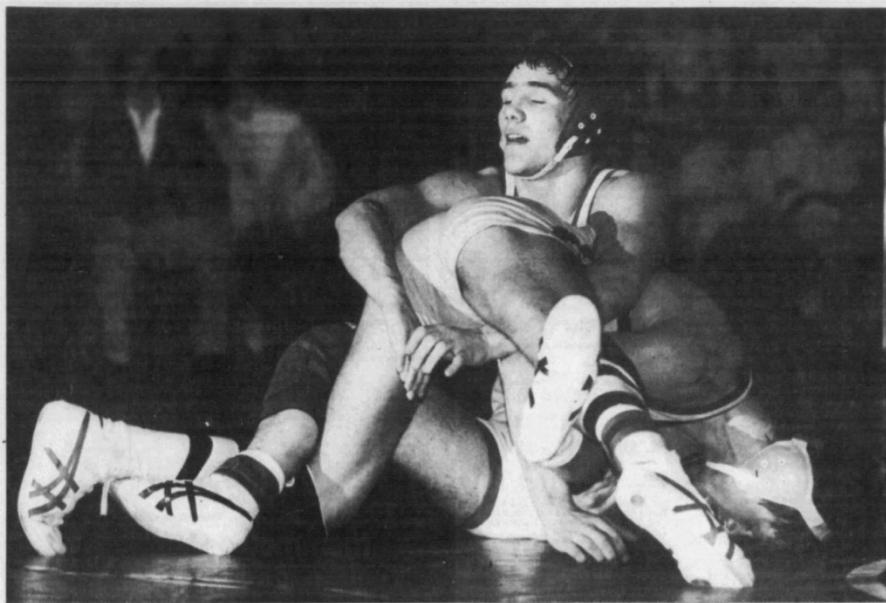


1986 Buckeye Conference...



News-Messenger/Bill Kennedy

SHAWN RAMIREZ of Ross tries to take control of Lorain Senior's Kevin Bryant during their 155-pound title match.

Elyria wins BC mat title again

Ross finishes in runner-up spot, Voggenthaler named top coach

By BOB MARKER
Reporting for The News-Messenger

It took a bit longer to materialize, but after the last whistle Elyria walked away with its 20th Buckeye Conference Tournament championship in the 25th renewal of the tourney Saturday at Ross High School.

The Pioneers racked up 173 points to finish 21 ahead of runner-up Ross. Third belonged to Marion Harding at 122 with Lorain fourth at 104½.

The bottom division had Admiral King with 78½, Findlay with 73 and Sandusky on the bottom with 19½.

Ross did come out on top in one area: Coach Al Voggenthaler was named the top conference coach for this season.

Unlike in past years when Elyria usually grabbed an early lead and had the title wrapped up by the championship round, the Pioneers trailed going into the title matches.

Ross held a 137-136½ lead, and Voggenthaler said that Ross had "to have everything go right in the finals to hang onto that slender lead."

It didn't, and Elyria had its fifth straight title.

Ross entered the final round with seven wrestlers going for individual titles and three more battling for third. Elyria had five in the championship finals and seven others going for third place.

Ross finished with three individual champs and a third-place finisher while Elyria had four champions and four third-place finishers.

"We knew what we had to do," Voggenthaler said, "but Elyria took off."

"We had some dramatic wins and some gut-wrenching losses," the Ross coach continued.

The first dramatic win came in the opening match. Ross 98-pound freshman Jamie Ramirez fought off the effects of a bad cold and John Perez of Admiral King for a 6-3 win.

"I really was not able to breathe very well," the Ross lightweight said after the match.

The second lesson in drama for Ross was in the 145-pound title

bout. Ross senior John Lozano won a controversial 3-2 verdict over previously undefeated Kyle Mayse of Marion Harding in that match. Lozano won when Mayse was penalized one point for using a forearm to Lozano's head as the final second ticked off the clock.

Lozano was accused of biting Mayse's fingers during the match but was not penalized. "He (Mayse) was sticking his fingers in my mouth," the Ross senior said, "and I did bite him but not intentionally."

The third Ross title was another study in the dramatic. Shawn Ramirez won the 155-pound division in overtime on criteria over Kevin Bryant of Elyria. The Ross junior got the match into overtime when Bryant was penalized a point for stalling in the final second of regulation.

In the overtime, Ramirez got the takedown but fell behind 3-2. He escaped with five seconds to go to force a 3-3 overtime deadlock. Because he got the first takedown in overtime, Ramirez was awarded the decision.

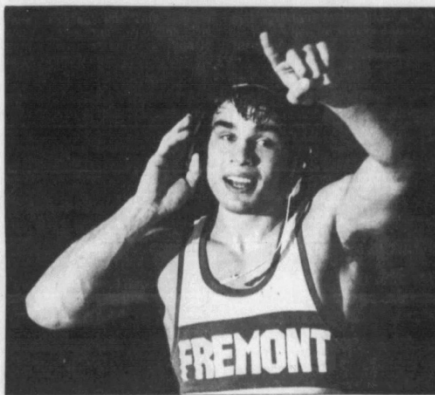
The win erased bitter memories of the 1985 tournament for Ramirez. He finished fourth in that tourney after having to default because of a knee injury.

