

Others who could break into the lineup, according to Dowell, are Jesse Sandoval, E.J. Harmon, Cody Franks, Mark Huffman and John Forstay.

"All the kids are aggressive and working hard," Dowell said.

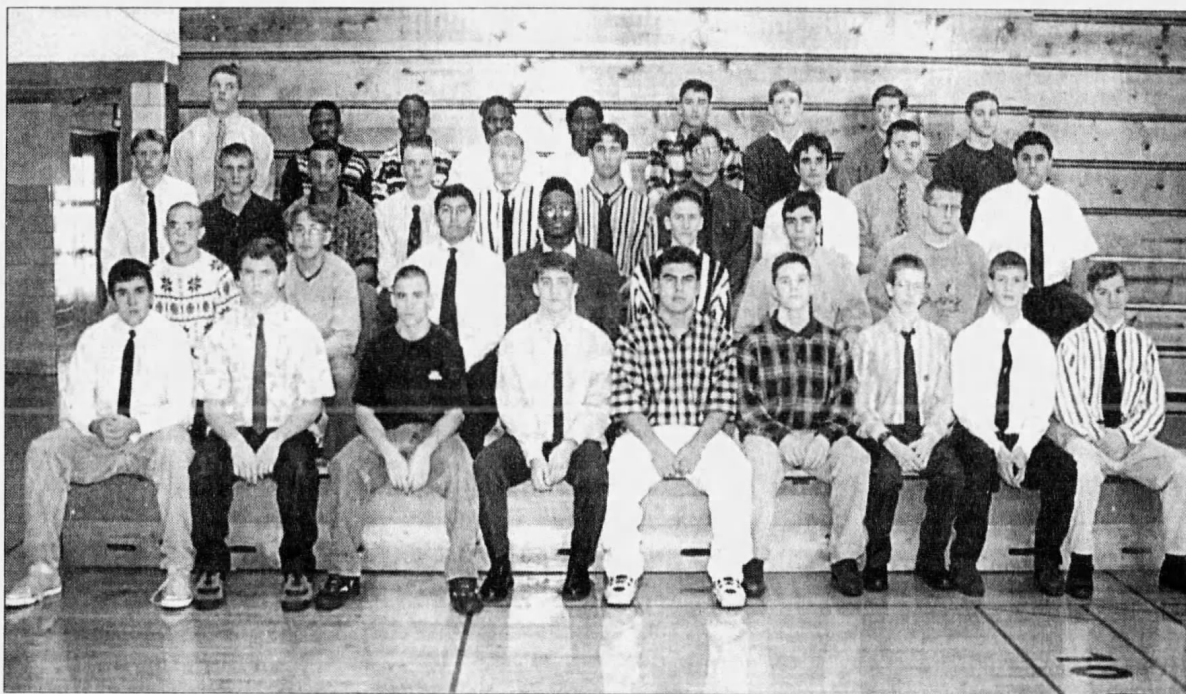
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The Little Giants were 7-3 last season, including 4-2 in the Great Lakes League matches.

Dowell predicted his team to finish "no lower than third" in the GLL with perennial champion Bedford and Whitmer the teams to beat.

■ **Area Schedules, B2**

Wrestling



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

Ross opens at Clay Wednesday

Fremont Ross will travel to Oregon to wrestle Clay in a Great Lakes League match at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday. Coach Grover Dowell will select his lineup from the above members of the team.

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■ **Area Schedules, B2**

Little Giants top Oregon Clay in season opener

News-Messenger reports

OREGON — Fremont Ross started the high school wrestling season on the right foot, defeating Oregon Clay 39-36 in a Great Lakes League match.

The Wensinger brothers, Derek and Don, recorded two of the four falls for the Little Giants. Derek Wensinger (112 pounds) stopped Dan Lemon in one minute, 32 seconds of the first round. Don Wensinger (145) pinned Ryan Shafer in 3:04 of the

second period.

Other Little Giants falls went to Mike Willer (152) and Wayne Crawford (160). Willer stopped Andy Shanke in 5:12 and Crawford flattened Mike AOssey in 2:51. Crawford's fall put Ross up 33-20 and when Clay forfeited to Keith Mosser in the 171-pound division, the Little Giants sealed the win.

Ross travels to Ashland Saturday to compete in the Ashland Tournament. Wrestling begins at 10 a.m.

Wrestling

Ross 39, Clay 36

103-Arsi Valesquez (C) won by forfeit; 112-Derek Wensinger (R) p. Dan Lemon 1:32; 119-Jeremy Roosen (R) won by forfeit; 125-Curtis Freeman (C) d. Jason Hummel 6-5; 130-Jason Muerzer (C) p. Josh Cherry 3:11; 135-Eric Swinehart (R) d. Steve Delapena 6-5; 140-Bill Cannon (C) p. Jason Lather 3:46;

145-Don Wensinger (R) p. Ryan Shafer 3:04; 152-Mike Willer (R) p. Andy Shank 5:12; 160-Wayne Crawford (R) p. Mike AOssey 2:51; 171-Kelth Mosser (R) won by forfeit; 189-Heath Schierking (C) p. Eric Lindsay 0:54; 215-Omar Abou-Arab (C) d. Aaron Root 15-6; 275-Bull Dart (C) p. Ty Stout 1:59.

Records: Ross 1-0 (1-0), Clay 0-1 (0-1).

Ross JV 62, Clay 24

(Matches wrestled)

135-Matt Gomoll (C) p. Matt Reiter 2:59; 140-C.J. Rubak (C) t.f. Eric Butzier 16-0; 145-E.J. Harmon (R) d. Brandon Rotruck 8-6; 275-Chris Slane (R) p. Tosh Veith 3:12.

Ashland Tournament

Fremont Ross placed third with 109 points, finishing seven points behind runner-up Medina while Dover was fourth with 92 and Ashland won the tournament with 137.

"Those seven points could have been made up in the finals," Ross coach Grover Dowell said. "We were lacking in basics. In the finals, there were a couple of classes where we could have moved up."

