

1983 Season review



THE ROSS High School 1982-83 wrestling team: first row, left to right are Mike Mezinger, Mel Clark, Jeff Weickert, Mark Schmidt, Craig Stull, Kevin Shaffer, Dave Middleton, Coach Al Voggenthaler; second row: Craig Trick, Kit Sultz, Mike Wendt, Andy Esquivel, Rick Heidelberg, Reggie Parks, John Trimble, assistant Coach

Rick Boggs; third row, assistant Coach Jim Marinis, Brett Johnson, Joel Cabral, Darrin Drawger, Mike Ochs, Andy Chambers, Sal Salcedo; back row, Ruben Bejarno, Tim Batesole, Jesus Ruiz, Todd Beatty, Doug Smith, Mike Esker, manager Rod Logan and student trainer Dan Klotz.

Nine lettermen returning for Ross wrestling team

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross High School will open the high school wrestling season this evening at 7 p.m. with the intra-squad "Purple-White" Meet.

The squads will be divided up by head Coach Al Voggenthaler and assistants Rick Boggs and Jim Marinis.

Voggenthaler has a nucleus of nine lettermen back for this year's team. Eight of the nine lettered last season while one lettered as a sophomore but not as a junior.

"We finished strong last season," Voggenthaler said about his team, "and the kids have shown a good deal of improvement since then.

"The only problem this year," he added, "is that we are not very deep, especially in the upper weights. If someone gets hurt up there, we'll have problems.

"But we have a lot of the kids who scored points in tournaments last year back," the Ross coach said.

Voggenthaler has a pair of promising sophomores to go with his lettermen. Rick Heidelberg, a Buckeye Conference champ at 145 pounds last year, is back. Heidelberg was a run-

nerup in the section meet and Reggie Parks, 138, finished fourth in the sectional.

Running down his lettermen, Voggenthaler has Jeff Weickert at 98, Mel Clark at 112, Mark Schmidt at 119, Kevin Shaffer at either 126 or 132, Parks, Heidelberg, Craig Trick at 155, Andy Esquivel, the sophomore letter winner who did not earn his second letter in 1981-82, and Mike Wendt, 185.

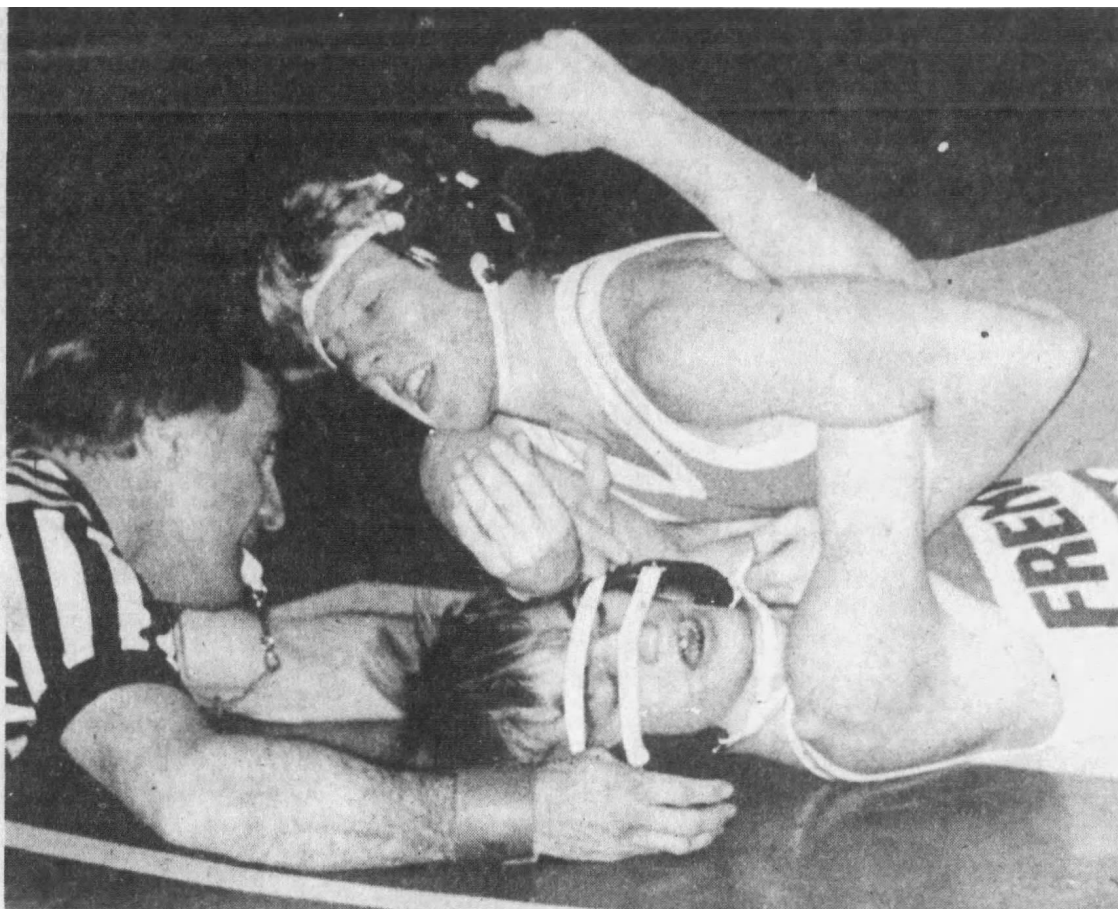
Mike Mezinger and Dave Middleton, are sophomores that could move into the Ross lineup permanently. Mezinger, will be a starter at 105 pounds while Middleton is battling Clark for the 112-pound slot.

Kit Sultz, a junior, will wrestle at either 167 or 175. Todd Beatty is also a possibility at 175 but has been hampered during pre-season practice by banged up ribs. John Trimble, a senior, will handle the heavyweight matches.

"We have a good blend of veterans and youth," Voggenthaler said. "We had a real good scrimmage against Perrysburg, St. Francis and Lakota.

"They all looked pretty good."

Voggenthaler will use the Purple and White Meet to help determine his final varsity lineup.



MARK SCHMIDT (top) of the "Purple" team applies pressure as he attempts to pin Craig Stull of the "White." Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler,

who served as the official in the match, gets a close view of the action.

Purple prevails in Ross debut

The Purple spotted the White an early lead before coming back to take a 33-25 win in Ross High School's annual intra-squad wrestling meet.

The event at Ross High School kicks off the wrestling season for Coach Al Voggenthaler's team.

There were 12 matches during the evening which featured a "mini'clinic" before the match. Voggenthaler explained several moves on how points are awarded to wrestlers in a match during the clinic.

Because of weight conflicts, several matches were made up of wrestlers competing in a weight above or below his normal weight.

"I was pleased with the younger wrestlers," Voggenthaler, who served as the official for the meet, said while talking about his non-lettermen and sophomores. "They showed a lot of scrap."

