

Ross will depend on youth this year

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross will open the high school wrestling season Friday with a decided emphasis on youth.

"The sophomores that we will use in the lineup will make or break us this season," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler, now in his 13th season as the Little Giants mat boss, said. "I won't hesitate to say that some of our returning lettermen will not be in the lineup this season.

"Of course, after being on and seven last season and you have good sophomores coming up, you go with them," Voggenthaler said.

Voggenthaler clicked off the names of three sophomores and added a freshman he feels certain will be in the opening lineup. The freshman is 98-pounder Matt Marinis, winner of several state and area AAU championships while competing for the Fremont Wrestling Club.

"I am sure about him," the Ross coach admitted, "there is no doubt about it."

The sophomores that Voggenthaler is confident will be in the lineup are 126-pounder Gerald Palomo, Shawn Ramirez at 155 and Jerrid Potter at 132. Palomo and Ramirez, like Marinis are winners of several state and area AAU championships.

The Ross coach rates the lighter weights as being the strength of his teams.

"And if we get everyone in the right weights, the upper weights will be tough, too," Voggenthaler projected.

There are seven returning lettermen for the Little Giants, led by returning Buckeye



ROSS WRESTLING team members are, front row, left to right: Matt Marinis, Chris Vaffis, Todd Scherer, Charlie Hicks, Mike Mezinger, Jerry Palomo; second row: Julio Palacios, Cory Hofstetter, Noel Young, John Lozano, Dave Middleton, Jerrid Potter, Ross Tijerina, Matt Lochotzki, Jesse Sepeda; back row: Jim Carroll, Lee Capucini, Todd Beatty, Rick Garza, Darrin Newell, Steve Meyer and George Weissinger.

Conference champions Mike Mezinger (112) and Matt Smith (185). Mezinger, who had a 22-6 record as a junior, will be at 119 this season while Smith, 20-7 a year ago, will probably be at heavyweight his senior season. Mezinger was the team's most valuable wrestler in the 1983-84 season.

Todd Beatty (175), Dave Middleton (138) and Mezinger are two-year lettermen. Other lettermen include Charles Hicks (112), John Lozano (145), Chris Vaffis (112), George Weissinger (167) and Smith. Hicks, Lozano, Vaffis and Weissinger are juniors.

With Marinis at 98,

Voggenthaler is faced with possibly having to call up another freshman to fill the 105-pound slot.

Three wrestlers are shooting for the 112 division. Vaffis and Hicks are being challenged by non-letterman junior Todd Sherer. Mezinger will go at 119 while at 126, Palomo gets the nod.

Potter will be at 132 with Middleton at 138. Lozano is the 145-pounder with Ramirez at 155. Weissinger is expected to be at 167 with Beatty at 175 and Jim Carroll, another sophomore Voggenthaler is counting on, at 185.

Carroll and Smith could change weights but the Ross coach said Smith would most likely be the

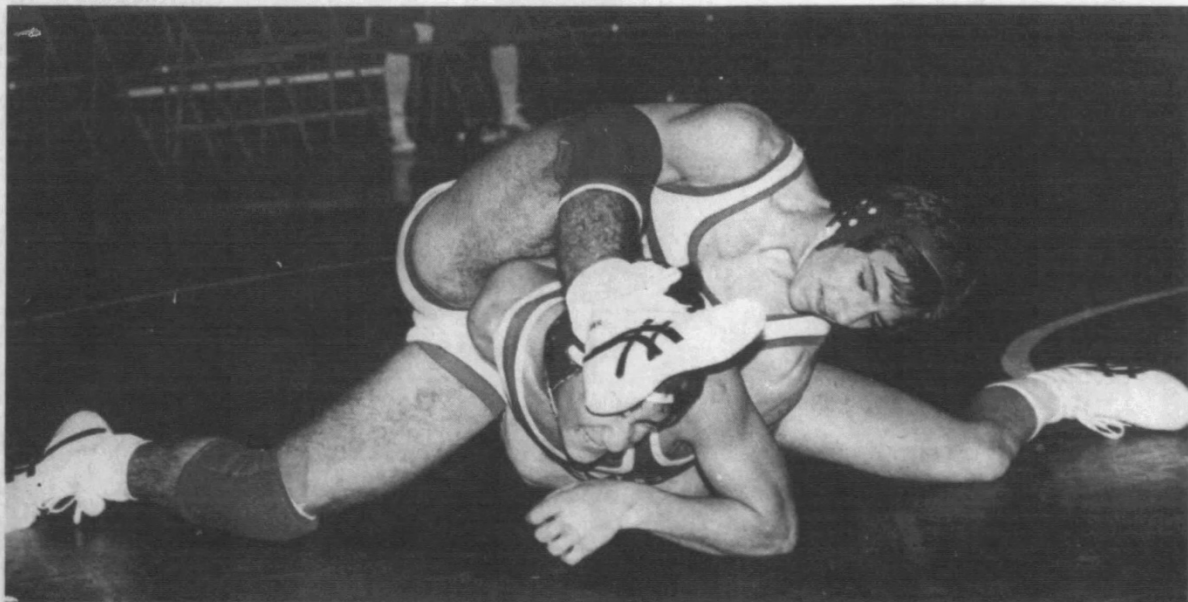
heavyweight.

