

Pioneers Favored To Win Ninth Title

BC Wrestlers At Ross

By MARK CARLSON
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Elyria versus the field.
That's the prediction for the 19th Annual Buckeye Conference Wrestling Tournament at Fremont Ross Saturday.

The Pioneers have won eight of the past nine titles and are heavy favorites to retain the crown.

"I think the other schools will cut Elyria up, it won't dominate the meet like in the past," one head coach said Thursday, "but I still expect them to win it. Elyria has great depth, something the rest of the team's don't have."

Lorain Admiral King coach Ray Comprobt also sees an Elyria victory. He predicts a great battle for the second through fifth positions in the team race.

"I don't see anyone beating Elyria," Comprobt said. "The real race is going to be for second, third, fourth and fifth place. Admiral King, Lorain, Mansfield, Sandusky and Fremont will battle it out for those positions."

"None of the teams have any depth to speak of. But, each school has several boys who should win titles."

Fremont Ross coach Mal Mackey also sees an Elyria victory, but doesn't think it will be easy.

"Mansfield surprised a lot of people in last year's tournament," Mackey says. "They have several boys returning and should be heard from."

"Admiral King has several fine wrestlers. If they can get a couple of breaks, they could cause Elyria problems."

In last year's meet at Mansfield, Elyria ran away from the field. The Pioneers of coach Bill Pierson recorded 108 points. Sandusky, the second place finisher, had 87.

Four of Elyria's place winners from last year return.

Mark My Words



High And Low MARK(s)

By MARK CARLSON
News-Messenger Sports Editor

High And Low Mark(s).
To answer the question many have been asking... NO. Fremont Ross and St. Joseph high schools will not engage in a charity basketball game at the close of the season... The Ohio High School Association says it's illegal... Players participating would be banned from participating in another sporting event during their scholastic career.

The rumor of a proposed game between the two schools started when the student councils of each school apparently challenged each other without first looking at the rule book...

Now, we understand that because the two teams can't compete on the cage floor they are considering a volleyball meet...

Findlay's basketball team is setting all sorts of records this season... One of the marks that has fallen by the wayside is attendance... Trojan fans have packed the house for every game...

Now, we wonder what will happen since a local cablevision has announced it will telecast the final two home games... This Saturday's Fostoria contest and the February 12 encounter with Mansfield Senior will be shown on the magic tube...

Fremont St. Joe seems to be a shoe-in for the top seed in the Fremont AA Sectional later this month... The Crimson Streaks are 140, but show a 9-0 mark in AA competition... Only AA and AAA games will be counted in the seeding procedure... Tonight's game with Lorain Catholic will not be used for seeding purposes.

The Crimson Streaks have only one more AA game scheduled before the seeding session on Tuesday, February 16.

That contest is against Gibsonburg next Friday... Lake appears to have the inside track for the second seed... The Flyers have two AA losses...

If St. Joe is the first seed, Crimson Streak head coach John Kahle will have the opportunity to place himself anywhere he likes in the lower bracket... Teams in that grouping will play on Friday, February 26... It's just a hunch, but we think Kahle will have his club play the second game that night...

All top seeded teams (in every class) throughout the northwestern district will be placed in the lower bracket and will be playing the same night... It's a ruling of the northwest district board of control.

The only other area teams that appear to have a chance of being seeded are Margaretta and Old Fort... Margaretta will appear in the Class AA sectional at Sandusky High School... Old Fort is slated to appear in the Norwalk Junior High School Class A sectional...

Not all of the games in the Nowak sectional will be played there, however... Tournament manager Howard Hershey announced this week that some first round games will be shifted to Port Clinton high school...

Norwalk St. Paul is one of the teams slated to participate in the sectional... The district board won't allow a team to play on its home floor... St. Paul uses the junior high school as its home court during the regular season... Thus, the bracket which includes St. Paul will be shifted to Port Clinton...

including two champions. Forrest Waugh will defend his 185 crown and Darrell Hamilton will be out to protect his number one ranking in the heavyweight division.

Also returning for the Pioneers are Chuck Meadows and Rick Lind. Meadows placed third in the 120-pound class and will be wrestling at 132 this time. Lind took fourth at 137. He will compete at 138.

Other returning champions include Lorain Senior's Ray Cruzado, Herb Jacoby of Lorain Admiral King and Calvin Lewis of Sandusky.