"I left that tournament on my back," he recalled, "and then I had two surgeries."

One of the gut-wrenching losses was at 112. Ross sophomore Matt Marinis, who won the title at 98 last year, was beaten by Mark Ambrosio of Lorain 4-1. That effort won Ambrosio the outstanding wrestler of the tournament award.

Marinis was not the only 1985 champ to lose. Lorain heavyweight Larry Findlay was pinned in the semifinals by Stu Jordan of Findlay. Jordan went on to win the title while Findlay finished third.

In addition to Marinis, Ross got second-place finishes from Jerrod Potter (138), Richard Yasai (175) and Jim Carroll (185). Little Giants finishing fourth were Todd Scherer (119) and Jerry Palomo (132).



News-Messenger/Bill Kennedy

JOHN LOZANO of Ross celebrates his upset victory over Kyle Mayse of Marion Harding in the 145-pound championship finals.

Aqua Giants 2nd, 3rd

News-Messenger Reports

MANSFIELD — Ross brought home second- and third-place trophies from the Malabar Relays Saturday.

The Ross Aqua Giants boys team tied Wooster for second while the Ross girls finished third.

Malabar won both the boys and girls divisions. In the boys standings, Malabar had 78 points, eight more than Wooster and Ross. Port Clinton was fourth and Ayersville fifth.

Malabar had 80 points in the girls standings with Wooster second with 64. Ross had 48 with Ayersville fourth at 38 and Port Clinton fifth with 30.

The Ross boys won three of the seven events.

The diving duo of Ryan Nuhfer and Jon Lagrou had 370.75 points to edge Malabar's duo of David Fleming and Brian Mayer by .95 points.

The Aqua Giants boys also won the 850 crescendo relay and the 200 medley relay.

Mike Mullholand, Andy Scott,

Brian Mowry and Tom McDonald comprised the crescendo team with won in 8:29.09.

The same quartet made up the medley team that posted a winning time of 1:47.70.

Ross also had thirds in the 200 backstroke and 400 freestyle relays.

"I was pleased with the second place," Ross Coach Art Buccell said. "If we had more depth, we could have won it."

Buccell pointed out that the diving win was the first in that event for Ross in his 10-year coaching tenure.

The Ross girls best finish was a second in the 200 medley. That team was made up of Lori Nighswander, Kathy Sabiers, Todd Heslet and Julie Schaaf. The team finished in 2:08.98.

"We swam well," Buccell summarized.

"We have Northview Wednesday and the Port Clinton Relays Saturday and then we get ready for the districts."

Wrestling

Buckeye Conference

TEAM STANDINGS

Elyria 173, Ross 152, Marion Harding 122, Lorain 104½, Admiral King 78½, Findlay 73, Sandusky 19½.

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

98-Jamie Ramirez (R) d. John Perez (AK) 6-5; 105-Shajmil Pattie (E) p. Duane Robisson (AK) 3:44; 112-Mark Ambrosio (L) d. Matt Marinis (R) 4-1; 119-Brian Long (MH) d. Jeff Saxton (E) 8-6; 126-Jeff Lyons (E) d. Kenny Rivers (AK) 17-5; 132-Jim Caddell (L) d. Mike Pearce (MH) 9-6;

138-Bob Kunkle (F) d. Jerrid Potter (R) 16-4; 145-John Lozano (R) d. Kyle Mayse (MH) 3-2; 155-Shawn Ramirez (R) d. Kevin Bryant (L) overtime, criteria; 167-Pat Diedrick (E) d. Charlie McGowen (S) 8-6; 175-Craig Evert (MH) p. Richard Ysasi (R) 3:06; 185-Dan Sees (E) p. Jim Carroll (R) 3:12; HVY-Stu Jordan (F) p. Kevin McCoy (MH) 4:21.

CONSOLATION MATCHES

98-Dennis Pritt (E) d. Carlo DiFrancisco (L) 7-5; 105-Miko Arroyo (F) d. Bob Fillipo (L) 10-2; 112-Kak Proctor (F) d. Chuck Doud (S) 5-3; 119-Marty Carreon (L) d. Todd Scherer (R) 5-3; 126-Josh Franklin (MH) d. Jerry Palomo (R) 4-2; 132-Jon Ramirez (R) d. Dan Ransom (E) 6-1;

138-Dustin Resear (E) p. Craig Hottinger (MH) 2:24; 145-Tony Filiaggi (E) d. Tim Phillips (AK) 12-3; 155-Leon Knight (AK) p. Richie Moody (E) 1:49; 167-Rick Lindsey (MH) d. Mike Suprun (L) 15-4; 175-Jeff Stump (E) d. Frank Massey (AK) 8-4; 185-Jim Shafer (F) d. Steve Conley (MH) 13-5; HVY-Larry Findish (L) p. Darren Whitten (E) 4:05.