

1980 District...

St. Joe 3rd, Little Giants 10th

Fremont St. Joe and Oak Harbor led area teams in district wrestling tournaments Friday.

The Crimson Streaks are third after two rounds of the Class A meet at Anderson Arena in Bowling Green while Oak Harbor is leading the Class AA at Toledo Waite High School.

Ross, competing in the Class AAA at Rogers High School, was second after the first round and is 10th after round two with 10½.

The Little Giants took six wrestlers into the district meet and still have five "alive". Andre Parks, 138, however, is the only Ross wrestler in the semifinals.

John Havener, 98, Cory Beard, 105, Craig Hilty, 126, and Tim Walther, 155 are alive and in the running for third. Jim Lipstraw, 145, is the only Ross wrestler out of the tournament while Beard probably will not wrestle again because of an injury.

The Streaks trail leader St. Mary's by one and a half points and second place New London by a half point.

St. Joe advanced five grapplers to the semifinals which began at 1 p.m. today. Finals start at 7 p.m.

Barney Cruz (112) defeated Gene Monyer of Fayette 7-0 and Bob Deron of Plymouth 7-0 to earn his spot in the semifinals. Mark Coleman (138) pinned Greg Thiel of Edgerton at 2:53 and then downed Bill Edwards of Bluffton 4-2 to advance to the semis while Roger Darr (175) defeated Dave Livensparger of Hilltop 13-0 and Greg Distil of Calvert 7-2 to get to the semis.

Other St. Joe wrestlers in the semifinals are Doug Courtney (185) and Dave Foos (HVY).

Courtney got to the semis by defeating Joel Faber of Carey 11-5 and Rich Lloyd of Stricker 13-0. Foos pinned Lincolnview's Dave Cramer at 2:48 and Geren Bish of Bluffton at 2:55 to reach the semis.

Woodmore, who took eight wrestlers to the district, and Gibsonburg with four competing, did not advance anyone to the semifinal rounds.

At Toledo Waite High School, Oak Harbor and Cardinal Stritch continued its yearly duel. The Rockets had a 48½-46 lead over Stritch after the first two rounds.

Both teams have seven wrestlers going into today's semifinal round. Wrestling will begin at 1 p.m. with the finals at 7 p.m.

Bryan Behm, 105, Phil Weirich, shooting for his fourth state tournament bid, 112, Doug and Dan Blay, 119 and 126, respectively, Ernie Goodsite, 132 and Ben and Carlos Mincheff, 138 and 145, respectively, will be gunning for state bids for Oak Harbor.

A win in the semis will automatically give a wrestler a berth in the state showdown.

Clyde, with five wrestlers competing, did not have a semifinalist. Lakota, and Margaretta also did not get a wrestler into the championship semifinal competition.

Genoa will have two of its three district wrestlers in action in the semis. Dan Tank, 119, and John Bedford, 138, will be gunning for the state berth for the Comets.

In the A and AA tournament, the top three wrestlers in each weight division advance to the state meet. A win in the semis will automatically give a wrestler a berth in the state showdown.



ANDRE PARKS

Parks gets 2nd chance

TOLEDO — Andre Parks took advantage of a new rule to make it to the state wrestling tournament for the second consecutive year at the Toledo Class AAA District Wrestling tournament.

Parks, 138, and a Ross High School senior used the "challenge" rule to step up to the state test that begins this Thursday at St. John Arena on the campus of The Ohio State University in Columbus.

The Ross wrestler lost in the semifinals 1-0 in overtime to Toledo St. Francis sophomore Greg Delong. The regulation match ended deadlocked at 1-1.

In the overtime, Delong escaped with 25 seconds remaining in the second period and then "rode" Parks in the final one-minute session to gain the Saturday night finals. The St. Francis wrestler eventually defeated Jeff Grazl of Mansfield Madison for the district Class AAA title.

This year, for the first time, the Northwestern Ohio district adopted the "challenge" rule for the bigger schools. Only two were eligible to district advance to the state but the challenge rule allowed the third place wrestler to challenge the second place district finisher for the state show. The only limitation was that the third place wrestler could challenge if he had not been beaten by the second place finisher earlier in the tourney.

After the loss to Delong, Parks defeated Brian Hook of Vermilion 13-4 in the consolation semifinals and then knocked off Brad Burton of Toledo Rogers 7-3 for third spot.

Parks challenged Grazl and won easily 6-2.

"Actually," Ross coach Al Voggenthaler said after the meet, "it was Andre's easiest match of the tournament.

"Hook," the Ross coach continued, "is a different type wrestler and this was the fourth time (in two years) that he has wrestled Burton. They are now 2-2."

Voggenthaler pointed out that Parks did not use his typical style in the loss to Delong. "Andre was 'clamping' up and backing off," he pointed out, "and he is not that type of wrestler."

"He didn't do that in his other matches."

Thursday, Parks will take on Allan Childers of Brunswick in his first round match. Parks is 33-4 while Childers is 28-2.

Tim Celek of Port Clinton was beaten in a challenge match and lost his spot in the state tourney.

After defeating George McDuffie of Lima Shawnee 10-4 in the championship semifinals, Celek lost to Greg Walczak of Maumee 10-6 in the finals. The Port Clinton wrestler was challenged by third place finisher Bob Marz of Woodward and lost 5-0.