"Overall, though," he pointed out, "it was hard to judge individuals because they were wrestling out of their weight classes."

The White had a 9-0 lead after two matches as Mike Mezinger pinned Jeff Weickert in 4:24 and Dave Middleton nipped Mel Clark 6-5.

Two-year letterman Mark Schmidt scored

Purple's first points, pinning Craig Stull in 5:29 of the third bout. Kevin Shaffer put the Purple ahead by pinning Jesse Sepeda in 1:51 of the fourth match that pitted wrestlers in the 119-pound range.

In the wildest match of the evening, Mike Esker pinned Jesus Ruiz in 5:16. Wrestling at 126 pounds, the match was deadlocked at 18-18 when the pin came midway through the third period.

Purple's lead stretched to 21-9 when Darrin Draeger outpointed Salvador Salcedo 11-9. Reggie Park's 16-8 win over Brett Johnson at 138 and decision wins by Craig Trick over Rick Heidelberg (6-5) and Andy Esquivel over Kit Sults (5-4) at 155, closed Purple's lead to 21-9.

The teams exchanged pins — Mike Ochs of Purple stopped Tim Batesole in 5:39 of the 167-pound match and Mike Wendt of the White stopped Andy Chambers in 2:49 at 185 — to bring it down to the final match.

In that heavyweight conflict, John Trimble pinned Doug Smith in 1:24 to secure the win for the Purple.

The Purple team was coached by Rick Boggs and the White by Jim Marinis. Both are Ross assistant coaches.

Wrestling

Purple 33, White 25

98 — Mike Mezinger (W) p.
Jeff Weickert 4:24.

105 — Dave Middleton (W) d.
Mel Clark 6-5.

112 — Mark Schmidt (P) p.
Craig Stull 5:29.

119 — Kevin Shaffer (P) p.
Jesse Sepeda 1:51.

126 — Mike Esker (P) p.
Jesus Ruiz 5:16.

132 — Darrin Draeger (P) d.

Salvadore Salcedo 11-9.

138 — Reggie Parks (W) d.
Brett Johnson 16-8.

145 — Craig Trick (W) d.
Rick Heidelberg 6-5.

155 — Andy Esquivel (W) d.
Kit Sultz 5-4.

167 — Mike Ochs (P) p. Tim
Batesole 5:39.

185 — Mike Wendt (W) p.
Andy Chambers 2:49.

HVY — Tim Trimble (P) p.
Doug Smith 1:24.

Four Little Giants in semis

TOLEDO — Fremont Ross was tied for fourth in the 16-team Rogers Invitational Wrestling Tournament after the first two rounds of competition Friday.

The Little Giants had 52 points, the same as Tiffin Columbian, the winner of last weekend's Port Clinton Invitational title.

Host Rogers is leading with 78½, followed by Oregon Clay with 59, and Wauseon at 56.

Ross has four wrestlers in the championship semifinals. Top seeded Rick Heidelberg (145) and Mike Wendt (185) plus Mike Mezinger (105) and Mark Schmidt (119) have shots at the title. Eleven of the Ross 13 are still "alive" and could place in the double-

elimination tourney.

Heidelberg will face Troy Weber of Wauseon in today's semis. He pinned his two Friday night opponents. Wendt will go against Ken Walczak of Maumee.

Mezinger and Schmidt knocked off seeded wrestlers in the quarterfinals to keep in the championship round.

Mezinger defeated second-seeded Doug McCrae of Rogers 7-4 while Schmidt decisioned number four seed Derek Hoff of Perrysburg 7-3. Mezinger will face Ron Shull of Clay and Schmidt goes against Dave Day of Wauseon in the semifinals.

Wrestling begins at noon today with the championship finals at 7 p.m.

Little Giants 5th at Rogers

TOLEDO — Led by individual champions Mike Mezinger and Rick Heidelberg, the Ross Little Giants recorded a fifth-place finish in the 16-team Rogers Wrestling Tournament here this past weekend.

The host school, Toledo Rogers, won the tourney with 172 points, followed by Wauseon (131½), Marion Harding (120), Tiffin Columbian (117) and Ross (108½).

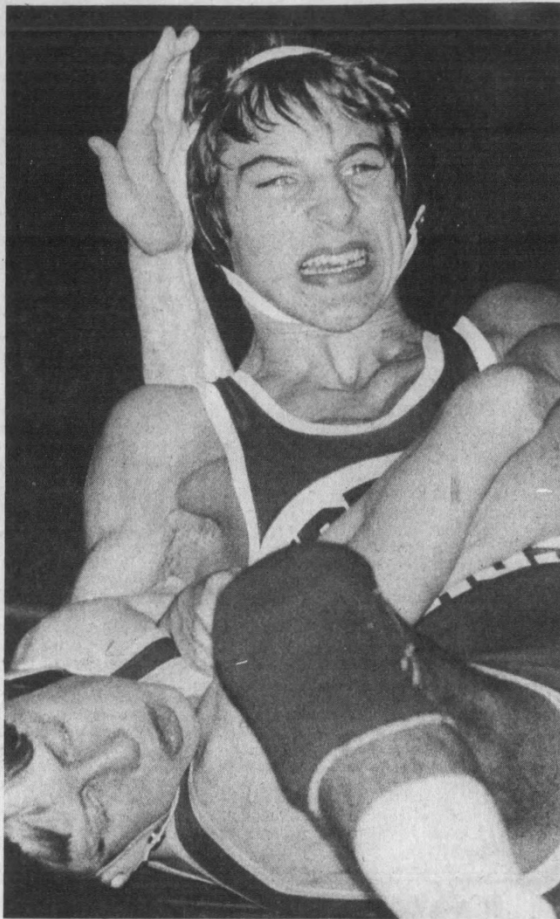
Mezinger, a sophomore and unseeded, decisioned his way to the 105-pound title. First, he beat Ottawa-Glandorf's Eric Ruhe 11-0, then he stopped Rogers' Doug McCrae 7-4 and then it was Clay's Ron Shull 5-0. In the finals, Mezinger defeated top-seeded Mike Haube of Anthony Wayne 8-4.

At 145-pounds, Heidelberg, the senior top seed, brought home

another title for Ross. He pinned Maumee's Mitch Cline in 1:04 and Ottawa-Glandorf's Jerry Lugo in 1:59 to get into the semis. There, he knocked off Wauseon's Troy Weber 12-4. In the championship finals, Heidelberg beat Lima Shawnee's Randy Lewis 9-4.

Other top finishes for Ross included Mark Schmidt's runnerup showing in the 119-pound division and Craig Trick and Mike Wendt's fifth-place finishes at 155 and 185, respectively.

Schmidt, who was unseeded, decisioned his way into the finals where he was edged 4-3 by second-seeded Keith Moorehouse of Toledo Whitmer. The Ross senior had defeated top-seeded Dave Day of Wauseon 3-2 in the semis.



