

1978 State...

## Class AAA

# Parks, Miller reach state tournament

TOLEDO — Ross had its own little spotlight but Vermilion stole the show at the Class AAA District Wrestling Tournament at Rogers High School this past weekend.

The Little Giants will have two wrestlers making the trip to Columbus Friday to compete in the Ohio High School State Wrestling Tournament. Senior Clarence Parks ended his three-year stalk of a state berth and Paul "Tex" Miller, a junior, will carry the Ross hopes in the tourney.

Vermilion, with four advancing to the state meet, walked away with the district title. The Sailors, Class AA a year ago, piled up 130 points, nearly 60 more than runnerup St. Francis at 73½. Mansfield Senior finished third with 69½ and Ross was fourth at 61. St. John's with 55 rounded out the top five.

Al Voggenthaler, Ross coach, nodded his head in happiness, immediately after Parks had earned the right to travel to Columbus. The Ross senior and captain edged Todd Sabo of Maumee 1-0 in overtime in his hardest match of the tourney.

"Clarence wrestled his best tournament ever," Voggenthaler expressed, and added, "it was a good birthday present."

"Voggie" turned 40 Saturday.

Parks win over Sabo was in the semifinals. He came back to win the district 155-pound title with an easy 8-4 win over Rick DeStephens of Lima Shawnee. The rights for the Columbus trip ended two years of futility for Parks.

"As a sophomore," Parks recalled, "I lost my one point in the last 20 seconds in the semifinals here. Then in my junior year, I lost in the semis by a referee's decision in overtime."

"This year I won in overtime."

Parks and Sabo had tied at 1-1 in the regulation match. Parks scored the only point of the overtime with an escape in the second period but what he did in the first period had guaranteed him his win.

Parks abandoned his waiting style for a dashing, daring "shooting" style against Sabo in the first extra session.

"We have been pounding it in his head all

week," Voggenthaler said, "that if he waited here, he would be staying home again."

Both Parks and his coach unveiled a helping hand that may have boosted the Ross senior over the hill after two years of trying.

"I have to thank Pete Werling," Parks began, "for helping me this week. He really worked on me."

Werling, a bit out of shape and two years out of high school, finished third in the state meet at 145 during his senior year. Voggenthaler solicited the aid of Werling who used a style similar to Sabo.

"Pete showed Clarence that if he hung back, he would get pounded," the Ross coach explained, "Pete pounded him a few times until Clarence started to come in and neutralize him. That was the same style he used against Sabo."

Miller defeated Marty Andryczik in the semis 4-1 to earn the state tourney berth but had his problems ... not so much with the Whitmer wrestler but with himself.

"I don't know," Miller said, "but I have not

had my mind in this tournament. Maybe I am thinking about the state meet, I don't know."

Doug Finch of St. Francis brought Miller back to reality in the finals, winning 3-1 when Miller picked up two penalty points for stalling.

In other Ross semifinal matches, Dave Campbell, 145, who got into the tournament as an alternate, lost to runnerup Giles Perry of Vermilion 5-3. Campbell went on to finish fourth, losing 3-1 in the consolation finals to Paul Jacoby of St. John's.

Troy Amor was third in the heavyweight division. He lost in the semis to eventual champ Ray Myers of Bowsher via a pin in 4:39. Amor came back to pin Gary Van Deusen of Port Clinton in 44 seconds in the consolation semis before winning by default in the consolation finals from Pete Moody of DeVilbiss.

Moody broke his collar bone when he was "underhooked" by Amor early in the match.

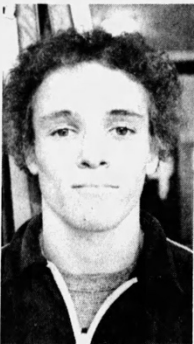
Port Clinton's Art Castillo finished fourth at 112 pounds. He lost in the semis to title winner John Churchill 4-1 before being pinned in the consolation finals by Dean Cooper of Northview.