Aaron Root and Brandon Willer, wrestling up a weight class from their usual 189 and 215, won championships for the Little Giants.

"They moved up for the good of the team, and they both had an outstanding tournament," Dowell said.

Root won by a first-period pin in the finals, while Willer won his title with a major decision.

Also placing for Ross were Jeremy Roosen (second at 119), Mike Willer (second at 152), Don Wensinger (third at 145), Josh Cherry (fourth at 125), Jason Lather (fourth at 140), Wayne Crawford (fourth at 160), Eric Lindsey (fourth at 189), Derek Wensinger (fifth at 112), Tyler Lawrence (fifth at 135), Mark Hoffman (sixth at 130) and Keith Mosser (sixth at 171).

Five Ross wrestlers in semifinals at Rogers

News-Messenger reports

TOLEDO — Fremont Ross is sixth after the first day of the Rogers Invitational Wrestling Tournament Friday.

The Little Giants had 53 points. Wauseon is first with 94½ with Grove City a distant second with 66. Springfield Local is third with 65, followed by Swanton with 58 and Port Clinton with 54½.

Five Little Giants are in the championship bracket semifinals with 13 still “alive” in the tournament. Ross did not have a wrestler in the 103-pound division.

Jeremy Roosen (119), Jason Lather (140), Aaron Root (189), Brandon Willer (215) and Ty Stout (275) are the Little Giants in today’s 10 a.m. semifinals.

Roosen will face Lonnie Hoover of Grove City in his semifinal match. Lather faces Shane Kokensparger of Springfield, Roos goes against Troy Bowers of Westerville South, Willer wrestles Jason Mullins of Port Clinton and Stout takes on Jim Moses of Springfield in the other Ross semifinals matches.

Ross wrestlers take second at Rogers Invitational

News-Messenger reports

Three Fremont Ross wrestlers finished second and the Little Giants team was fifth in the Rogers Invitational Wrestling Tournament Saturday.

Wauseon won the two-day, 14-team tournament with 231½ points. Grove City was second with 156½ while Port Clinton took third with 150. Swanton had 149½ with Ross next with 239.

Aaron Root (189 pounds), Brandon Willer (215) and Ty Stout (275) were the Little Giants' runners-up.

Root was pinned by Steve Cunningham of Toledo Scott in three minutes, 29 seconds in the championship match. Willer lost in overtime, 7-5, to Pete Graham of Westerville South and Stout was outpointed 8-1 by Mike McGlothlin of Port Clinton in their title matches.

Jeremy Roosen (119) and Jason Lather (140) finished third

for Ross. Roosen defeated Mike Jurek of Bowsher in the match for third, pinning him in 4:38. Lather scored a 15-5 win over Tyler McCann of Port Clinton in his consolation finals match.

Ross' Don Wensinger (145) and Keith Mosser (171) finished fifth.

In other weekend tournaments: **Hopewell-Loudon Tournament**

Woodmore collected 140½ points to finish sixth out of 17 teams. Elmwood won with 209, followed by Carey with 191½ and Margaretta 170½.

Woodmore had two champions, Eric Fairbanks at 112 pounds and heavyweight Brett Busdeker.

Fairbanks pinned Kenny Long of Carey in 3:14 in the championship match and Busdeker pinned Matt Everhart of Mohawk in 3:32 in the title match.

The Wildcats' Davie Marlowe took second at 130, Nick Dangler was third at 145, Danny Becerra was fourth at 215 and Andy

Cuevas was fifth at 119.

"It opened our eyes," Woodmore coach John Bedford said. "The kids see what they have to do now. I told them all week it was going to be a tough one."

Ironman Invitational

Oak Harbor's Tait Miller took second at 140 pounds and Kevin Fabian finished fourth at 112 pounds in the two-day tournament at Walsh Jesuit High School in Cuyahoga Falls.

Miller lost to Quinn Foster of Blair Academy, N.J., 7-5 in the championship match. Miller advanced to the finals when Orrville's Shane Hartzler, last year's state Division II runner-up at 140 pounds, was disqualified for biting Miller's arm in their semifinal match.

The match was tied at 9-9, with Miller riding on top, when referee Dennis Palmer DQ'd Hartzler of flagrant misconduct.

Miller also beat Walsh Jesuit's

Frank Favaro, a Division I state runner-up a year ago, 16-14 in overtime in an earlier match.

"Tait was relentless," Oak Harbor coach George Bergman said. "A lot of matches were high-scoring, and his endurance really helped him out. He wore some of those guys down."

"In the finals, he was down four or five points early and came back to take Foster down twice. He found out this week what he needs to work on for upcoming tournaments."

Fabian beat Utica's Scott Crane 7-6 in a consolation match. Crane is the defending Division III state champion at 112 pounds. Fabian lost a second-round match to Chris Kelly of Easton, Pa., 7-1 to fall into the consolation bracket.

Fabian won three consolation matches before losing to John Giacche of Blair Academy, N.J., 6-4 in the battle for third place.

Rogers Invitational

Team Standings

1, Wauseon	231½
2, Grove City	156½
3, Port Clinton	150
4, Swanton	149½
5, Fremont Ross	139
6, Springfield	137½
7, Maumee	112
8, Westerville South	101
9, Anthony Wayne	67½
10, Toledo Scott	67
11, Toledo Rogers	56½
12, Toledo Woodward	53
13, Toledo Bowsher	40
14, Toledo Waite	49

Matches Involving Ross

Championship Finals

189-Steven Cunningham (Toledo Scott) d. Aaron Root (Ross) 3-29; 215-Pete Graham (Westerville South) d. Brandon Willer (Ross) 7-5 (OT); 275-Mike McGlothlin (Port Clinton) d. Ty Stout (Ross) 8-1.

Consolation Finals (Third place)

119-Jeremy Roosen (Ross) p. Mike Jurek 4-38; 140-Jason Lather (Ross) d. Tyler McCann (Port Clinton) 15-5.