ROSS 105-POUNDER Mike Mezinger (top) grimaces as he takes control of Clay's Ron Gill during their match at Ross Thursday evening. Mezinger went on to pin Gill in 2:45.



MARK SCHMIDT (right) of Ross checks out his positioning as he maneuvers on Clay's Ed-

die Resendez in their 119-pound match Thursday night. Schmidt won 5-1.

Little Giants 'hop' over Clay 35-29

By BOB MARKER
N-M Sports Editor

Ross's leap frog game matched that of Clay as the Little Giants jumped to a 35-29 win in high school wrestling Thursday.

Ross moved a pair of wrestlers up a weight class to win its first dual meet of the season.

"We moved the kids up because they wanted to do it," Ross wrestling Coach Al Voggenthaler said after the "Parents Night" victory. "But Clay moved about four of their's up."

Rick Heidelberg, the champion at 145 in the Rogers Invitational Tournament last weekend, stepped up to 155 and Craig Trick, the Little Giants' regular 155-pounder, jumped to 167. Both moves paid off for Ross.

"They wanted to make the move," Voggenthaler repeated, "but we figured by making the moves, we could beat Clay."

Both leaps paid off

in falls. Heidelberg stopped Albert Hinojosa in 5:25 and Trick knocked off Tom Phillips in 4:52.

After Trick's fall, Ross held a 30-17 lead but Clay cut it to 30-23 after Kit Sultz of the Little Giants, who weighed in at 157, was pinned by Clay 175-pounder Spencer Millimen.

Ross had forfeited the heavyweight division so Clay actually trailed by only one, 30-29. That put the outcome on the 185-pound match.

It was no contest. Ross's Mike Wendt muscled Clay's Ron Wells to the mat in the first 10 seconds and did all he could except pin him in the next four minutes. Finally, at the 4:19 mark and with a 12-10 lead, Wendt flattened Wells to solidify the Ross win.

Ross got started off on the right foot as 98-pounder Jeff Weickert pinned Mike Martin in 4:54. The victory was the third this season for the Ross junior, tripling his entire victory total of his sophomore season.

Mike Mezinger, 105, ran his record to 5-0 this season by pinning Clay's Ron Gill in 2:45. The Ross sophomore also won a Rogers title last weekend.

After the 119-pound match and Mark Schmidt's 5-1 narrow win over Eddie Resendez, Ross held a 15-3 lead but Clay closed the margin to 18-17 with wins at 138 and 145.

The Eagles' regular 126-pounder, Nick Anderson, stepped up to 138 to stop Reggie Parks of the Little Giants 14-7. That was as close as the Eagles were to come as Heidelberg and Trick completed the leap frog act to pull Ross away.

The Little Giants will be idle over the holidays, returning Jan. 8 when Ross will host the Fremont Invitational Tournament.

(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

Wrestling

Ross 35

Clay 29

**Varsity
Matches**

98-Jeff Weickert (R) p. Mike Martin, 4:54.

105-Mike Mezinger (R) p. Ron Gill, 2:45.

112-Ron Shull (C) d. Mel Clark 8-6.

119-Mark Schmidt (R) d. Eddie Resendez 5-1.

126-Eric Anderson (C) p. Craig Stull 1:58.

132-Kevin Shaffer (R) d. Jon Schenk 5-0.

138-Nick Anderson (C) d. Reggie Parks 14-7.

145-Tim Schrewsberry (C) d. Brett Johnson 19-4.

155 Rick Heidelberg (R) p. Albert Hinojosa, 5:25.

167-Craig Trick (R) p. Tom Phillips, 4:52.

175-Spencer Millimen (C) p. Kit Sultz, 2:54.

185-Mike Wendt (R) p. Ron Wells, 4:19.

HVY-Chris Calhoun (C) won by forfeit.

JV matches

132-Bruce Millinger (C) d. Jesse Sepeda 12-0.

138-Jesse Ruiz (R) d. Greg Haas 7-6.

145-Darrin Draeger (R) p. Scott Kelly, 3:15.

155-Andy Esquivel (R) p. John Goulet, 2:51.

167-Paul Cox (C) p. Joel Cabral, 2:51.

175-Mike Ochs (R) p. Craig Calhoun, 1:17.

185-Pat Millimen (C) p. Andy Chambers, 0:56.

HVY-Gene Krupa (C) p. Doug Smith, 1:24.

Mal Mackey Tournament is this week

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

A strong showing in a previous tournament has Ross wrestling Coach Al Voggenthaler believing his team has a shot at a title this Saturday.

The Little Giants will be the host team for the 10th Mal Mackey Memorial Invitational. The eight-team tournament at Ross High School will begin at 11 a.m., with the first session and end with the championship matches at 7 p.m.

Huron, Rossford, Sylvania Southview, Toledo Bowsher, St. Francis, St. John's and Vermilion make up the field. St. Francis is the defending champ while Ross was a fifth place finisher in the '82 tourney.

"I feel we have a good shot at it," Voggenthaler said before a Tuesday afternoon practice session. "Based on our performance in the Rogers tournament, which was very balanced, I think it is possible."

The Toledo Rogers Invitation was a two-day, 16-team tourney. The Little Giants were fifth.

"With two or three more wins in matches that we were leading, we could have been second or third," the Ross coach contended.

The Ross coach admitted that he knew little about the other teams.

"I know that Vermilion was sixth in its own tournament (12 teams)," he said. "We did wrestle St. Francis in a scrimmage and we did well against them but that was not under match conditions. They will be tough."

"I also know that Rossford is supposed to have a strong team but that is all."

The Mackey tournament is in its fourth year as varsity level competition. In the first six years, the tournament, named in honor of the person who began the wrestling program at Ross, was a junior varsity affair.

In Ross's last outing, a dual meet win over Oregon Clay, Voggenthaler jumped several of his wrestlers up a weight class but they will be back at their regular weights. He had planned several wrestle-offs this week before he was to decide on a lineup for the tournament.

"We definitely will not have a heavyweight," the Ross coach said, "and that might hurt us."

At 98, the Little Giants will have Jeff Weickert while the 105-pounder is Mike Mezinger, a sophomore and the Rogers champ. Melvin Clark and Dave Middleton could be at 112 with Mark Schmidt the 119-pounder.