## A Gibsonburg first

# State meets begin Friday



**CLARENCE PARKS**  
... Finally made it



**TEX MILLER**  
... Ross junior

By **BOB MARKER**  
N-M Sports Editor

Kraig Baker is an oddity in Gibsonburg but not so odd as to cause any funny looks or whispered gossip. Instead, the slender Gibsonburg High School senior is going to a place where no other Golden Bear athlete has ever tread: the state wrestling tournament as a participant, not a spectator.

Baker is one of 13 Fremont area high school wrestlers to earn a shot at a state title but his route to the state is one of the more unusual. Besides being the first Gibsonburg matmen to reach the state level matches, Baker turned against his family to reach that point.

Not a vicious turn but a turn that cousin Nick Picciuto would just as soon forget and Baker, remember.

"Nick is my cousin," Baker said warmly while remembering two matches against the Fremont St. Joe 112-pounder. "I felt if I got past Nick in the sectionals and district, I could make it."

Baker defeated his junior St. Joe cousin 1-0 in

the sectional semifinals and 4-0 in the district semifinals to guarantee himself of spots in first, the district tournament last week and Findlay, and second, the state meet Friday and Saturday at Otterbein College in Westerville.

"I would have liked to see Nick go to the state, too," Baker said, "and I think he would have made it if he had not hurt his shoulder."



**KRAIG BAKER**

Picciuto's injury was in the district consolation finals and prevented him from getting a shot at third place in the district meet and a spot in the state tourney.

Baker was not a wrestler as a freshman — instead he went out for basketball. "I quit that," he admitted, "but my freshman football coach (Jeff Hursey) talked me into coming out for wrestling."

"I wrestled junior varsity in my first match and then went up to varsity," Baker recalled.

Although skeptical about wrestling during his freshman year, Baker began to completely embrace the sport after posting a 20-8 record as a sophomore.

The Baker bear hug on wrestling has now turned into a 21-5 record his senior year and a chance to upgrade Gibsonburg wrestling 100-fold with a state title.

With Baker bringing Gibsonburg under the state lights, St. Joe's Lynn McKinney and Tom Guyer are headed to Otterbein for the third year in a row. Teammate Bob Freeh will be making his first up-

pearance in the state meet.

McKinney, a deceiving 13-6, is going for the 138-pound title while Guyer, 24-0, is vying for the 126-pound crown. Freeh is in the 155-pound division. All of St. Joe's state wrestlers are seniors.

Clarence Parks of Ross ended a three-year effort by making the state tournament for the first time. The 155-pounder will be in the Class AAA meet at St. John's Arena. Junior teammate Paul "Tex" Miller will be looking for the state title at 126 pounds.

Oak Harbor has the largest single delegation headed for the state meet. Four Rockets, three underclassmen, will be competing in the Class AA show at St. John's Arena.

Phil Weirich, just a sophomore, will be in state tourney number two after finishing fifth in the 98-pound division a year ago. He wrestles at 105 this season for the Rockets.

Freshman Doug Blay, 98, junior John Biggart, 145, and Mike Carman, 167, round out the Oak Harbor contingent.

Other Fremont area matmen in the tourney are Alex Quinones, 98, of Genoa, Brian Mallott 112, of Bellevue, and Pat Scheuffler, 138, of Margaretta. All will be in AA tourney.

Wrestling in the Class AAA and AA meets will begin at St. John's Arena at noon Friday with the quarterfinal rounds at 7 p.m. Friday evening. The semifinals will begin at noon Saturday and the finals at 7 p.m.

Class A is at Otterbein College and will begin at 5 p.m. Friday. The semifinals are at noon Saturday with the finals beginning at 7 p.m.