For Fifth Place

145-Don Wensinger (Ross) d. Nick Sancraint (Toledo Rogers) 16-6; 171-Keth Mosser (Ross) p. Kevin DeGood (Maumee) 2-58.

Wrestling

Two Little Giants in semifinals

News-Messenger reports

TIFFIN — A pair of Fremont Ross wrestlers have reached the semifinals of the 17-team Wendy's '95 Wrestling Tournament

Jason Loganbach (152 pounds) and Brandon Willer (215) will began competition at 10:45 this morning.

Loganbach was to have faced top-seeded Nate Boggs of Sandusky Perkins in the semifinals while the second-seeded Willer takes on Jason Melton of Tiffin Columbian.

Whitmer leads the tournament with 83½ points. Runner-up Tiffin Columbian has 79 with Perkins third with 67. Elyria Catholic had 65, followed by Columbus Brookhaven and Celina with 52½, Amherst Steele with 51 and Ross at 44.

WRESTLING

Willer takes title in Tiffin tourney

News-Messenger reports

TIFFIN — Brandon Willer of Fremont Ross made short work of two Friday matches to win the 215-pound division championship at the Wendy's '95 Wrestling Tournament.

The Little Giants finished tied for fifth in the two-day, 17-team tournament.

Willer recorded a pair of falls, pinning Jason Melton of Columbus Brookhaven in 45 seconds of their semifinal match. In the title match, the second-seeded Willer pinned top-seeded Rene Orozco of Toledo Whitmer in 1:16.

Tiffin Columbian won the team title with 202 points, with Whitmer finishing second with 194½. Sandusky Perkins was third with 154½ followed by Elyria Catholic.

Other Ross finishes included fourths by Jeremy Roosen (119) and Jason Longanbach (152) and fifths by Derek Wensinger (103) and Aaron Root (189).

Little Giants defending Mackey title

By BILL BRAY
Staff writer

Fremont Ross will host the 23rd Mal Mackey Memorial Tournament hoping to defend its 1995 title.

"We have been hit with sickness and bad weather," Ross coach Grover Dowell said. "I think our lineup is pretty well set, but with missing the match Wednesday, it has set us back."

The Little Giants, who won the Mackey a year ago with 216

Wrestling

points, was scheduled to wrestle Great Lakes League foe Bedford, Mich. Wednesday at home.

Ross is joined by Bowling Green, Elida, Lima Shawnee, Sylvania Northview, Port Clinton, Spencerville and Sylvania Southview. Northview is filling the spot left vacant by the Lakota Raiders, who are not participating in the tournament this year.

Brandon Willer, the Little Giants' 215-pound wrestler, won the 189-pound title last year. Willer also had the most pins in the shortest amount of time for the tournament.

Other finalists from last year's event are Josh Cherry and Don Wensinger. Cherry, after finishing second at 103 last season, moves to 112. Wensinger was runner-up at 130 last year and will compete at 135 this year.

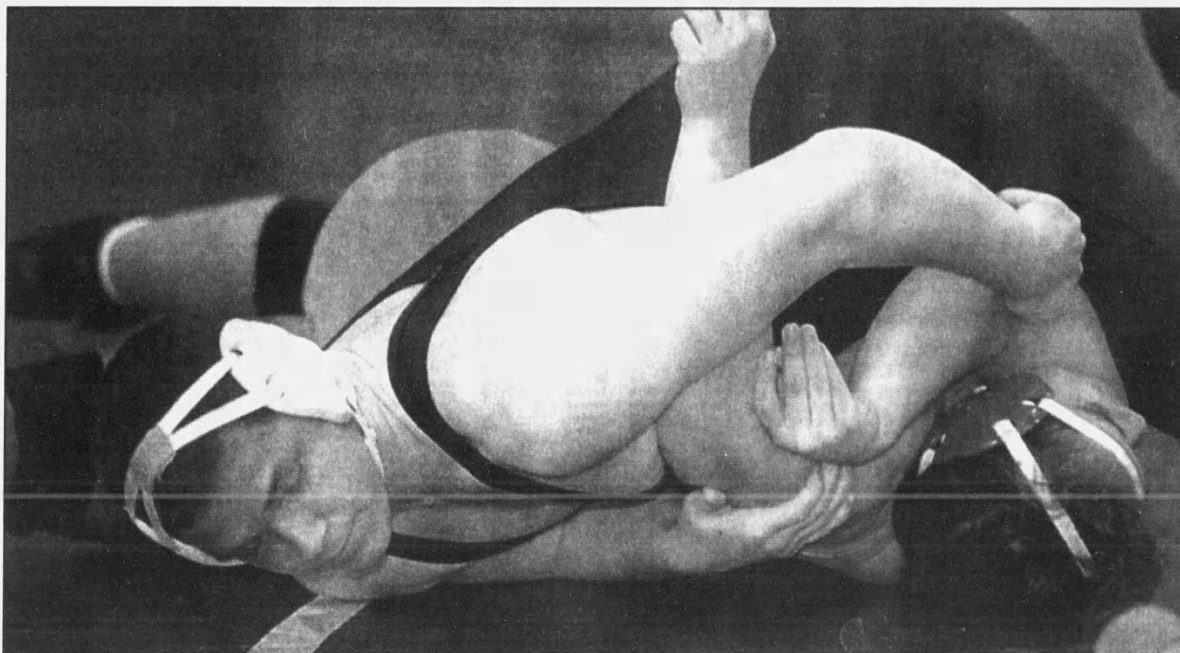
"We are missing some key

guys in there," Dowell said. "I'm hoping we can finish in the top three."

Freshmen Cody Franks and John Forstay as well as senior Jason Lather have been ill and will miss the tournament.

Port Clinton Coach Tom Fisher plans for an eye-opening experience entering the tournament.

"We hope we can compete with the upper teams," Fisher said. "I hope we can hang close to Northview and Ross."