Cruzado and Jacoby will be entered in the same weight class (165) this time. Cruzado won the 95-pound title last year. Jacoby took honors at 105.

Lewis was the 123-pound champ. He will be entered at 132. Ross has two point-getters returning from last year's squad that finished fifth in the team race with 41 points.

Chuck Wickert placed third in the 185-pound division. He has a perfect 7-0 dual meet record this season at the same weight but lost in the Elyria Tournament. Chuck Miller was third in the heavyweight class and returns for another crack at the title. Miller is 4-1 this season, including three pins.

Other Ross entries and their dual meet records: Eric Wolfe (100-3-4), Dave Alejandro (107, 4-3), Terry Fieber (114, 0-7), Paul Franco (121, 5-5), Ed Farnon (123, 3-3-1), Jim Billow (134, 5-2), Ron Kanan (140, 1-6), Howie Stierwalt (147, 3-3-1), Dave Mierke (157, 1-3), Dave Skerpan (169, 1-6) and Dale Reiter (177, 5-2).

Brown's 'Happy To Be Selected'

CLEVELAND, Ohio (AP) — Former Cleveland Browns full-back Jim Brown—one of seven men named Thursday to the Professional Football Hall of Fame—says he looks back on football "as good years."

Brown, in Cleveland Thursday in his capacity as president of the Black Economic Union, said, "I am happy to have been selected."

"I don't feel that pro football exploited me," he said. "And the reverse is true, too. People have to realize that it is a business as well as a sport."

"If you have that understanding then everything is all right. I fought for my contracts and for other things. This didn't stop me from enjoying the game."

Brown, now a movie actor, said that "Ed Walsh, my head coach at Manhasset High School on Long Island, probably had the biggest influence" on his life.

He also cited attorney Kenny Molloy as one "who did so many things for me and steered me to Syracuse."

"All the coaches had some effect—Ben Schwartzwalder at Syracuse in a different way, Paul (Brown) and Blanton (Collier). Paul influenced me in a positive way from the standpoint of coaching."

"He went with me right away even though I hadn't played much in the College All-Star game. That developed my confidence. He believed in me, felt that I had talent. That was the key to my whole mental attitude."

Collier resigned as head coach of the Browns at the end of the past season. Paul founded the Browns and now is head coach of the Cincinnati Bengals.

"Blanton gave me the last

Flyers Stop Chicago

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The Chicago Black Hawks, who have gotten lots of kicks from playing Philadelphia, finally gave the Flyers a kick. Chicago defenseman Pat Stapleton accidentally kicked the

Preliminary action tomorrow will begin at 12 noon. The first and second round of the championship bracket will be conducted in the afternoon. The first consolation bouts will also be contested during the afternoon.

The evening competition begins at 7:30 p.m. Championship and consolation bouts will be conducted at the same time. Three mats will be used for the afternoon session. Only two mats will be occupied during the evening competition.



CHUCK WICKERT
Unbeaten Ross Wrestler

News-Messenger SPORTS

PAC Members Accept Hiram

CLEVELAND (AP) — Hiram College will move from the Ohio Conference to the Presidents Athletic Conference with the start of the 1971-72 school year.

The addition plus the athletic merger of PAC schools Western Reserve and Case Tech under the banner of Case Western Reserve next fall will leave the number of league schools at seven.

Other PAC members are John Carroll, Bethany, W. Va., Thiel, Pa., Washington and Jefferson, Pa., and Allegheny, Pa.

Golden Flashes Complete Staff

KENT, Ohio (AP) — Dick Sceniak, 30, football offensive line coach the past three years at the University of Utah, has been named offensive coordinator at Kent State University, completing the eight-man staff of new head coach Don James.

Sceniak spent five years as offensive line coach for Iowa State and the University of Missouri before joining Utah. James, who named Sceniak Thursday, kept no members of the staff of Dave Puddington, who he succeeded.

College Basketball Scores

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS		SW La 87, SE La 70		Catholic 81, New Or 109	
Manhattan 77, NYU 72	East	Memphis 82, Drake 72	Midwest	St. Louis 88, N Tex 51	South
Lafayette 67, Seton Hall 59	West	Wichita St 87, Bradley 84	Southwest		
Mass 82, Iowa 51					
Rutgers 82, Boston U 51					
Boston St 86, Worcester St 86					

95 POUNDS

There appears to be only two strong wrestlers here — Willie Bronson of Mansfield, runner-up at this weight last year, and Ross Wolfe. Bronson is undefeated (8-0) at this weight this season. He lost a bout while wrestling in an upper weight. Wolfe has a 3-4 record but has looked good at times. BRONSON should win the championship...