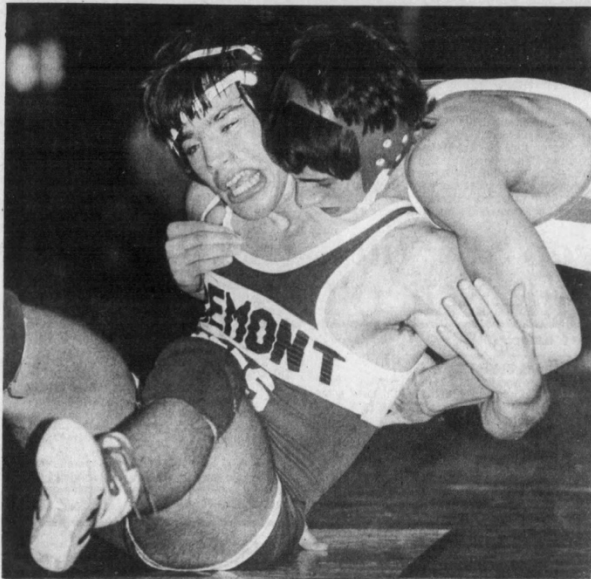
Kevin Shaffer or Craig Stull are battling for the 126-pound berth. The loser of a wrestle-off was to move to 132.

Reggie Parks, providing he beats a weight problem, will be at 138 while Rick Heidelberg will be at 145. Craig Trick is the Ross 155-pounder with Andy Esquivel possibly at 167.

Todd Beatty, who has been out with an injury, will get his first test at 175. "We are going to unwrap him this week," Voggenthaler chuckled.

Mike Wendt is at 185 to round out the Ross lineup.

Tickets for each session of the tourney are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for students. Tickets must be purchased for each session.



KEVIN SHAFFER of Fremont Ross struggles to escape the grasp of Tom Foss of Huron. The action was during the 126-pound consolation finals

(N-M photos by Bill Kennedy)

Saturday in the Mal Mackey Memorial Tournament.

'Dogs win Mackey title

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Rossford sneaked off with the championship trophy but Craig Trick stole the show for Ross in the 10th Mal Mackey Memorial Wrestling Tournament Saturday at Ross High School.

Heavyweight Mike Jarrett of Rossford outpointed Dave Andrus of St. John's 6-2 in the consolation finals while Paul Ward of Huron defeated Chris D'Esposito of St. Francis in the championship match to give Rossford the title.

Going into the final matches of the evening, St. Francis, the defending champion, held a two-point lead over Rossford but Jarrett's win coupled with Ward's effort shut out the Knights. Rossford finished with 133 points, two more than St. Francis in the eight-team tourney.

Host Ross took third with 123½ while Sylvania Southview was fourth with 112½. Vermilion, St. John's, Toledo Bowsher and Huron rounded out the lower division.

The heavyweight title win by Ward gave him the tourney's most valuable wrestler honor. The award was determined by a vote of the coaches.

The Little Giants had three champions: Mark Schmidt at 119, Trick at 155 and Mike Wendt in the 185-pound division.

Trick, seeded fourth, defeated top-seeded Dennis Haymier of Southview for his first tournament title as a Little Giant. The Ross senior fell behind 2-0 in the first period, remained at that deficit through the second and then evened the match with a reversal in the final period.

Haymier took a 3-2 lead with an escape but was slapped with a pair of penalty points for backing up in the final moment of the match. The last point, at the 25-second mark, put Trick up 4-3. That lead stood up despite Trick getting into trouble in the final 20 seconds. Haymier slipped behind Trick but the Little Giant maintained a spread-eagled four-point stance through those final seconds for the win.

"That was a good win," Al Voggenthaler, coach of the Little Giants, said about Trick's win. "Trick coming back against that first seed was super."

Schmidt, next to Trick, turned in a strong showing in the finals. Seeded first, the Ross senior pinned his opponent in the first round, racked up an 8-0 win in the semifinals and dominated Phil Rios of Southview before pinning him at the 1:54 mark of the title match.

Wendt was nearly as dominating, doing everything except pinning Tom Lewandowski of St. Francis. The Ross grappler picked up an 18-3 victory.

Rick Heidelberg, 145, lost his first match of the season in the finals, dropping a 7-5 decision to Fred Babson of Vermilion.

"Rick hurt his knee during warmups before the finals," Voggenthaler disclosed. "That bothered him because he was a little hesitant."

There was one disappointment for the Ross coach, Mike Mezinger, the Rogers Invitational 105-pound champ, lost in the semifinals to eventual runnerup Jim Klostemeier of St. John's. A win in that match would have put the Ross sophomore into the finals against last season's district champ Brian Shire of St. Francis.

Instead, Mezinger had to settle for third place

with an 8-4 win over Tim Morrissey of Bowsher in the consolation finals.

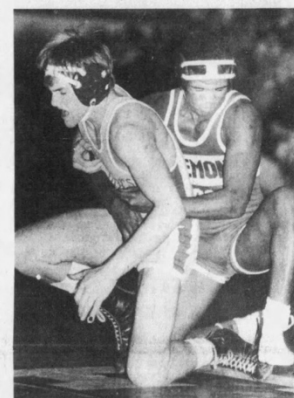
The Ross coach was pleased with the showing of 175-pounder Todd Beatty, a fourth-place finisher.

"It was his first time out this season," he said, "and even though he was pinned a couple of times, he looked good."

In special award, Demetrios Meimaridis of Vermilion won the trophy for the most pins in the least amount of time. He had three in four minutes and 13 seconds while placing third at 138.



ROSS 155-pounder Craig Trick hangs onto the arm of Dennis Haymier of Sylvania Southview.



RICK HEIDELBURG, right, of the Little Giants struggles to keep Fred Babson of Vermilion on the mat during the 145-pound finals.

A cannon named McNeil leads Jets over Bengals

By MIKE EMBRY
AP Sports Writer

The New York Jets fired their cannon, the San Diego Chargers attacked by air, the Dallas Cowboys struck from all fronts and the Minnesota Vikings refused to fold in the first weekend of play of the National Football League playoffs.

The NFL's revised and expanded 16-team playoff format, necessitated by the 57-day players' strike that wiped out seven weeks of the season, also produced a few surprises and guaranteed new finalists for Super Bowl XVII on Jan. 30.

The Jets, behind Freeman McNeil's record-breaking 211 rushing yards, crushed Cincinnati 44-

The Jets' Richard Todd completed 20 of 28 passes for 269 yards, which included eight receptions by Wesley Walker for a career-high 145 yards.

Anderson, who had two first-quarter touchdown passes to stake the Bengals to a 14-3 lead, finished with 26 completions in 35 attempts for 354 yards.

CHARGERS 31, STEELERS 28

Dan Fouts' third touchdown toss didn't come a minute too late in leading San Diego over Pittsburgh. He hit Kellen Winslow on a 12-yard flare pass with one minute to play to rally the Chargers.