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

BRANDON WILLER of Fremont Ross pins Port Clinton's Gabe Cuevas in 18 seconds in the 215-pound semifinals Saturday at the Mal Mackey

Memorial Tournament at Ross High School. Willer was named the tournament's most valuable wrestler and was one of four Ross champions.

Ross sweeps top honors at Mal Mackey

By **BOB MARKER**
Sports Editor

Mal Mackey would have puffed out his chest. As it was, Fremont Ross coach Grover Dowell was a bit mystified at his team's accomplishment.

The Little Giants swept the top honors Saturday at the 23rd Mal Mackey Memorial Wrestling Tournament in the Purple Pit at Ross High School. The tourney is named in honor the coach who started the Ross program.

Dowell's team, despite being hit hard by illness and match postponements, racked up 174½ points to easily defend its 1995 title. Lima Shawnee and Sylvania Southview shared second with 132 points. Port Clinton was fourth with 124½ while Elida with 101½, Spencerville at 95, Northwood with 58 and Bowling Green at 54 comprised the second division of the eight-team tourney.

"I have no idea what they did," Dowell said after his team was presented the cham-

pionship trophy by representatives of tournament co-sponsors Fremont Moose and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

"I think," the Ross coach said after a brief pause, "the kids wanted to repeat."

Brandon Willer, 215-pound division, was named the tournament's most valuable wrestler, with teammate Jason Longanbach (145) winning the trophy for the most falls in the least amount of time. They were two of the four Ross champions. Jesse Sandoval (160) and Aaron Root (189) were the others.

Ross's runner-up finishes went to Don Wensinger (135) and Eric Swinehart (140).

"We did have some guys who performed well," Dowell said. "That was an outstanding job for Longanbach. Jesse Sandoval is only a sophomore and he showed a lot of heart by what he did."

Trailing 9-7 with five seconds remaining in his title match against Travis Frank of Bowling Green, Sandoval used a reversal to

get Frank to his back in a four-point move to nip Frank at the buzzer, 11-9.

Longanbach pinned Aaron Bruns of Lima Shawnee in three minutes, 51 seconds in the finals. That gave him three falls in 8:02.

Willer, who took a total of 38 seconds to pin opponents in his first two matches, stopped Josh Gremling of Lima Shawnee 8-3 in the championship match.

Root, another sophomore who matched Longanbach in falls with three, pinned Mark Leifer of Lima Shawnee in 1:23 to win his title. His three pins took 8:16, second best to Longanbach.

While Dowell praised some of the Little Giants, he was disappointed with others.

"We did not have many kids, with the exception of two or three, letting down on the basics. If we get them up, we will have a well-rounded team," he said.

■ **More Wrestling, B3**

Wrestling

Mal Mackey Memorial

Team Standings

- 1, Fremont Ross (FR)174½
- 2, Lima Shawnee (LS)132
- Sylvania Southview (SS)132
- 4, Port Clinton (PC)124½
- 5, Elida (E)101½
- 6, Spencerville (S)95
- 7, Northwood (N)58
- 8, Bowling Green (BG)54

Championship finals

103-Mike Diglia (E) d. Steve Simok (N) 7-5; 112-Dan Bergman (PC) d. Phil Griffey (SS) 8-7; 119-Dominic Livas (PC) p. Fred Geck (SS) 3:26; 125-Dan Geck (SS) p. Brian Layman (S) 3:12; 130-Ryan Dickson (PC) p. Wayne Steed (E) 16-10; 135-Jeremy Sawmiller (S) p. Don Wensinger (FR) 3:31; 140-Ryan Reed (SS) p. Eric Swinehart (FR) 3:47;

145-Jason Longanbach (FR) p. Aaron Bruns (LS) 3:51; 152-Jared Watkins (SS) p. Brian Krizan (PC) 5:21; 160-Jesse Sandoval (FR) d. Travis Frank (BG) 11-9; 171-Josh Ward (LS) d. Anthony Dell (S) 7-5 (OT); 189-Aaron Root (FR) p. Mark Leifer (LS) 1:23; 215-Brandon Willer (FR) d. Josh Gremling (LS) 8-3; 275-Bill Wau-
ford (N) d. John Hawk (E) 7-1.

Consolation finals for third

103-Derek Wensinger (FR) d. Mike Tilson (PC) 5-1; 112-Jason Adcock (E) d. Mark Kenbner (LS) 5-4; 119-Jeremy Roosen (FR) d. Howie Cook (S) 6-4; 125-Jeremy Vogelgesang (LS) p. Jason Grabere (BG) 5:23; 130-Anthony Neal (LS) d. Adam Kellermeyer (S) 6-3; 135-Scott Roth (LS) d. Jerry Fields (E) 8-4; 140-Dave Wauford (N) p. Tyler McCann (PC) 1:28;

145-Kevin Layman (S) d. Matt Ames (PC) 10-0; 152-Tony Briggs (LS) p. Wayne Crawford (FR) 3:28; 160-Eric Dale (LS) t.f. Jeff Conaway (E) 16-1, 4:32; 171-Jayson Foust (E) d. Bob Logston (BG) 11-2; 189-Jin Sung Kim (SS) p. Mike Cuevas (PC) 2:27; Tom Kelly (BG) d. Gabe Cuevas (PC) 12-5; 275-Ty Stout (FR) p. Ben Shaw (S) 2:59.

MVP: Willer (215), Fremont Ross

Most pins, least amount of time: Longanbach (145), Fremont Ross, three in 8:02.

WRESTLING

Northview topples Ross

News-Messenger reports

SYLVANIA — Northview put the finishing touches on a 37-27 Great Lakes League victory over Fremont Ross in the upper weights Thursday night.

The Wildcats led 28-24, but Nick Cyenienski's pin over Aaron Root at 189 pounds and Dan Clark's 9-5 decision over Brandon Willer at 215 put the match out of reach.

Ross got pins from Jeremy Roosen at 125, Don Wensinger at 135 and Jason Longanbach at 152.

Derek Wensinger at 112, Keith Mosser at 171 and heavyweight Ty Stout won by decision for the Little Giants.