Following are the first round matchups for the Fremont area wrestlers:

**Class AAA**  
126—Tex Miller (Fremont Ross) 18-1 vs. John Grasinger (North Canton Hoover) 21-2;  
155—Clarence Parks (Fremont Ross) 15-1 vs. Jim Little (Kettering Fairmont East) 19-3;

**Class AA**  
98—Doug Blay (Oak Harbor) 22-2 vs. Jeff Polk (Columbus Mifflin) 22-2; Alex Quinones (Genoa) 23-3 vs. Mark Hoppel (Lisbon Beaver) 15-2;

105—Phil Weirich (Oak Harbor) 25-1 vs. Tony Gibhart (Brookville) 23-2;

112—Brian Mallott (Bellevue) 17-2 vs. Dale Rose (Bethel Tate) 28-3;

138—Pat Scheuffler (Margaretta) 16-1 vs. Mike Lamancus (Beloit West Branch) 20-0;

145—John Biggart (Oak Harbor) 20-5 vs. Kevin Burley (Trenton Edgewood) 24-5;

167—Mike Carman (Oak Harbor) 22-2 vs. Steve Lucas (Akron St. Vincent/St. Mary) 8-1;

**Class A**  
112—Kraig Baker (Gibsonburg) 21-5 vs. Rob Wenger (West Liberty-Salem) 12-9-1;

126—Tom Guyer (Fremont St. Joe) 24-0 vs. George Tompkins (Mogadore) 23-0;

138—Lynn McKinney (Fremont St. Joe) 13-6 vs. Larry Davis (Middlefield Cardinal) 18-3;

155—Bob Freeh (Fremont St. Joe) 18-5 vs. Randy Kimmel (Covington) 18-1.

## Regional basketball tournaments

# Findlay takes sideline seat

By The Associated Press

Findlay Coach John Stozich conceded that the performance of Art Schlichter, especially from the foul line, made the difference in Miami

Trace's 64-58 Class AAA regional high school basketball victory.

"We didn't want to foul Schlichter but he had the ball all the time," Stozich said.

The Ohio State-bound Schlichter hit 10 of 12 free throws in the fourth quarter Wednesday night.

For the game, Schlichter hit on 15 of 17 charity shots and finished with 25 points.

Miami Trace advances to Saturday night's finals against the winner of tonight's semifinal game between Columbus Walnut Ridge (12-10) and defending Class AAA champion Columbus Linden-McKinley (17-5).

Findlay, the 1948 state titlist in Class AA, closed out with a 16-7 record.

In other tournament play Wednesday night, second-ranked Kettering Alter and sixth-ranked Canton Timken advanced to their AAA regional finals, while one other former champion fell by the wayside.

All five Alter starters scored in double figures, led by Don Meineke with 19 points, as the Kettering team (21-1) defeated

fourth-ranked Springfield North 77-63.

Alter's opponent for the regional championship in Dayton Saturday will be Cincinnati Withrow, a 63-61 victor over Xenia in three overtimes in another semifinal contest Wednesday night.

Timken coasted to a 96-81 verdict over Youngstown Mooney in the Canton AAA regional after erupting for 55 points in the second and third periods.

Timken advances to the Saturday finale against the winner of tonight's semifinal between seventh-ranked Akron Central-Hower (21-0) and third-ranked Cleveland St. Ignatius (21-1).

Eighth-ranked Cleveland Shaw lifted its record to 22-1 and advanced to the AAA regional finals at Kent State University with a 61-54 triumph over Lorain Admiral King behind the 30-point performance of Pat Peacock.

Admiral King closed out with a 15-8 record.

In Class A tournament action Wednesday night, Ottoville rolled over Stryker 57-44 at Bowling Green State University as Roger Turnwald and Joe Kemper scored 17 and 16 points, respectively. Ottoville now is 22-3 while Stryker finished at 20-5.

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# Three area wrestlers in semis

## *Oak Harbor's Carman advances in Class AA*

COLUMBUS — Mike Carman of Oak Harbor was the lone Fremont area wrestler to advance to today's semi-finals in the Class AA and AAA State Wrestling Tournament at Ohio State University's St. John's Arena Friday night.

Carman raised his season record to 24-2 in winning two matches in the 167-pound class of the Class AA tourney. The remaining nine area Class AA and AAA wrestlers must wait until today's semis to see if they are still alive in the tourney.

Seven of the nine area grapplers won their first matches, but all but Carman lost in the quarter-finals.

Carman decisioned Steve Lucas of Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary 12-8 in his first match and posted a superior decision in the quarter-finals with an 18-5 win over Mark Linton of Circleville.

Carman will face Steve Hochstetler (24-1) of Orrville in today's semis.

Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler must wait another year to get a state champion. It is "Voggie's" 15th year of coaching without a state titlist.

Clarence Parks of Ross won his first Class AAA match in the 155-pound class 9-6 over Jim Little of Kettering Fairmont East. Parks lost in the quarter-finals 2-1 to Dave Ruckman of Wadsworth. Ruckman scored on a reversal in the second period, with Parks escaping in the third stanza.

Tex Miller, the other Ross participant at 126, lost 10-1 to John Grasinger of North Canton Hoover, but Miller is still alive as Grasinger won his next match.

The other three Oak Harbor wrestlers, Doug Blay (98), Phil Weirich (105) and John Biggert (145) all won their first

matches in Class AA, but lost in the quarter-finals.

Blay defeated Jeff Polk of Columbus Mifflin 9-4 and then lost to Mark Allison of Olmsted Falls 4-2. Allison was third at 98 in last year's state tourney.

Weirich easily won his first match with a 10-3 decision over Tony Gebhart of Brookville. He was beaten in the quarter-finals by a 6-4 count to Ted Allen of Orrville.

Biggert was pinned at 3:17 into his quarter-final match with Mark Vetter of Chardon after decisioning Kevin Burley of Trenton Edgewood 9-4.

The toughest loss of the night for a Fremont area wrestler came in the 98-pound Class AA division, when Genoa's Alex Quinones bowed to Mark Ditcher 7-6 in the quarter-finals. Quinones led 6-2 until just under 10 seconds remaining in

the match when Ditcher reversed him and put him on his back for a three-point nearfall. Quinones advanced to the quarter-finals with a pin over Mark Hoppel of Lisbon Beaver at 5:05.

Bellevue's Brian Malott got a break in his first Class AA match in the 112-pound class. Malott's opponent, Dale Rose of Bethel Tate, had to forfeit because he didn't make weight, a rarity in the state tournament. Malott then lost 16-11 in the quarter-finals to Tom Weiss of Beachwood.

Pat Scheufler of Margaretta, the other Fremont area Class AA participant, lost his first match on a pin to Mike Lamancusa of Beloit West Branch at 4:42 into the 138-pound match. Lamancusa kept Scheufler alive in the tournament with a victory in the quarter-finals.



# Parks, Miller are 1-3

COLUMBUS — Fremont Ross wrestlers were 1-3 in the Class AAA State High School Wrestling Tournament.

Clarence Parks scored the Little Giants only win of the tourney with a first round win Friday over Jim Little of Kettering Fairmont East. Parks, 155, tired in the late stages of his first match but held on to win 9-6 to reach the championship quarterfinal round Friday night.

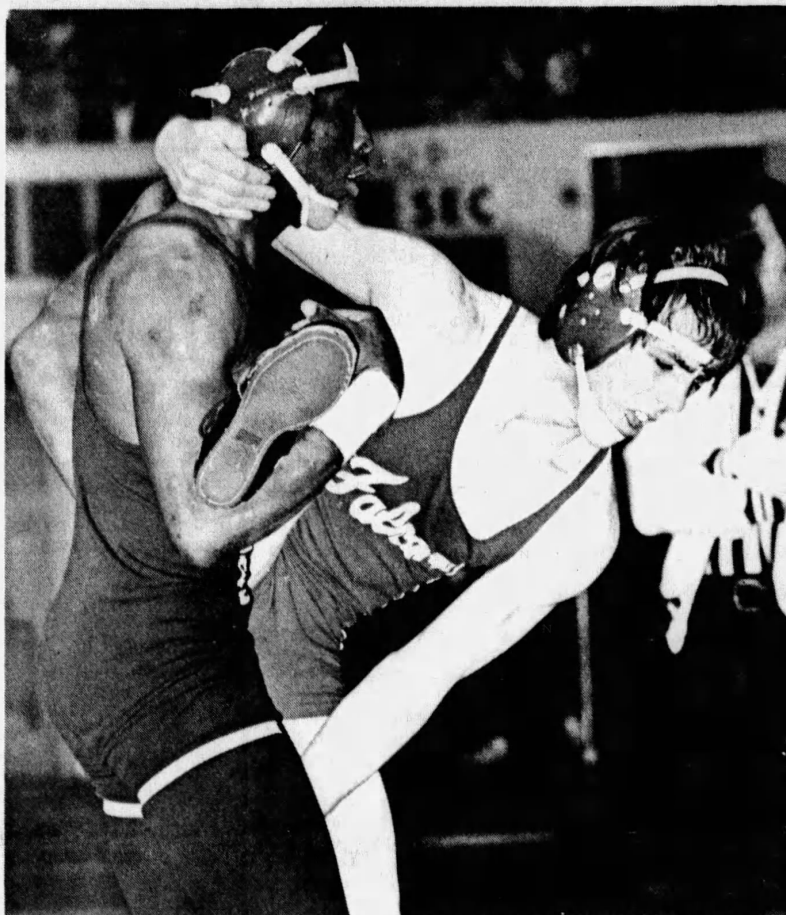
Dave Ruckman of Wadsworth knocked the Ross senior out of any championship hope by scoring on a reversal in the second period and then hanging on for a 2-1 win. Ruckman advanced to the Saturday semifinal round but lost to eliminate any hopes of Parks being "pulled" back into the tourney.