105 POUNDS

With the addition of Cruzado this is the toughest weight class in the tournament. Cruzado and Jacoby are undefeated this year. Cruzado is 5-0 at this weight and 3-0 at 112. Last year he was 23-2 overall. This year he has given up just two points. Jacoby had no problem in whipping through his three matches last year. Sandusky's Dave Braeunig (102-1), Marion's Mike Henton (11-0-1) and Alejandro can't be counted out either. JACOBY will have a tough time with Cruzado in the finals but should pull through...

112 POUNDS

This weight class doesn't appear to be as strong as some of the others. Sandusky's Ernie Ferguson and Admiral King's James Noble are a notch better than the rest. Noble is 1-1 for the season, but hasn't been beaten by anyone on the conference. FERGUSON, who placed third in the 107 bracket last year, should pull through...

119 POUNDS

Another division where there seems to be numerous possibilities is the 119-pound class. Mosley of Admiral King has an 8-2 record and third place in the Elyria Tournament. Because we can't find anyone else in the field with a better mark, MOSLEY is our choice...

126 POUNDS

Findlay's ROGER SHELTON appears to have the inside track for the first place plaque. Sheldon placed second to Elyria's Don Philebaum at 130 last year...

132 POUNDS

Several wrestlers will start out with unblemished records. Sandusky's Calvin Lewis, last year's 123 title winner, has a 13-0 record. Kent Thomas of Lorain Sr. is 6-0 at this weight, but has lost two bouts at 126. In the dual meet between the two schools, Lewis and Thomas didn't meet. Mansfield's Don LeVack also has a perfect mark, 9-0. Jim Billow of Ross has a 5-2 log but will need his best effort of the year. LEWIS should win another Buckeye crown after getting a stern test from Meadows...

135 POUNDS

Lorain Admiral King's Marvin Jackson has a 26-5 record over two years. If he wrestles in this class he'll be the man to beat. His coach has cautioned, however, that he might move Jackson to 145. Joe Petrella of Mansfield and Marion's Gary Lewis are also in the running. Petrella is 8-1 on the season and was third at this weight last year. Lewis is 11-1 on the season, but hasn't faced the same competition as Jackson and Petrella. Linde certainly can't be overlooked. JACKSON appears to be the proper choice for victory...

145 POUNDS

J. V. Sullivan of Mansfield is unbeaten in nine starts. Admiral King's Dan Wilson is unbeaten at this weight and 9-1 overall. His only loss was to Sandusky's 155-pounder Jeff Ward. WILSON recently won the Bay Village Tournament and has looked good in his last couple of outings. He appears to have enough momentum to carry him through three grueling tournament bouts...

155 POUNDS

Sandusky's Jeff Ward was third here last year and is back for another try. He has compiled a 12-1 record so far. Admiral King's Marvin Harris will probably be his stiffest roadblock to the championship. WARD will average last year's third place with the title...

165 POUNDS

Admiral King will enter Mike Jackson, who placed third in this weight class last year. Will Turner of Mansfield, fourth at 175 in the 1970 competition, is also entered. Turner has lost twice this year. JACKSON has probably met better competition this season, that should make the difference in his winning the title...

175 POUNDS

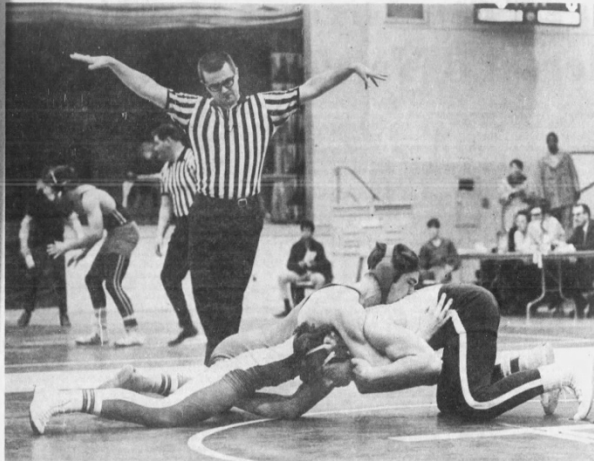
Frank Burke of Findlay has a 10-0 record. Marion will enter Al Beach. If Fremont Ross' Dale Reiter can put together three good bouts he has as good a chance as anyone. We still look for BURKE to take the title...