Fouts, who completed 27 of 42 passes for 333 yards, also hit reserve tight end Eric Sievers on a 10-yard strike and Winslow with an 8-yarder to

Wrestling

Mal Mackey tourney

TEAM STANDINGS

Rossford (Rsd)	133	Vermillion (V)	97½
St. Francis (SF)	131	St. John's (SJ)	76½
Ross (R)	123½	Bowsher (B)	47½
Southview (S)	112½	Huron (H)	47

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

98 — Matt McCumber (Rsd) won by disqualification over Andy Wilson (SF); 105 — Brian Shire (SF) p. Jim Klostermeier (SJ) 5:42; 112 — Carl Schnorf (S) d. John Belkofer (Rsd) 8-7; 119 — Mark Schmidt (R) p. Phil Rios (S) 1:54; 126 — Don Crawford (S) p. Dan Westfall (Rsd) 4:22; 132 — Mark Boston (B) d. Mike Majoy (H) 5-0;

138 — Charlie Lambert (S) d. Jack Tisdale (Rsd) 9-4; 145 — Fred Babson (V) d. Rick Heidelberg (R) 7-5; 155 — Craig Trick (R) d. Dennis Haymier (S) 4-3; 167 — Kevin Sorrell (V) d. Mike Osborne (SF) 12-5; 175 — Jeff Hoefflin (SF) d. Bob Massey (V) 7-5; 185 — Mike Wendt (R) d. Tom Lewandowski (SF) 18-3; HVY — Paul Ward (H) d. Chris D'Esposito (SF) 4-2.

CONSOLATION MATCHES

98 — Rob Mouch (SJ) d. Jeff Hunter (V) 13-10; 105 — Mike Mezinger (R) d. Tim Morrissey (B) 8-4; 112 — Jeff Banasiak (SF) p. Melvin Clark (R) 4:12; 119 — Joe Horner (V) d. Tom Porter (B) 3-1; 126 — Tom Foos (H) d. Kevin Schaffer (R) 8-3; 132 — Chris Hadorn (SJ) d. Pete Rios (S) 10-1;

138 — Demetrios Meimaridis (V) p. Reggie Parks (R) 2:36; 145 — Don Jackson (Rsd) d. Cat Wagner (S) in overtime by criteria; 155 — Todd Smith (B) d. Steve McDowell (SJ) 4-2; 167 — Mike Kennedy (SJ) won by disqualification over Tony Plicinski (Rsd); 175 — John Miller (Rds) p. Todd Beatty (R) 4:56; 185 — Ron Recknagel (Rsd) p. Tim Anderson (SJ) 0:59; HVY — Mike Jarrett (Rsd) d. Dave Andrus (SJ) 6-2.

Ross wins 1, drops 2 in quad meet

OAK HARBOR — Fremont won one, dropped two, in a quadrangular high school wrestling meet Saturday at Oak Harbor High School.

Sandusky St. Mary's won all three of the dual meets that the teams staged. Oak Harbor was 2-1 and Otsego was blanked.

The Little Giants handed Otsego a 44-24 setback but dropped a 33-25 match to the host Rockets and fell 36-27 to St. Mary's. Oak Harbor lost to St. Mary's 32-27 and beat Otsego 54-12. Sandusky downed Otsego 47-11.

Three Little Giants won all three matches while another was 2-0-1. Mike Mezinger won three decisions, stopping Steve Patterson of St. Mary's 12-4, rolling over Heath Hennen of Oak Harbor 17-2 and burying Otsego's Roger Huffman 18-2 in the 105-pound division.

Schmidt, 119, pinned Fred Artiaga of Oak Harbor in 2:42 and posted a 15-2 walkaway win over Willie Gagnon of St.

Mary's. Against K.C. Ringler of Otsego, the Ross senior fought off his back and had to wrestle an extra minute for an 11-8 decision.

Schmidt, trailing 7-2 after one period, had two points wiped off the boards in the second period when it was discovered midway through the period that he had started from the wrong position at the beginning. On the restart, he was awarded a penalty point, escaped and scored on the takedown to trail 7-6 heading into the last period. He had a takedown and a three-point nearfall after Ringler escaped in the final period.

Craig Trick, 155, had three impressive victories. He pinned Brett Swanson of Otsego in 1:43 but the two decisions were the big matches. He outpointed Chuck Gates of Oak Harbor 4-1 and then scored four points on a reversal and two-point nearfall in the final five seconds to defeat Jeff London of St. Mary's.

Wendt fought to a 5-5 draw with John

Ishmael of Oak Harbor, third in Class AAA state meet at 185 last year. In his other matches, the Ross 185-pounder got a forfeit from Otsego and pinned Mike Salmon of St. Mary's in 5:40.

"I thought Wendt, by tying Ishmael, turned in a good job," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said. "I think his Rogers (Invitational) problems are behind him now."

The Ross coach was referring to Ross's first tournament of the season in which Wendt was top seeded in a 16-team tourney but failed to place in the top four.

Rob Huston, Oak Harbor's two-time state champ, led the Rockets to their two wins with three pins. The 112-pounder flattened Ross's Mel Clark in 1:52, St. Mary's Don DeAngelo in 3:17 and Otsego's Jim Jones in 3:47.

Allen Avery also won three times for Oak Harbor at 175.

Wrestling

Oak Harbor 33, Ross 25

Matches

98 — Weickert (R) d. Rob Schultz 6-3; 105 — Mezinger (R) d. Heath Hennen 17-2; 112 — Rob Huston (OH) p. Clark 1:52; 119 — Schmidt (R) p. Fred Artiaga 2:42; 126 — Matt Bodnar (OH) d. Shaffer 3-0; 132 — Steve Pierce (OH) d. Stull 9-7;

138 — Tim Veler (OH) p. Sepeda 2:23; 145 — Heidelberg (R) p. Scott Platzke 1:03; 155 — Trick (R) d. Chuck Gates 4-1; 167 — Brad Susor (OH) d. Esquivel 11-3; 175 — Al Avery (OH) p. Beatty 1:53; 185 — Wendt (R) and John Ishmael (OH) draw, 5-5; HVY — Mike Royster (OH) d. Trimble 9-7.

St. Mary's 36, Ross 27

Matches

98 — Chris Stallkamp (SM) d. Jeff Weickert 12-2; 105 — Mike Mezinger (R) d. Steve Patterson 12-4; 112 — Mel Clark (R) d. Don DeAngelo 10-6; 119 — Mark Schmidt (R) d. Willie Gagnon 15-2; 126 — Jeff Laws (SM) d. Kevin Shaffer 22-3; 132 — Rob Youst (SM) d. Craig Stull 15-4;

138 — Chris Galloway (SM) p. Jesse Sepeda 0:45; 145 — Keith Porter (SM) d. Rick Heidelberg 13-0; 155 — Craig Trick (R) d. Jeff London 11-9; 167 — Mark Thompson (SM) p. Andy Esquivel 5:33; 175 — Marty Naufel (SM) p. Todd Beatty 1:26; 185 — Mike Wendt (R) p. Mike Salmon 5:40; HVY — John Trimble (R) p. Andy Widman 2:34.