Wrestling

High School

Northview 37, Ross 27

103-Dave Plotner (N) won by forfeit; 112-Derek Wensinger (R) d. Luke McKinley 13-8; 119-Jason Cartney (N) d. Josh Cherry 10-3; 125-Jeremy Roosen (R) p. Mike Evans :39; 130-Kadden Mansor (N) p. Matt Reiter 3:34; 135-Dan Wensinger (R) p. Jordan Schwartz 5:31; 140-Chad Bowen (N) d. Mike Willer 7-4.

145-Jeremy Bockart (N) p. Eric Swinehart 1:13; 152-Jason Longanbach (R) p. Steve Keister 5:11; 160-Costa Petros (N) d. Jesse Sandoval 9-1; 171-Ken Mosser (R) d. Jason Clark 17-12; 189-Nick Cieniowski (N) p. Aaron Root 3:52; 215-Dan Clark (N) d. Brandon Willer 9-5; HWT-Ty Stout (R) d. Matt Patterson 10-5.

JV matches: 125-Jim Platner(N) p. John Shwochow 1:49; 152-James Ward (N) p. Mitch Holland 3:02; 160-Eric Lindsey (R) p. Shawn Brown 1:12; 171-Dave Healy (N) p. Craig Decker 1:45.

Wrestling

Whitmer 53, Ross 12

103-Ryan Stoiber (W) won by forfeit, 112-Derek Wensinger (R) p. Shane Baumgartner 2:13, 119-Jeremy Roosen (R) p. Paul Gooseen 1:00, 125-Brian Szych (W) p. Cody Franks 3:28, 130-Derrick Shuler (W) p. Dan Alejandro 1:45, 135-Jerome Potts (W) d. Don Wensinger 20-4, 140-Dean Schuler (W) d. Jason Lather 7-4.

145-Kyle Segur (W) d. Jason Longanbach 20-10, 152-Mike Lenix (W) d. Wayne Crawford 4-1, 160-Eric Grover (W) d. Jesse Sandoval 24-9, 171-Brian Lenix (W) p. Keith Mosser 3:05, 189-Rene Orozco (W) d. Lenny Root 9-7, 215-Chris McKown (W) d. Brandon Willer 5-1, HWT-Jamie Maldonado (W) d. Ty Stout 11-3.

JV matches: 130-Ty Lawrence (R) d. Jerney Gitner 10-2, 135-Jacob Bailey (W) d. Matt Reiter 2-0, 145-Rob Hutka (W) p. E. J. Harmon, 152-Mike Bunder (W) p. Mike Willer, 160-John Forshtay (R) d. Jack Crist 2-0, 171-Lonny Ebersole (W) d. Mitch Holland 7-2, 189-Matt Brosi (W) d. Craig Decker 10-1, HWT-Eric Lindsey (R) d. John Yates.

Ross comes up short against Bedford

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

Playing nine holes of golf is like eating half a steak. It's just not enough.

A performance by the Fremont Ross Little Giants against Bedford on Wednesday was similarly unsatisfying as the Mules won a Great Lakes League dual match 40-30 at the Purple Pit.

"Half the team performed and half the team didn't," Ross coach Grover Dowell said. "You can't win that way."

Bedford began tuning up for the league tournament Feb. 10 with its fifth win without a loss in GLL matches.

"We weren't in control until the 171-pound kid got a pin," Bedford coach Denny Brighton said. "We knew they were real good in the upper three weights."

"We had to get way out in front. The big match was our 152-pound match. It was a young man filling in, and he stuck the kid."

James Byram, who moved into the Mules' lineup after Bob Johnson moved up to 160, pinned John Forstay in the first period.

Byram's pin gave Bedford a 31-15 lead. Although Jesse Sandoval kept the match alive for Ross with a 6-5 decision over Johnson, Greg Messenger pinned Keith Mosser at 171 to put it out of reach.

"We're right back in the middle of the pack (in the GLL)," Dowell said. "If we could have pulled this one off, which I think the kids should have, we would have been right back in the running."

Ross, 1-3 in GLL duals, got pins from Derek Wensinger at 103, Aaron Root at 189 and Brandon Willer at 215.

Wensinger's pin came with four seconds remaining in the match, Root used a second-period reversal to come from behind for his pin and Willer held a 5-0 lead in the second period when he got his.

Eric Swinehart earned a 7-6 decision at 140

pounds for Ross, scoring a point to tie on Sean Dennis' technical violation and gaining the win with an escape to neutral position in the final two seconds.

Sandoval scored on a third-period reversal and added two back points for his victory.

Dowell said the match started slipping away from the Little Giants after the 135-pound bout, despite Don Wensinger's win by disqualification over Steve Dec.

Wensinger was awarded the victory when he couldn't continue with an injured finger, suffered on Dec's technical violation for pulling on it.

"We don't like to win that way," Dowell said.

Ironically, the 135-pound match is about halfway through the lineup.

Ross gets a chance to put two halves together today when it hosts Napoleon in a match that's scheduled to begin at 6:15 p.m.