185 POUNDS

The top four finishers from last year's meet—Waugh, Greg Wardford of Mansfield, Wickert and Mandy Koester of Admiral King return. The first three are undefeated this season. Koester's only demerit is a loss to Wickert. Another once-beaten in this division is Randy Kral of Lorain Senior. He lost to Wickert, 5-2. WICKERT has been showing steady improvement in every match and will upset Waugh in the finals for the title.

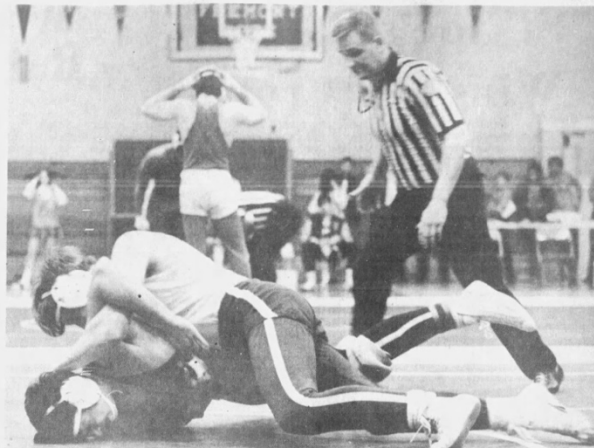
HEAVYWEIGHT

Last year's top three—Hamilton, Kurt Schumacher of Lorain Senior and Miller are back. This championship could be determined in the draw. Two of these wrestlers will have to meet in the early rounds. It will benefit the other fellow. Last year Miller met Schumacher in the afternoon and gave him a stiff test before losing 8-2. Schumacher was so worn out from the Miller match that he couldn't handle Hamilton and lost 4-2. Schumacher then bested Hamilton 5-1 in the sectional. Schumacher is 14-0 on the campaign with nine pins. Miller is 4-1 after recovering from a football injury. He has three falls. SCHUMACHER should pull through but it won't be easy...



NO, HE ISN'T DANCING — Referee Gary Sargent of Mansfield seems to be doing a ballet as Dale Rietter (right) of Ross and Elyria's Doug VanDyke shoot for takedown in 175-pound championship bout of Saturday's Buckeye Conference

Wrestling Tournament. VanDyke won the title, 8-0. Sargent was only showing that neither wrestler had control when News-Messenger photographer Larry Solizano captured the candid stance on film.



WORKING FOR PIN — Chuck Wickert of Ross has control and is working for pin against Randy Krul of Lorain. Action took place in the consolation bout of the Buckeye Conference Wrestling Championships at Fremont Ross Saturday. Wickert pinned Krul at the one-minute mark of the second

period to earn one of two third places for the Little Giants, who finished fifth in the team race. Moving to get a close look at the pinning hold is referee Lyle Smith of Fremont. (News-Messenger Photo)

Fremont Ross Places Fifth In Tourney

Ross was blanked in the championship department at the 10th Annual Buckeye Conference Wrestling Tournament on the Little Giant mats Saturday.

Coach Mal Mackey's squad finished in the fifth position, the same spot they were in at the close of the 1970 tourney in Mansfield.

This time Ross finished with 47 points, six more than their 1970 total.

Only one Ross competitor reached the championship round. Dale Rietter lost to Elyria's Doug VanDyke in the 175-pound title round.

"Rietter's performance had to be the highlight of the meet for us," Mackey said. "He looked very good except for the last bout. It was quite an accomplishment for him to finish second. This is his first year of varsity wrestling."

Other Little Giant point winners were Dave Alejandro, fourth at 105, Paul Branco, fourth at 119, Ed Farnon, fourth at 126, Howe Stierwalt, fourth at 145, Dave Mierke, third at 155, Dave Skergan, fourth at 167 and Chuck Wickert, third at 185.

Alejandro and Farnon lost their bids for third place in the roughest possible way. They were tied with their opponents at the end of regulation and at the close of overtime, but lost by referee's decision.

Skergan dropped a 1-0 overtime verdict to Mansfield's Willie Turner for third place. Turner finished fourth at 175 in 1970.