Ross 44, Otsego 24

Matches

98 — Weickert (R) p. Bill Mead 0:43; 105 — Mezinger (R) d. Roger Huffman 18-2; 112 — Jim Jones (O) d. Dave Middleton 11-6; 119 — Schmidt (R) d. K.D. Ringler 11-8; 126 — Jamie Cox (O) d. Shaffer 9-4; 132 — Stull (R) p. Terry Fitch 1:05;

138 — Rodney Morris (P) p. Sepeda 2:55; 145 — Heidelberg (R) p. Eric Dehm 6-0; 155 — Trick (R) p. Brett Swanson 1:49; 167 — Mike Wills (O) p. Kit Sultz 1:10; 175 — Brad Vellmar (O) p. Beatty 1:39; 185 — Wendt (R) won by forfeit; HVY — Trimble (R) p. Jeff Carnes 1:04.

Little Giants' day to forget

FINDLAY — Saturday was a day that Ross wrestling Coach Al Voggenthaler would like to forget.

"It was one of those days where you wonder if anything is going to go right," Voggenthaler said.

Very little did go right for the Little Giants.

Ross won only seven matches and benefitted from two forfeits in dual meet losses to Lima Shawnee, 43-19, and to host Findlay, 35-20.

"I think we embarrassed ourselves," the Ross wrestling coach admitted. "We did not do well in the first round; we seemed to be flat. In the second round, it was a little better but in the third round, we flopped again."

The Little Giants won a pair of matches from Lima Shawnee and took the two forfeits. Melvin Clark,

112, and Mark Schmidt, 119, were the winners against the Indians.

Clark defeated Todd Moening 13-4 and Schmidt knocked off Nick Kellis 5-2. The forfeits were to Mike Wendt, 185, and heavyweight John Trimble after Shawnee had built up a 43-7 lead.

Against Findlay, the Trojans built up a 25-6 lead while easing to the win. Clark won again for Ross defeating Mark Butieriez 6-3, following 98-pounder Jeff Weickert's 11-7 victory over Findlay's Mike Danials.

Craig Trick dominated the Trojans' Jon Staschiak 19-7 while Wendt registered the Little Giants only fall of the day, pinning Dewight Smith in 47 seconds. Trimble defeated Chris Miller 12-10 to top off Ross's victories.

Ross will be on the mats again Tuesday evening, hosting Elyria in a dual meet at Ross High School.

Wrestling

Lima Shawnee 43, Ross 19

MATCHES

98-Chris Scurlock (L) d. Jeff Weickert 9-2; 105-Ross forfeited; 112-Melvin Clark (R) d. Todd Moening 13-4; 119-Mark Schmidt (R) d. Nick Kellis 5-2; 126-Brad Clark (L) d. Kevin Shaffer 4-2; 132-Scott Borg (L) p. Craig Stull;

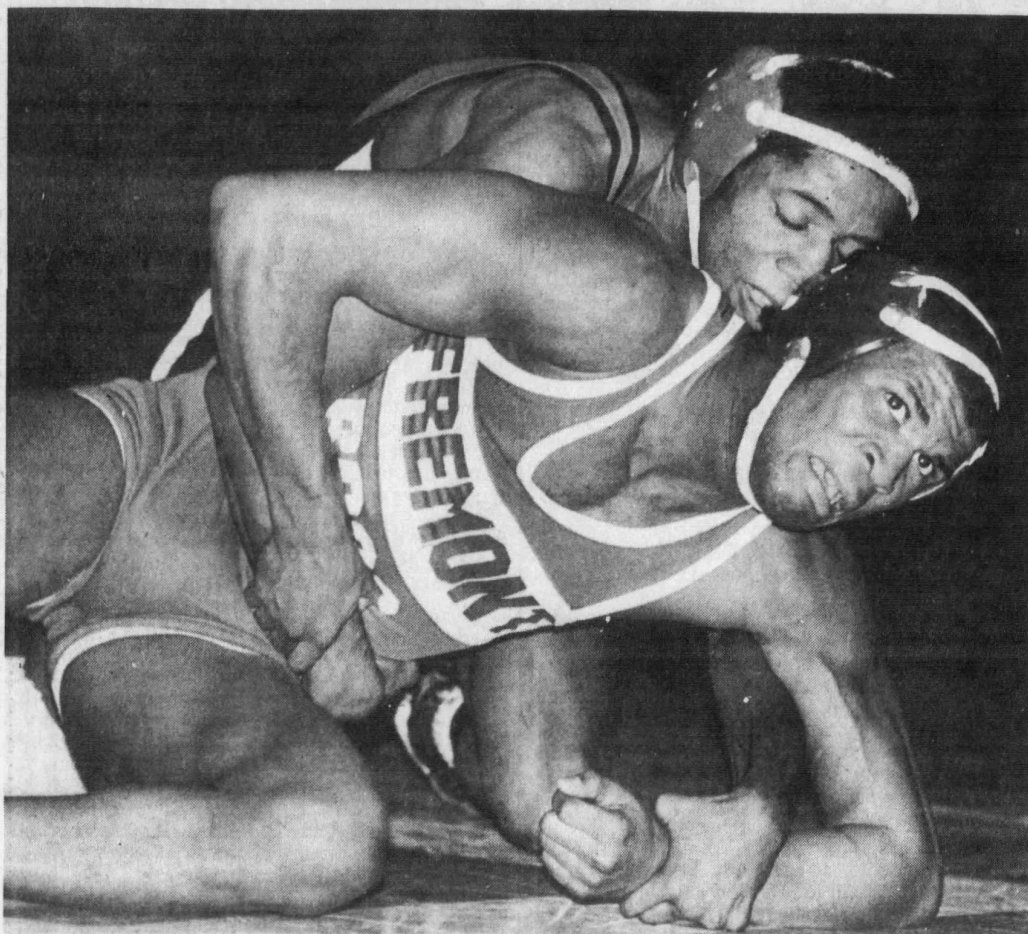
138-Randy Lewis (L) p. Brett Johnson 2:12; 145-Mark Adams (L) p. Rick Heidelberg 2:23; 155-Howard Gray (L) d. Craig Trick 4-2; 167-Mike Blosser (L) d. Andy Esquivel 11-2; 175-Fred Wheeler (L) p. Mike Ochs 1:44 185-Mike Wendt (R) won by forfeit; HVY-John Trimble (R) won by forfeit.

Findlay 35, Ross 20

MATCHES

98-Weickert (R) d. Mike Danials 11-4; 105-Ross forfeited; 112-Clark (R) d. Mark Gutierrez 6-3; 119-Eldemar Cabotage (F) d. Schmidt 4-3; 126-Todd Slicker (F) d. Shaffer 4-3; 132-Dave Roether (F) p. Stull 2:56;

138-Carson Coleman (F) d. Brett Johnson 13-5; 145-Scott McIntosh (F) d. Heidelberg 5-4; 155-Trick (R) d. Jon Staschiak 19-7; 167-Rick Warner (F) d. Esquivel 10-0; 175-Wade Schiltz (F) p. Todd Beatty 5:28; 185-Wendt (R) p. Dewight Smith 0:47; HY-John Trimble (R) d. Chris Miller 12-10.