"What I want to do now is get a lineup stabilized and go with it," Voggenthaler said.

His goal this season is simple, he laughed, "After last year, all I want to do is win a meet or something."

The Purple-White intrasquad meet serves as the debut for Ross wrestling. The meet will begin at 7 p.m., Friday in the Ross gym. Voggenthaler said their will be a mini-clinic before the wrestling.

The Ross coach also asked that former wrestlers in the Ross program, dating back to 1953 when the program was started by Mal Mackey, come to the Friday meet.



News-Messenger/Bob Marker

Ross wrestlers open season

Mike Mezinger of Fremont Ross, competing for the White team in the annual Ross "Purple-White" intrasquad wrestling meet, attempts to bring his foot over the head of Todd Scherer in one of the lightweight matches in the Ross High

School gym Friday. Mezinger defeated Scherer 11-0 but the Purple came out on top 30-24. The results of the matches are on Scoreboard page 11, along with preliminary-round results of the Gibsonburg Invitational Tournament.

Purple 30, White 24

Matches

Matt Marinis (W) d. Chris Vaffis 13-2.
 Mike Mezinger (W) d. Todd Scherer 11-0.
 Jerry Palomo (W) d. Matt Lochotzki 20-5.
 Jerrid Potter (P) p. Julio Palacious 3:59.
 Noel Young (P) p. Jesse Sepeda 2:55.
 John Lozano (W) p. Rick Garza 2:15.
 Steve Meyer (P) p. Mike Middleton 3:01.
 George Weissinger (P) p. Darron Newell 2:07.
 Todd Beatty (W) p. Jim Carroll 3:52.
 Matt Smith (P) p. Chad Hicks 5:30.

Ross matmen host Clay

Ross will host Oregon Clay at 1 this afternoon in the opening high school wrestling match of the season.

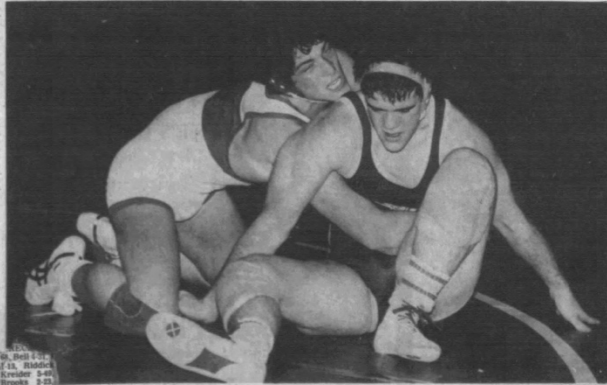
Both the varsity and junior varsity teams will be in action.

The expected starters for Ross include Matt Marinis at 98 and Greg Abdoo at 105, both freshmen. Junior Todd Sherer will be at 112 while senior Jesse Sepeda will take over for veteran Mike Mezinger at 119.

Mezinger is expected to miss a few days of practice after stretching ligaments in a knee during practice.

Sophomores Jerry Palomo and Jarriid Potter will be at 126 and 132, respectively, while Dave Middleton, a three-year letterman, is at 138. Junior John Lozano wrestles at 145 and sophomore Shawn Ramirez is at 155.

George Weissinger is the 167-pounder with Todd Beatty at 175, Jim Carroll at 185 and Matt Smith in the heavyweight slot.



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SMITH, left, of Ross grimaces as he tried to control Gene Krupa of Oregon Clay

Saturday in a dual meet at Ross High School. The match ended in a draw.

