

1984 Buckeye Conference...

Elyria, Lorain favored to win BC mat crown

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

First comes Elyria and Lorain and then the horse race begins.

"That's the way I see," Ross wrestling Coach Al Voggenthaler said about Saturday's Buckeye Conference Wrestling Tournament at Elyria High School. "It's an open horse race for third."

Voggenthaler gives the edge to Elyria because the tournament is at the home of the Pioneers but added that the other five teams in the conference could play the spoiler role.

"Admiral King," he began, "could have an edge for third but that spot could go to either Findlay, Marion Harding, Sandusky or Ross. All of those teams are not particularly strong but all have at least a couple of good individuals."

"Those five teams could decide the order of finish for the top two teams," Voggenthaler said.

Ross 112-pounder Mike Mezinger is the loan returning Little Giant, who placed in the 1983 tourney. As a sophomore 105-pounder, Mezinger placed third. This year, he will be on the mat as a 112-pounder and his coach figures that his 13-4 record will get him seeded.

Voggenthaler also felt that three other Little Giants—Kit Sultz (155), Todd Beatty (175) and Matt Smith (185)—could be seeded. Sultz, 7-6, is an outside shot while Smith has a 12-4 record and Beatty 10-5.

The Ross coach said he feels that those four have good shots at placing in the top four.

Another Little Giant, 105-pound sophomore Charlie Hicks, could "slide in there" among the placers. "He could surprise some people," Voggenthaler said.

Ross's lineup will consist of Chris Vaffis (98), Hicks (105), Mezinger (112), Mel Clark (119), Dave Middleton (126), Mike Palomo (132), John Lozano or Rick Snyder (138), Snyder or Rick Leasock (145), Sultz (155), George Wiesinger (167), Beatty (175), Smith (185) and Andy Chambers (heavyweight).

Lozano will be at 138 if he gets an okay to wrestle despite two rib fractures. "We are trying to determine if the fractures are old injuries or new," Voggenthaler said. "He could have been hurt in football."

If Lozano is able to wrestle, Snyder will be at 145.

Wrestling Saturday begins at 11 a.m. with the finals at 7 p.m.

DIRECTIONS: To get to Elyria High School, take the Turnpike to the Elyria exit and go south into Elyria to Lake St. Turn left to West Ave. and right on West. The high school is approximately six blocks down on West.

Another way is to take route 20 east into Elyria to West Ave. Turn left on West to the high school.

Elyria wins 18th conference title

ELYRIA—Al Voggenthaler was right on two counts.

"I told the kids that if we wrestled as well as we could, we would finish third but first or second was out of the question," Voggenthaler, the Ross High School wrestling coach said. "So we did and we did (finish third) and it was."

There was no stopping Elyria in the 23rd renewal of the Buckeye Conference Wrestling Tournament. The Pioneers piled up 208 points to win their 18th conference crown.

Lorain was a distant second with 129 while Ross had 98 points for third. Findlay was fourth with 92 while Sandusky had 78, Marion Harding 72 and Admiral King 54.

Mike Mezinger, 112, and Matt Smith, 185, won conference crowns and five other Little Giants placed in the seven-team tournament.

"We had three sophomores, three juniors and a senior place," Voggenthaler pointed out."

The Ross coach also pointed out that his team finished ahead of three teams that had either beaten the Little Giants in dual meets or tournaments this season. Sandusky and Findlay won dual clashes

and Harding finished ahead of Ross in the Rogers Tournament.

Mezinger, a junior, defeated Dan Irby of Sandusky 9-4 in the finals while Smith pinned Joe Lyons of Elyria in 2:42 of the championship match. Mezinger had a fall and a 10-1 decision on his way to the title. Smith pinned his way through the tournament, spending five minutes and 47 seconds on the mats in his three wins.

Other place winners for Ross included sophomore Chris Vaffis, third in the 98-pound division, sophomore Charlie Hicks, fourth at 105, senior Kit Sultz, runnerup at 155. Sultz lost to Mike Repko of Lorain 10-2 in the finals. Repko held only a 2-0 lead at the end of the second period.

Another sophomore, George Weissinger, was fourth at 167 and junior Todd Becatty took third at 175.

"Those three sophomores," the Ross coach said, "grew up a little bit. I think they now realize they can win in a tournament like this."

"For us, it was a super tournament," Voggenthaler concluded.

Greg Saxton of Elyria was named the



MEZINGER



SMITH

tournament's "most valuable wrestler" after he claimed the 132-pound championship. Doug Foor, also of Elyria, won the "pin crown" with three falls in three minutes and 16 seconds while winning the 175-pound division.

Elyria Coach Frank Jayne was voted the coach of the year by his peers.—Bob Marker.

Scoreboard

Wrestling

Buckeye Conference Tournament

TEAM STANDINGS

Elyria	208	Sandusky	78
Lorain	129	Marion	72
Ross	98	Admiral King	54
Findlay	92		

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

- 98-Ambrosio (L) p. Daniels (F).
- 105-Franklin (M) d. Frisbie (F).
- 112-Mike Mezinger (R) d. Dan Irby (S) 9-4.
- 119-Kilmer (E) d. Cooly (S) 17-0.
- 126-Farrow (E) d. Laurenti (L).
- 132-Saxton (E) p. Beal (L).
- 138-Dunn (F) d. Mayse (M) 8-5.
- 145-Raynes (E) p. Imber (L) 2:33.
- 155-Mike Repko (L) d. Kit Sultz (R) 10-2.
- 167-Bryant (L) d. Essex (E) 9-3.
- 175-Foor (E) p. Roman (AK) 1:20.
- 185-Matt Smith (R) p. Lyons (E) 2:42.
- HVY-Young (L) p. Medina (AK) 4:35.

CONSOLATION FINALS (3rd place)

- 98-Chris Vaffis (R) p. O'Conner (AK) 2:25.
- 105-Lyons (E) d. Charlie Hicks (R) 6-0.
- 112-Tompkins (E) d. Carreon (AK)
- 119-Hreha (L) d. Hollet (AK).
- 126-Randleman (S) d. Cooterider (M).
- 132-Rentschler (M) d. Mullen (F).
- 138-McIntosh (E) p. Bryan (L) 1:00.
- 145-Gubermath (M) d. Scott (AK) on referee's decision in overtime.
- 155-Platz (E) p. Kirby (F).
- 167-Garrett (S) d. George Weissinger (R) 10-1.
- 175-Todd Beatty (R) d. Pruitt (L) 9-5.
- 185-Dye (S) p. Scheff (M).
- HVY-Lee (E) p. Johnston (F) 2:04.