(N-M photo by Bill Kennedy)

WHAT NOW? Rick Heidelberg of Fremont Ross tries to get the arm of Elyria's Darin Cannon from around his waist during the 145-pound

match. Cannon kept the hold and eventually pinned the Ross wrestler in the third period.

Pioneers trample Ross matmen

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

John Trimble wiped a little of the egg off Ross's face Tuesday evening with a last match pin in a dual wrestling match against Elyria.

For Ross, that's all it was: a last grab at respect as the Pioneers rolled past the Little Giants 43-20. Trimble's pin was the only match Ross won on the mat . . . the other 14 points came on two forfeits and a draw.

The Trimble pin staved off a dubious distinction that could have become Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler's.

"It would have been," he answered when asked if this would have been the first time one of his teams had not won a match on the mat during a meet.

The Ross coach was downcast. The loss was the third in a row and followed on the heels of a double loss on Saturday in a triangular meet against Findlay and Lima Shawnee in which Ross won only seven matches.

"I think we are going to have to take some time

off," Voggenthaler said. "I don't know what else to do.

"We knew that Elyria was going to come out aggressive but we would stop and get nailed everytime," he said. "This is far into the season and we are still making basic mistakes."

Mark Schmidt fought to the draw for Ross in the 119-pound match against Greg Saxton. Schmidt took a 3-2 lead midway through the second period with an escape and a takedown but Saxton escaped later in the period to tie the match at 3-3. Schmidt rode Saxton all through the final period for the draw.

Mike Wendt, 185, and Mike Mezinger, 105, won by forfeit for Ross. Melvin Clark, 112, lost a 3-2 nod to Brad Perkins of Elyria and Craig Trick, 155, lost by an 8-7 count to Mark Arnold for Ross's other close skirmishes with a win.

In Elyria's biggest win of the match, Darin Cannon, 145, pinned Ross's 138-pound Buckeye Conference champ of last season, Rick Heidelberg in 5:31.

Ross will travel to Sandusky Saturday.

Elyria 43, Ross 20

MATCHES

98 — Chris Gaston (E) p. Jeff Weickert 4:57; 105 — Mike Mezinger (R) won by forfeit; 112 — Brad Perkins (E) d. Melvin Clark 3-2; 119 — Mark Schmidt (R) and Greg Saxton (E), draw, 3-3; 126 — Clint Kilmer (E) d. Kevin Shaffer 8-1; 132 — Greg Felton (E) p. Jesse Sepeda 0:52;

138 — Jeff Platz (E) d. Brett Johnson 15-2; 145 — Darin Cannon (E) p. Rick Heidelberg 5:31; 155 — Mark Arnold (E) d. Craig Trick 8-7; 167 — Jim Essex (E) d. Kit Sultz 5-3; 175 — Jim Lyons (E) p. Todd Beatty 3:37; 185 — Mike Wendt (R) won by forfeit; HVY — John Trimble (R) p. Shawn Lee 3:35.

RESERVE MATCHES

112 — Dave Middleton (R) d. Mike Lewanski 18-2; 138 — Dave Machoch (E) p. Darrin Draeger 1:38; 145 — Kevin Higgins (E) p. Sal Salcedo 1:10; 167 — Jim Lewanski (E) p. Mike Ochs; 185 — Dan Sees (E) p. Andy Chambers 4:39; HVY — Mike Valle (R) p. Eric Cutshall 3:15.

Sports

Ross splits mat triangular meet

SANDUSKY — Ross split a double dual wrestling meet here Saturday, defeating Sandusky 33-29 but losing to Lorain Senior 37-19.

Rick Heidelberg's pin in 1:35 over Dion Dunn pulled Ross from a 17-12 deficit to an 18-17 lead. A forfeit to Kit Sultz of Ross and Craig Trick's 3:25 pin

on Sandusky Chris Bledsoe gave the Little Giants a 30-17 advantage.

Gary Dye pinned Todd Beatty of Ross at 175 to end the Little Giants' sting but Mike Wendt edged Gary Stookey 6-5 in the 185-pound match to clinch the win.

Mike Mezinger had pinned Don Dickman of Sandusky in 5:01 of the 105-pound match for Ross's other fall.

Mezinger was a double winner for the Little Giants, stopping Ted Ruth of Lorain 11-3. Jeff Weickert, 98, Heidelberg, and Wendt were also double winners, but Weickert and Wendt benefited from a forfeit apiece.

Heidelberg's other win was a 5-2 decision over Mike Repko of Lorain.

Clyde defeats Perkins 39-27

PERKINS — The Clyde Fliers lost the last five matches but won the first eight to defeat Perkins 39-27 in high school wrestling action here Saturday.

The Fliers, now 4-1 in dual meet action,...

Wrestling

Ross 33, Sandusky 29

MATCHES

98-Weickert (R) d. Jason Durman 8-2; 105-Mezinger (R) p. Dan Dickman 5:01; 112-Leon Cooley (S) d. Clark 3-0; 119-Schmidt (R) d. Monroe Edmon 6-1; 126-Drake Davidson (S) d. Shaffer 8-0; 132-Theotis Jones (S) p. Sepeda 1:08;

138-Jim King (S) d. Johnson 16-8; 145-Heidelberg (R) p. Dion Dunn 1:35; 155-Sultz (R) won by forfeit; 167-Trick (R) p. Chris Bledsoe 3:25; 175-Gary Dye (S) p. Beatty 1:25; 185-Wendt (R) do. Gary Stookey 6-5; HVY-Scott Van Dootingh (S) p. Trimble 5:18.

Lorain 37, Ross 19

MATCHES

98-Jeff Weickert (R) won by forfeit; 105-Mike Mezinger (R) d. Ted Ruth 11-3; 112-Ron Hreha (L) d. Melvin Clark 11-8; 119-Tim Sanner (L) d. Mark Schmidt 8-3; 126-Gerald Laurenti (L) d. Kevin Shaffer 4-3; 132-Ron Beal (L) d. Jesse Sepeda 6-0;

138-Dan Cecil (L) d. Brett Johnson 7-0; 145-Rick Heidelberg (R) d. Mike Repko 5-2; 155-Randy Jarvis (L) d. Kit Sultz 19-2; 167-Pat Costello (L) d. Craig Trick 11-1; 175-Scott Bryant (L) d. Todd Beatty 8-6; 185-Mike Wendt (R) won by forfeit; HVY-Mac Young (L) p. John Trimble 1:45.

Ross wrestlers split

TOLEDO—Kevin Shaffer's pin of Tom Digott gave Ross a 35-31 victory over Toledo St. Francis to split a triangular at Whitmer High School here Saturday.

The Little Giants dropped a 35-24 decision to the host Panthers.