Wrestling

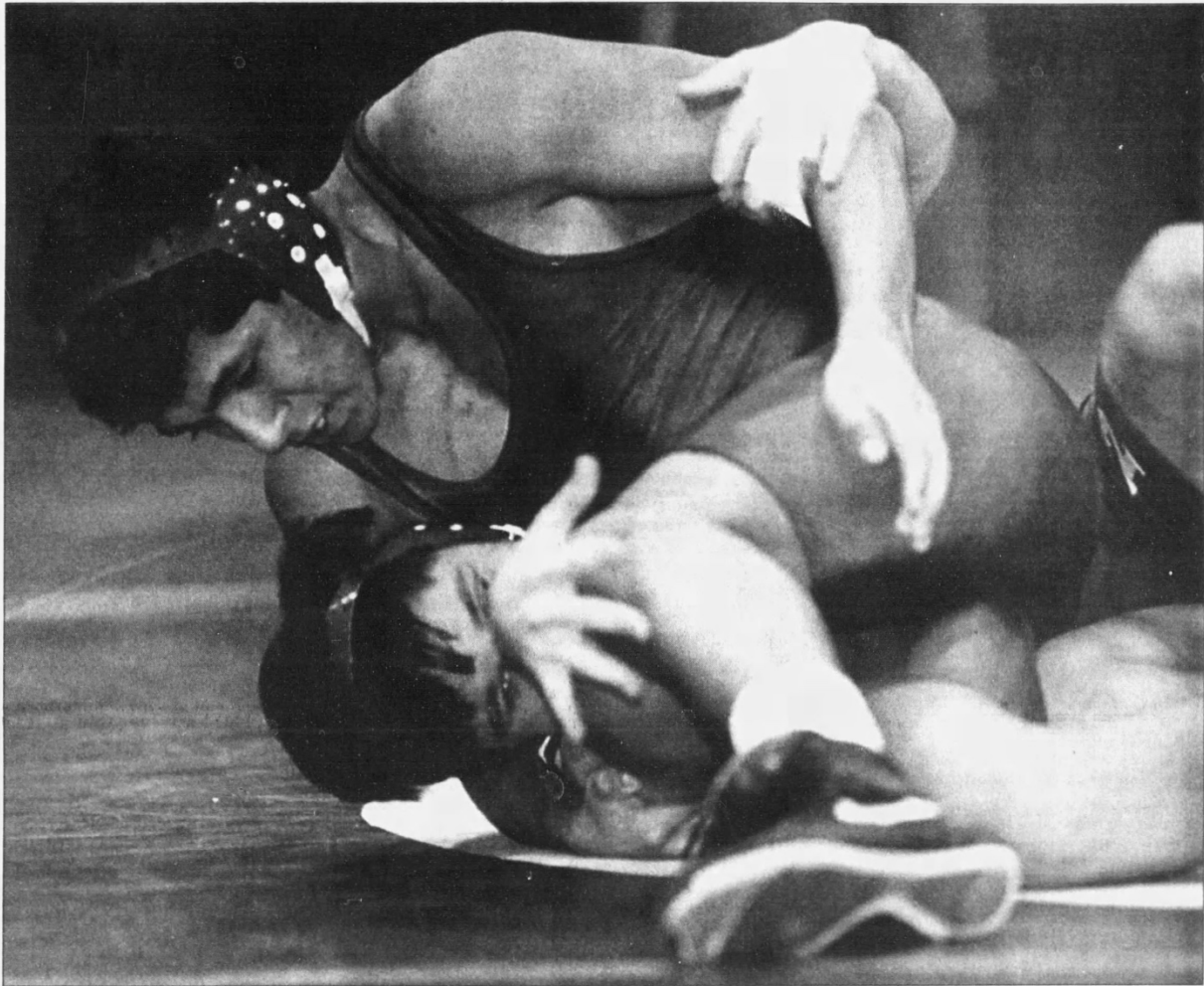
Bedford 40, Ross 30

103: Derek Wensinger (R) p. Justin Bronkema 5:56; 112: Matt Stobinski (B) won by forfeit; 119: Paul Keane (B) d. Jeremy Roosen 8-3; 125: Gerran Brown (B) p. Cody Franks 3:08; 130: Brian Tibai (B) d. Tyler Lawrence 15-1; 135: Don Wensinger (R) won by default; 140: Eric Swinehart (R) d. Sean Dennis 7-6.

145: Josh Casey (B) p. Jason Longanbach 5:23; 152: James Byram (B) p. John Forstay 1:32; 160: Jesse Sandoval (R) d. Bob Johnson 6-5; 171: Greg Messenger (B) p. Keith Mosser 4:28; 189: Aaron Root (R) p. Scott LaPointe 2:43; 215: Brandon Willer (R) p. Casey Bly 2:56; HWT: Mike Messenger (B) d. Ty Stout 4-1.

JV matches—119: Zack Brown (B) p. Mark Hoffman 5:36; 130: Jon Briskey (B) p. Dan Alejandro 2:38; 135: Allan Stark (B) p. Matt Reiter 1:50; 140: Justin Stacy (B) d. Mike Willer 9-5; 160: Scott Opdyke (B) p. Mitch Holland 1:09; 171: Eric Lindsey (R) p. Jeff Hoopper 1:36; 189: Tom Dec (B) d. Kraig Decker 14-1; HWT: Bud-dy Burmeister (B) p. Chris Slane :53.

WRESTLING



News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

FREMONT ROSS 160-pounder Jessee Sandoval works for back points during his match against Napoleon's Ryan Bullock Thursday night in the Purple Pit.

Ross bounces back to beat Napoleon

By **TIM HARMON**
Staff writer

The Fremont Ross Little Giants had homework Wednesday night.

What they learned they put to good use in a 44-31 Great Lakes League dual match victory over Napoleon Thursday night in the Purple Pit.

"They studied what they did last night," Ross coach Grover Dowell said of the residue left from a 40-30 loss to Bedford on Wednesday. "They did a better job trying to control the matches."

And Napoleon still kept it closer — the lead changed hands nine times — than Dowell figured.

"Napoleon was well-prepared," he said.

Neither team led by more than six points after Derek Wensinger opened the match with a pin for Ross and before Brandon

Willer made it 38-31 with a technical fall at 215 pounds.

A forfeit at 189 loomed over the Wildcats all match, however, and they lost for the sixth time in seven GLL matches.

"That hurts," Napoleon coach Josh Carrizales said. "We needed to get momentum. We have a tough kid at 171, and he got a pin, but (the forfeit) stops (momentum)."

Mark Allen's third-period pin over Keith Mosser at 171 gave Napoleon a 31-27 lead, but Aaron Root's forfeit win at 189 gave Ross the lead for good.

Willer and heavyweight Ty Stout finished off the match, Willer routing Neal Gerdeman 19-3 and Stout pinning J.D. Conrad in the second period.