Mierke pinned Chuck Mason of Mansfield for his third place medal. After a first round victory, Mierke lost to the eventual champion, Jeff Ward, in the championship bracket. He advanced in the consolation bracket with a 6-3 win over Lorain's Al Lopez.

Wickert was sent to the consolation bracket when he dropped a 4-2 decision to Forrest Waugh of Elyria. Waugh won his second straight championship in the weight class. In the consolation bracket, Wickert defeated Dean Bishop of Findlay, 5-0, before pinning Lorain's Randy Krul in the finals.

Branco, who won his opening bout in the championship round, was sent to the consolations after losing to Jim LaVack, who eventually finished second. Branco lost to Sandusky's Marty Galt, 2-0, in the consolation finals.

Stierwalt also won his opening bout. Then he lost to Pat Sullivan, the champion, in the semifinals. Stierwalt also lost to a Sandusky man in the consolation finals. Steve Giovanni took a 4-1 decision.

The biggest disappointment for Ross fans was probably the defeat of heavyweight Chuck Miller. Miller won his first round bout but then dropped a 4-0 verdict to Lorain's Kurt Schumacher, who finished second. Schumacher also eliminated Miller in the 1970 championship bracket. In the consolations, Miller lost his first bout to Sandusky's Steve McKilips, 5-2. Miller finished third in last year's heavyweight battle.

"As a team we finished better than I expected," Mackey said. "After the first round when we advanced eight men I thought we might do better but we didn't have enough stamina. We had the lowest number of dual meets of any team in the tournament. The experience and conditioning of the other teams took its toll."

Ross returns to action Tuesday with a dual meet at Mansfield. The Little Giants have a 3-4 dual meet record. —CARLSON

Elyria Mat Squad Bags Title

By MARK CARLSON
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Cincinnati has a way to go before it can claim a 'Big Red Machine' similar to Elyria's.

The Elyria matmen made a shambles of the 10th Annual Buckeye Conference Wrestling Tournament at Ross Saturday.

Coach Bill Pierson's Pioneers had seven individual champions and 106 points, 36 more than Mansfield, the second place finisher. Sandusky (77), Lorain (52), Fremont (47), Lorain Admiral King (38), Findlay (20) and Marion (13) completed the eight-team field.

"Our overall depth and some outstanding individual performances are what won it for us," Pierson said as he displayed the championship plaque for Pioneer fans.

"All of our champions did an outstanding job. We didn't figure to get seven of them. That was a surprise. I knew we were the favorite and should have won it."

The only other teams with more than one title winner were Sandusky and Mansfield. Calvin Lewis (132) and Jeff Ward (135) pulled through for Sandusky. Gaining championships for the Tigers were Willie Bronson (98) and Pat Sullivan (145).

Other winners were Ray Cruzado (105) of Lorain and Findlay's Roger Sheldon (126). Bronson got the two hour and 30 minute evening session under way with an 8-1 victory over Dave Castello of Elyria. Bronson led 4-1 after two minutes. He recorded two takedowns compared to Castello's escape. In the second period Bronson got a reversal. He was given two more points for time advantage.

Whitmer Clobbers Ross Cagers

TOLEDO—"It was our worst performance of the season."

That was the analysis given by Fremont Ross basketball coach Alvin Clark after Toledo Whitmer ripped the Little Giants, 87-42, in non-conference play Saturday.

Ross was never in the ball game. Whitmer sprinted to a 35-15 lead in the first quarter and then toyed with their guests until the final buzzer.

Whitmer burned the nets in the opening eight minutes. It made 12 of 16 field goal attempts and was eight for nine from the foul line.

John Kantner, the state's leading scorer, led the surge. He was four-of-four from the field and had the same totals at the foul line in the opening eight minutes. Doug Good had 10 points and Bob Huebner six in the same period.

"Whitmer didn't play last night (Friday) so they were fresh," Clark said. "We were a little tired from the Sandusky game. But, that is no excuse. We just didn't play ball."

"We didn't do anything right until the last quarter. Whitmer was hot in the first quarter but we weren't playing defense either."

They would bring the ball down court and take any type of shot they wanted. We didn't even try to stop them."

Both teams scored 14 points in the second quarter and Whitmer went to the dressing room at intermission with a 45-29 advantage.

Whitmer's shooting percentage dropped off in the second quarter. But the Panthers still shot better than 50 per cent from the field in the opening 16 minutes. They made 18 of their 31 attempts. Ross shot 29 per cent from the field at the same time.