Shaffer's clutch victory came at 132 pounds, which was the final match of the Ross-St. Francis dual.

Other victories recorded by Ross wrestlers against St. Francis came from Melvin Clark (112), Mark Schmidt (119), Brett Johnson (138), Rick Heidelberg (145), Craig Trick (155) and Mike Wendt (185).

Against Whitmer, Ross got victories from Mike Mezinger (105), Schmidt, Shaffer, Johnson, Heidelberg, Trick and Wendt.

Ross finished 3-4-1 in dual meets this season.

The Little Giants will be in sectional tournament action Saturday at Findlay Central Junior High School.

Whitmer 35, Ross 24

MATCHES

98 — Frank Czeriejewski (W) won by forfeit; 105 — Mike Mezinger (R) d. Greg Kaminski 4-0; 112 — Pat Moore (W) p. Melvin Clark 4:00; 119 — Mark Schmidt (R) d. Keith Moorehouse 6-4; 126 — Scott Fast (W) d. Dave Middleton 20-2; 132 — Kevin Shaffer (R) d. Mike Bowman 7-3.

138 — Brett Johnson (R) d. Greg Imes 7-3; 145 — Rick Heidelberg (R) d. Dave Bridges 4-2; 155 — Craig Trick (R) d. Vern Drew 4-1; 167 — Scott Critten (W) p. Kit Sultz 1:45; 175 — Bob Moorowski (W) p. Todd Beatty 1:50; 185 — Mike Wendt (R) p. Jeff Wilson 3:20; HVY — Doug Gilbert (W) p. John Trimble 1:50.

Ross 35, St. Francis 31

MATCHES

98 — Andy Wilson (SF) won by forfeit; 105 — Brian Shire (SF) p. Mike Mezinger 3:00; 112 — Melvin Clark (R) d. David Juhase 10-2; 119 — Mark Schmidt (R) d. Pat McNamara 5-3; 126 — Mike Weber (SF) d. Dave Middleton 9-5; 132 — Kevin Shaffer (R) p. Tom Digott 4:53.

138 — Brett Johnson (R) p. Dave Reed 3:54; 145 — Rick Heidelberg (R) p. Mark Shearman 1:51; 155 — Craig Trick (R) p. Ryan Marshall 5:27; 167 — Mike Osborne (SF) d. Kit Sultz 10-1; 175 — Jeff Hoefflin (SF) p. Todd Beatty 1:52; 185 — Mike Wendt (R) d. Tom Lewandowski 9-1; HVY — Chris D'Esposito (SF) p. John Trimble 3:24.

Ross awards

Five Fremont athletes were named "most valuable" to their respective sports Monday at the Ross High School Winter Sports Awards Program in the school cafeteria.

Sharon Karlovetz and Sandy Long, both seniors, shared the honor for the girls basketball team. The duo helped Ross to a 13-8 record this past season.

The most valuable reserve player honor went to Jill Clary. The most improved honor went to sophomore Sue Gahn while Katie Marritt won the free throw shooting and the best defensive player awards.

Junior Tina Michael won the team's rebounding trophy and Karlovetz and senior Gwen Minich were presented with captains trophies by Coach Sue Wolf.

Dave Aschenbach took home three awards: the MVP, best free throw shooter (96 of 108) and a captains trophy in boys basketball. This past season, Aschenbach was named to the first team District 6 Coaches team and to the associated Press Northwest Ohio Class AAA All-District second team.

Junior Scott Welty won the most valuable reserve player honor while junior Jim Hufford was named the varsity's most improved player.

Senior William Johnson won the best rebounder and the top defensive player awards.

The awards were presented by Coach John Sawyer who guided the Little Giants to a 13-10 record and a spot in the district semifinals.

Senior Mike Wendt was named the most valuable member of the wrestling team. This past season, Wendt won the sectional title while placing third in the district and second in the Buckeye Conference at 185-pounds. He has placed in every tourney he has wrestled in for Ross.

Mike Mezinger, a sophomore, won the most takedowns and the coaches' award. He had 50 takedowns during the season to go with a sectional title and a third place in the district tournament.

Brett Johnson was presented with team's most improved trophy by Coach Al Voggenthaler and Rick Heidelberg received the award for the most pins in a season.

Mark Schmidt and Craig Trick were presented with captains trophies.

Junior Chris Black was named the most valuable swimmer for Coach Art Bucci's team. Black qualified for the state meet in the 100-yard freestyle and the individual medley as well as being on the 400-yard freestyle relay which also qualified for the state meet.

Tracy Turner won the team's most improved award while Black also took the coaches award. Ty Heslet and Randy Randolph were presented trophies for serving as the team's captains.

Bucci presented six swimmers — Black, Mark Lowther, Randolph, Tad Winning, Steve Rodd and Heslet — with certificates of participation in the state swim meet.

There were seven athletes presented with their third letters. Long in girls basketball, Heidelberg, Schmidt and Wendt in wrestling and Heslet, Randolph and Steve Rodd in swimming.



ROSS SPECIAL award winners. Top, front row, left to right: Ty Heslet, Chris Black, Mark Schmidt, Mike Mezinger; back: Tracy Turner, Jim Hufford, Dave Aschenbach, Mike Wendt, Craig

Trick and Randy Randolph. In the bottom picture are, front row, left to right, Sue Gahn, Katie Marritt, Tina Michael; back row: Sandy Long, Sue Karlovetz, Gwen Minich and Jill Clary.

Letter winners

Following are the Ross letter winners:

GIRLS BASKETBALL

First year: Sue Gahn, Lisa Luman, Gwen Minich and Lori King, manager.

Second year: Sharon Karlovetz, Melissa Mamula, Katie Marritt, Tina Michael, Ronna Paulson, Celene Simmons.

Third year: Sandy Long.

BOYS BASKETBALL

First year: Greg Bender, Dan Brudzinski, Jim Hufford, Mark Miesle, Tom Polk, Chris Simmons, Jerry Snodgrass.

Second year: Dave Aschenbach and William Johnson.

WRESTLING

First year: Todd Beatty, Brett Johnson, Mike Mezinger, Dave Middleton, Craig Stull, Christopher "Kit" Sultz, John Trimble and Rod Logan, manager.

Second year: Melvin Clark, Kevin Shaffer, Craig Trick, Jeff Weickert and Chris Hull, manager/statistician.

Third year: Rick Heidelberg, Mark Schmidt and Mike Wendt.

SWIMMING

First year: Dean Beck, Mike Robinette, Kelly Sabiers, Lori Smith, Tracy Turner, Heather Winning.

Second year: Dan Ackerman, John Albrecht, Chris Black, Jim Ferguson, Dave Hetrick, Jill Isaac, Amy Koenig, Mark Lowther, Troy Overmyer, Brian Wensinger, Tad Winning.

Third year: Ty Heslet, Randy Randolph and Steve Rodd.