Following Wensinger's second-period pin at 103 and an exchange of forfeits at 112 and 119, Napoleon got a fall from Matt Bressler at 125

and a 10-3 decision from Israel Hernandez at 130 for a 15-12 lead.

Don Wensinger's second-period pin at 135 gave the lead back to the Little Giants.

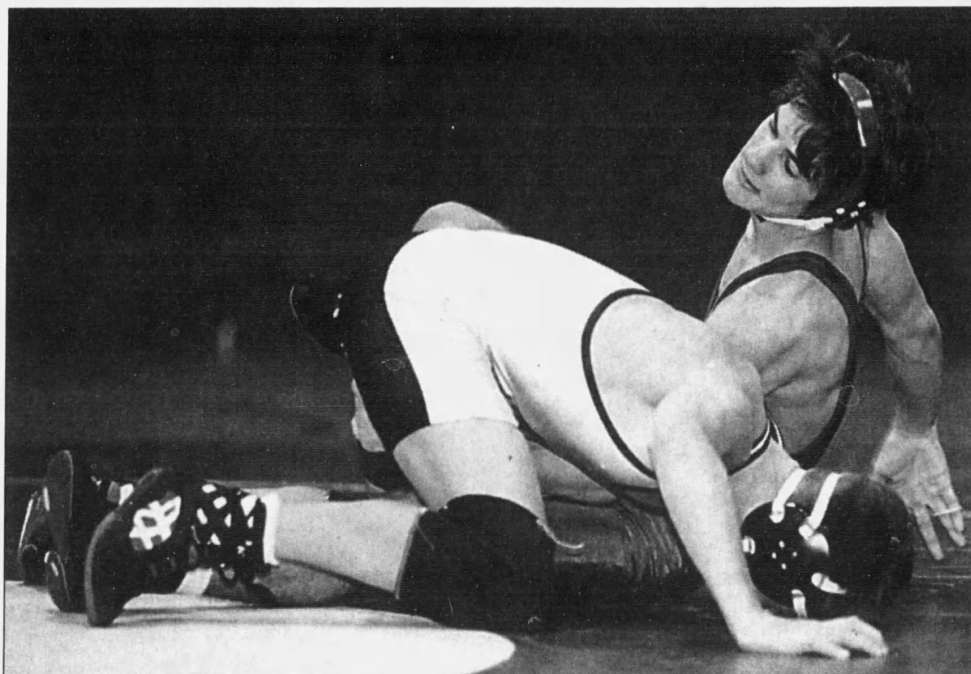
The Wildcats then regained the lead with an 11-3 win at 140 by Danny Carrizales. One of six freshmen in the Napoleon lineup, Carrizales earned the major decision by reversing Eric Swinehart at the buzzer.

Back and forth it went over the next three matches.

Jason Longanbach gave Ross a 24-19 lead with a second-period pin at 145, but Napoleon got a first-period pin from Chris Fenstermaker one match later.

Jessee Sandoval's 10-6 decision for Ross at 160 gave Ross a 27-25 lead before Allen pinned Mosser.

"The kids opened up a little more," Dowell said. "They were more aggressive."



Reversing his fortunes

News-Messenger/Andrew Morrison

Fremont Ross 135-pounder Don Wensinger reverses Josh Fruth of Napoleon in the Purple Pit Thursday night. Wensinger pinned Fruth in the second period, and Ross won the match 44-31.

Wrestling

Ross 44, Napoleon 31

103: Derek Wensinger (R) p. Jason Castillo 3:13; 112: Chris Dacherhause (N) won by forfeit; 119: Jeremy Roosen (R) won by forfeit; 125: Matt Bressler (N) p. Cody Franks 4:21; 130: Israel Hernandez (N) d. Tyler Lawrence 10-3; 135: Don Wensinger (R) p. Josh Fruth 3:31; 140: Danny Carrizales (N) d. Wric Swinehart 11-3.

145: Jason Longanbach (R) p. Bart Dickerson 3:01; 152: Chris Fenstermaker (N) p. John Forstay 1:55; 160: Jesse Sandoval (R) d. Ryan Bullock 10-6; 171: Mike Allen (N) p. Keith Mosser 5:09; 189: Aaron Root (R) won by forfeit; 215: Brandon Willer (R) t.f. Neal Gerdeman 19-3; HWT: Ty Stout (R) p. J.D. Conrad 3:35.

JV matches: Marc Vandenburg (N) p. Matt Reiter 5:1; Mike Willer (R) p. Tyson Boulton 4:4.

Oak Harbor 42, Lakota 28

103 pounds: Jay Fry (L) won by forfeit; 112: Tim Weller (L) p. Rob Hiss 1:56; 119: Double forfeit; 125: Curt Borjas (OH) d. Brett Wasserman 6-0; 130: Alan Sachs (L) t.f. Luke Rose 17-2; 135: Andy Yonikus (L) p. Jeremy Szczepanski 2:1; 140: Brock Quaintance (L) t.f. Justin Montano 19-3.

145: Jason Blair (OH) won by forfeit; 152: Brian Kodak (OH) won by forfeit; 160: Steve Avers (OH) d. Joe Schultz 14-4; 171: Zeb Miller (OH) won by forfeit; 189: Pat Kania (OH) p. Adam Thacker 3:41; 215: Ryan Risch (OH) t.f. Matt Schultz 19-2; 275: Miles Fabian (OH) won by forfeit.

Coaches Poll

COLUMBUS — The third of seven state wrestling polls for 1996, as compiled by the Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association (first-place votes in parentheses) with total points:

DIVISION I

1. Cuy. Falls Walsh Jesuit (12) 120
2. Napoleon St. Edward 40

Prep wrestling

FINDLAY — Heavyweight Ryan Norris pinned Ty Stout of Fremont Ross with 15 seconds left in the first period to salvage a 31-31 Great Lakes League tie for the Trojans Thursday night.

The Little Giants took a 31-25 lead on Aaron Root's second-period pin at 189 pounds and Brandon Willer's 21-4 technical fall at 215.