The Little Giants' shooting was continued in the third quarter. Whitmer outscored Ross 16-5 in the period. Ross got two field goals from John Lewis and a Denny Shearon free throw to account for its scoring.

Lewis' two field goals were his first points of the night. The high-scoring senior guard picked up three personal fouls early in the first quarter and spent most of the half on the bench. He finished the game with 14 points, adding three field goals and four free throws in the fourth quarter.

Ross found its scoring machine in the fourth quarter. It outscored the Panthers, 28-25. Lewis' 10 points led the way. Denny Shearon tallied six, Dave Krider five, Tom Liggins four and Bob Brudinski three.

Shearon finished with 19. He had 16 of those in the first and fourth quarters. Lewis, Brudinski (11) and Liggins (11) completed the Little Giant delegation in double figures.

Kantner finished with 37. He swished 11 of 15 free shots and was 15-17 at the charity stripe. Good, with 16, was the only other Panther in double figures.

Ross connected on just 21 of 64 floor shots. The Panthers finished at the 30 per cent level, making 29 of 58. The Little Giants were 26-30 from the free throw line. Whitmer cashed in on 29 of 38 bonus tosses.

The rebounding derby also went to Whitmer, 46-40. Good and Shearon each shared rebound honors with 11.

The loss was the second in as many days for Ross and left Clark asking himself many questions to which he has trouble locating answers.

"It's hard to figure how a team could look so good in pre-season scrimmages and then fall apart

over Marvin Harris of Admiral King. Ward escaped in the second period and Harris escaped in the third.

Sweigard started a string of four straight Elyria victories. An escape in the final 14 seconds gave Sweigard a 2-1 victory over Admiral King's Marvin Jackson.

Sweigard's first point came midway through the third period when Jackson was penalized for stalling. Jackson had escaped for his point in the second period.

VanDyke took care of Ross' Dale Rietter, 8-0. After a scoreless first period, VanDyke escaped in the second and added a takedown. He scored a three-point near fall in the third frame and added two more points for time advantage.

Waugh and Hamilton won their second straight titles. And, in both cases they beat the men they defeated for the 1970 championship.

Waugh took care of Mansfield's Greg Wardford, 7-2. Hamilton defeated Admiral King's Kurt Schumacher, 3-2. Hamilton had a first period takedown and second period escape. Schumacher scored escapes in the first and third periods.

Hamilton and Schumacher, who starred for their respective football teams last season, split the two times they met last season.

The championship was the ninth in the history of the tournament for the Pioneers. Sandusky is the only other team to cop a Buckeye title. The Blue Streaks did it in 1969.

Sherk's Enterprises Leads Team Division

Sherk's Enterprises rolled a 3188 over the weekend and has the lead in the team events division after the first weekend in the Fremont Men's City Association Bowling Tournament at Rainbow Lanes.

B and C Garbage and Rubbish is in second place, 53 pins behind the leaders. The rest of the top five includes Mobile Homes from the Croghan Colonial Classic League (3098), Warner Parts (3086) and Happy Day Boating (3085).

Teams making up the second ten are Rural Serv (3059), J and B Barrard (3017), J and J Sales (3015), Air Cell of Union Carbide (3010) and The Relatives (3005).

Listed in the second 10 are Warner Plumbing (3000), Don's Oil Service of Rainbow Croghan Colonial (2998), Dave's Marathon (2989), Don's Oil Service of Plaza Lanes (2986), Moore Business Forms (2982), Fremont Savings Bank (2979), Lee's Shoes of Maple Lanes (2969).

Bob Gruden, rolling for B and C Garbage and Rubbish, had the best series of the weekend. He knocked down 662 pins with individual games of 225, 227 and 203.

Other top series were turned in by Tom Byers of Mobile Homes (641), Larry Bennett of Rainbow Lee Shoes (638), Dick Pence of Fremont Savings Bank (624) and Jerry Rinehold of Happy Day Boating (622).

Eleven other bowlers had games of 600 or better.

Bill Gray from Moore Business Forms rolled the top single game, a 249. Other leading games in the singles division included a 244 by Jim Schutt of Dave's Marathon, a 242 by Larry Bennett of Plaza Union Carbide, a 240 rolled by Kent Merrill of Mobile Homes and 238 by Larry Bennett of Lee Shoes from Rainbow Lanes.

get in and go... join the great getaway!

HORSE RACING

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