Ruckman lost his semifinal match to eventual champ Ray Tusick of North Olmsted 3-2. Ruckman went on to finish fourth behind Rick DeStephens of Lima Shawnee. DeStephens, the man that Parks beat 8-2 in the District Tournament finals, knocked off Ruckman 6-2 in the battle for the third spot.

Junior Paul "Tex" Miller was 0-2 in the state meet. He lost in the first round of the 126-pound division to North Canton Hoover's John Grasinger 10-1. Grasinger, also a junior, went on to win the state title.

Miller was pulled back into the tourney by Grasinger but lost to Monty Jett of Cincinnati Princeton 10-6.

Parks will be wrestling on the Northwest Ohio All-Star team in two matches. This Saturday, the Ohio team will be in Montgomery, Pa., to wrestle the Central Pennsylvania All-Stars. The Northwest Ohio team will be wrestling the Michigan All-Stars later this month in preliminary match to the World Cup matches at Centennial Hall on the Toledo University campus.



**CLARENCE PARKS**, left, of Ross picks up on the leg of Jim Little of Kettering Farimont East during his 9-

6 win in the first round of the Class AAA 155-pound division Friday. Parks did not place in the state meet.

## Blay, Carman fini

COLUMBUS — Oak Harbor placed three of four wrestlers in the top four of the Class AA Ohio High School State Wrestling Tournament at St. John's Arena on the campus of The Ohio State University.

Mike Carman, 167, and Doug Blay, 98, finished third and Phil Weirich, 105, brought home a fourth place finish for the Rockets.

Three other Fremont area wrestlers, Pat Scheufler of Margaretta, Brian Malott of Bellevue, and Alex Quinones of Genoa, did not place in the two days of wrestling.

Carman, a senior, took a lesson from Weirich and Coach Hector Gonzales to

take his third place spot. Earlier in the consolation finals round, Weirich had lost to Sal Settecase of Aurora in overtime by a referee's decision.

In the overtime, after a scoreless first period, Weirich took the "up" position and it cost him despite wrestling Settecase to a 1-1 standoff in the overtime. In deciding deadlocked overtime matches, officials resort to a 12-step criteria and step 11 is "... a wrestler who gained the first escape in overtime shall be declared the winner."

Settecase got the first escape, Weirich the second, and the Oak Harbor sophomore had to settle for fourth spot.

"I wanted to change by decision," Weirich ex-

plained. "I would not let me change. He (Settecase) beat me fair and square though."

Carman did not fall into the same pitfall that Weirich had.

"I learned that tonight," Carman said about his decision to take the "down" position in his consolation finals overtime win over Bob White of Columbia Station Columbia. "Coach told me to do that should I get into the overtime."

White had escaped in the final second to tie Carman 5-5 and send the match into overtime. After a scoreless first period, Carman escaped in the second period to set up the win. White escaped in the final period but Carman won the match via the criteria