Cody Franks earned a 16-1 technical fall victory at 125 for Ross, with Tyler Lawrence and Jesse Sandoval winning by decision.

Ross 31, Findlay 31

103: Derek Wensinger (R) d. Mark Freeman 8-0, 112: Bo Bennett (F) won by forfeit, 119: Josh Smith (F) p. Jeremy Roosen 3:18, 125: Cody Franks (R) t.f. Dustin Winderlich 16-1, 130: Tyler Lawrence (R) d. Levi Shadle 6-4, 135: Don Wensinger (R) won by forfeit, 140: Micaiah Abts (F) d. Mike Willer 11-10.

145: John Kemp (F) d. Jason Longanbach 3-2, 152: Matt Gibson (F) d. John Forshtay 12-4, 160: Jesse Sandoval (R) d. Scott Hutton 13-6, 171: Tim Ford (F) d. Keith Mosser 19-13, 189: Aaron Root (R) p. Matt VanAtta 3:05, 215: Brandon Willer (R) t.f. Kasey Leonard 21-4, HWT: Ryan Norris (F) p. Ty Stout 1:45.

JV matches—119: Mark Hoffman (R) d. Jerney Cairl 18-14, Eric Butzier (R) m.d. Josh Dean 15-0, Jason Rhoads (F) p. Mitch Holland 3:23, HWT: Brian Householder p. Chris Slane 3:32.

Little Giants wrestle past Fostoria

By **BOB MARKER**
Sports Editor

Fremont Ross was spotted a 30-6 lead and then broke even in eight actual matches to defeat Fostoria 54-21 in a Great Lakes League wrestling dual meet Tuesday night in the Ross High School Purple Pit.

It was nice to have the big lead before any matches were wrestled, Ross coach Grover Dowell agreed, "but the matches that we had were very competitive."

"Fostoria has a young team and so do we," Dowell said.

Ross forfeited the 103-pound division match, while Fostoria forfeited at 119, 135, 145, 215 and 275.

All four of the Little Giants' wins were on falls, while the Redmen had one fall.

Aaron Root (189 pounds) had the quickest pin for the Little Giants, flattening Joe Kracher in a minute, 42 seconds.

Jesse Sandoval (160) broke out of a cradle

to reverse Fostoria's Todd Barlekamp to his back for a fall in 2:48.

"Jesse is doing a real nice job," Dowell said. "He is listening well. When you tell him something, he pays attention and works on it and does it."

Ross freshman Derek Wensinger (112) took control of Randall Bradner early and got the fall at the 3:44 mark of the second period.

Mike Willer (140) had the fourth Ross fall, scoring on an escape, takedown and a reversal in the final period before pinning Brent Giltis in 5:35.

John Forshtay (152) of Ross lost a 12-11 match to Brad Bennett, scoring on a take-down and reversal in the last half-minute to nearly pull out the win.

The Little Giants' Cody Franks (125) trailed 12-11 before being reversed and pinned by Nick Huber in 5:03. Keith Mosser (171) of Ross fell behind 12-0 after two periods to Orlando Barrientas but closed the gap to 10-7

before being reversed in the final seconds to lose 12-7.

In the other match, Matt Reiter (130) of the Little Giants lost 8-3 to Zeb Wedge.

The match was the final tune-up for both teams before Saturday's league tournament at Toledo Whitmer High School. Ross will take a 3-3-1 league mark into the eight-team tournament while Fostoria is 0-7 in league matches.

The GLL tournament begins at noon with finals at approximately 6:30 p.m.

The league record and tournament finish determines the league champion. Wins in head-to-head matches count two points while points in the tournament are awarded on a 21 for first and then 18, 15, 12, 9, 6, 3, 0 basis. The two point totals are added to determine the league champ.

Ross will have seven points going into the league tournament.

Wrestling

Ross 54, Fostoria 21

103-Aaron Sterns (F) won by forfeit; 112-Derek Wensinger (R) p. Randall Bradner 3:44; 119-Mark Hoffman (R) won by forfeit; 125-Nick Huber (F) p. Cody Franks 5:03; 130-Zeb Wedge (F) d. Matt Reiter 8-3; 135-Don Wensinger (R) won by forfeit; 140-Mike Willer (R) p. Brent Giltis 5:35;

145-Jason Longanbach (R) won by forfeit; 152-Brad Bennett (F) d. John Forshtay 12-11; 160-Jesse Sandoval (R) p. Todd Barlekamp 2:48; 171-Orlando Barrientes (F) d. Keith Mosser 12-7; 189-Aaron Root (R) p. Joe Kracher 1:42; 215-Brandon Willer (R) won by forfeit; 275-Ty Stout (R) won by forfeit.

GLL records: Ross 3-3-1, Fostoria 0-7.

JV match: Jason Moores (F) p. Mitch Holland 5:40.

Willer named Ross wrestling MVP

News-Messenger reports

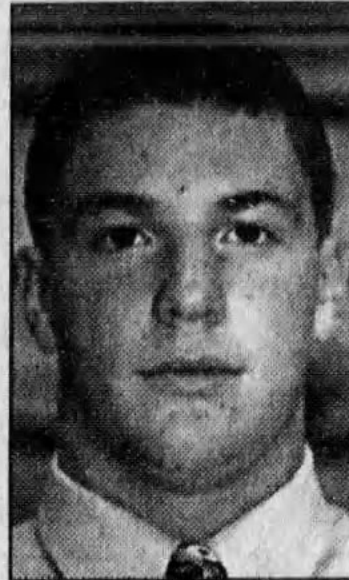
Brandon Willer received the most valuable wrestler award at the Fremont Ross awards program in the high school cafeteria Thursday night.

The Ross senior won the Great Lakes League 215-pound title and was a Division I sectional champion.

Willer also received a co-captain's trophy along with Don Wensinger.

Coach Grover Dowell presented the most improved award to Jason Longanbach, while Aaron Root won a trophy for most pins and Derek Wensinger took home the award for most take-downs.

Jesse Sandoval received the coaches award.



WILLER