In State Meet

Rhodes Seeks Jinx Ending

Big Dave Rhodes of Fremont Ross will be trying to write a happy final chapter to a hard luck story of high school competition today and tomorrow in Columbus. By winning the district and placing third in the regional Rhodes qualified to participate in the shot put at the state high school Class AA track.

Rhodes has had injury or illness send his 255-pound hulk to the sidelines before completing a football season his sophomore, junior and senior years. In both of the last two years he broke a leg in midseason, erasing what many considered All-Ohio potential.

To win a state title in the shot put he would have to throw farther than he ever has. His best to date is the 55-11½ with which he won the district title. Head track Coach Ron Brant and Norm Bray, the assistant who handles the weight men, both feel Rhodes could flirt with the 60-foot mark. They have been working on getting the big fellow to use all the circle. "If he does, he could. . ." and Coach Bray's voice fades leaving the question that even the coaches don't know his full potential.

For two-thirds of the season Rhodes struggled with the effort to break Bob Shaw's Ross record of 54 feet. Once this barrier was broken, Rhodes was under that figure only once. He added nearly two feet to his puts in the final three weeks of the season.

Joining Rhodes on the trip to the state track meet will be seven area Class A performers. Woodmore sends one of the strongest contingents in the state in pole vaulter Galen Koepke, hurdler Dave Fegley and weight specialist Rex Durdel. Fegley, who won both hurdles in the regional, has best times of :15 in the highs and :21 in the lows. Durdel has put the shot nearly 52 feet and hurled the discus past 155.

Danbury will send an 880-yard relay team of Joe Boss, Mike Turinsky, Dave Wahlers and Mike Tracy.

Fegley, Durdel Give Woodmore Fifth Spot

COLUMBUS—Placing in three events—two seconds and a third —first year consolidation Woodmore finished fifth in the team standings at the Ohio High School Class A track and field championships here Saturday. Dave Fegley and Rex Durdel accounted for the points as the Wildcats finished only six points behind champion Arcanum, 17, and two points behind third place Yellow Spring, 13.

The difference between fifth and third for the Wildcats was less than a 10th of a second. Fegley was clocked in the identical :19.9 time of the winner in the 180-yard low hurdles but awarded second place. A first place would have meant two more points.

In Class AA competition Fremont Ross' Dave Rhodes finished 11th among 16 state meet participants. His longest put was 53-7 and his shortest just over 51 feet. "He didn't have one of his better days," remarked Ross track Coach Ron Brant. It took a put of 58-8¾ to finish in the points at fifth in the Class AA shot put. Winning shot put was 60-6½ by Columbus South's Don Caldwell.

Fegley had his two best times in the Class A hurdles. He was clocked in .19.9 in the lows and 14.9 in the highs. His previous best times were .21 and .15

respectively. He finsihed in the 120-yard high hurdles behind Bob Lipscomb, Fairport Harbor, :14.6, and Dave Juenger, Chillicothe Unioto, also timed in :14.9. The winner in the 180-yard low hurdles, clocked in same time as Fegely was Juenger. Limpscomb was fifth in this event.

Durdel failed to place in the shot put, as did Galen Koepke of Woodmore, who also qualified for the state meet. In the discus Durdel was measured 152-4, second to Middletown Madison's Richard Enright, 153-1.

Church Loop Tourney Set

Fremont church league preseason tournament will begin with a pair of games Monday evening.

St. Marks will play St. Johns at Croghan school and Fremont Trinity will play Hayes at Atkinson. On Tuesday, East Side Presbyterian will clash with Grace II at Atkinson and Memorial United Methodist will meet Lindsey Trinity at Croghan. All games are at 7 p.m.

The single elimination tournament is scheduled to be concluded this week, with league action starting June 3.