'Kiddie Korps' sparks Giants

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Ross's Kiddie Korps knocked the monkey off Coach Al Voggenthaler's back Saturday.

The Korps, made up of freshmen and sophomores, helped make Voggenthaler's one preseason wish "to win anything," become a reality when the youthful Little Giants knocked off the Oregon Clay Eagles 41-28 in a high school dual wrestling meet in the Ross High School gym.

A freshman and three sophomores racked up impressive wins to go with clutch victories by some Ross veterans to end Ross's drought in dual meets. Last season, Voggenthaler's team suffered through an 0-7 dual meet record.

"The Kiddie Korps did a good job," Voggenthaler reaffirmed after the season opening match. "Even Carroll (Jim) did a good job as long as he lasted."

Freshman Matt Marinis, up a weight class to 105, pinned Mike Martin of Clay in 5:49 to get the Little Giants started. Both teams had forfeited at 98, the spot where Marinis was to make his varsity debut.

"I wanted him to wrestle," Voggenthaler said about Marinis, "so when they did not have a 98-pounder, I moved him up to go against their senior."

Another Ross freshman, Greg Abdo, was to have been at 105 but Voggenthaler delayed his varsity debut. Abdo has wrestled in one junior high tournament and a junior high dual meet and would have been facing varsity competition for the first

time. Marinis has been "up" with the Ross varsity throughout the preseason.

Clay won at 112 and 119 to tie the match at 12-12 but a Clay forfeit at 126 to sophomore Jerry Palomo was the first of a three-bout Ross winning streak. Sophomore Jerrid Potter of Ross defeated LeRoy Schull 12-7 in the 132-pound bout and senior Dave Middleton pinned Jeff O'Haver of Clay in 54 seconds of the 138-pound clash.

At 145, Ross junior John Lozano scored on a reversal late in the final period to get a 4-4 draw with Clay veteran Dean Walendzak. Shawn Ramirez, another Ross sophomore, pinned Adam Herrera in 2:26 of the 155-pound bout to highlight the matches for the Ross Kiddie Korps.

Ross senior Todd Beatty defeated Paul Cox of Clay 12-3 in the 175-pound bout before Carroll was pinned by highly regarded Spence Millimen of Clay in 1:19 of the 185-pound clash.

At heavyweight, Matt Smith of Ross, 185 a season ago, fought to a 4-4 draw against Gene Krupa. The Clay heavy got the tying point when Smith was penalized a point for "locking hands" 30 seconds from the end of the match.

"I think the matches went pretty much as we expected," the Ross coach described. "George Weissinger (167) was pinned in the first period but he just slipped and got caught after pretty much controlling the match."

Ross 41, Clay 28

98-Double forfeit.

105-Matt Marinis (R) p. Mike Martin 5:49.

112-Charles Yohn (C) d. Todd Scherer 10-4.

119-Joe Rigg (C) d. Jesse Sepeda 6-2.

126-Jerry Palomo (R) won by forfeit.

132-Jerrid Potter (R) d. LeRoy Schull 12-7.

138-Dave Middleton (R) p. Jeff O'Haver 0:54.

145-John Lozano (R) and Dean Walendzak (C), draw, 4-4.

155-Shawn Ramirez (R) p. Adam Herrera 2:26.

167-John Schenk (C) p. George Weissinger 1:49.

175-Todd Beatty (R) d. Paul Cox 12-3.

185-Spence Millimen (C) p. Jim Carroll 1:19.

HVY-Matt Smith (R) and Gene Krupa (C),

JV matches

119-Chris Vaffis (R) p. Dennis Dobo 2:18.

126-Matt Lochotski (R) d. Mike Shrewsberry 15-7.

132-Meyers (C) p. Julio Palacios 1:43.

167-Hernandez (C) d. Steve Meyer 6-4.

HVY-Chad Hicks (R) p. Nissen 0:53.

Ross wrestlers shine in tough Rogers mat

TOLEDO — Fremont Ross finished a surprising third in the 20-team Rogers Invitational Wrestling Tournament over the weekend.

"At the beginning of the season," Ross wrestling Coach Al Voggenthaler said, "I figured that if we finished in the top half of the tournament, we would be doing well.

"Then, I figured it in the top five and when we finished third, that was super."

The Little Giants led the tournament for most of the consolation rounds Saturday afternoon, but Bedford, Mich., passed them late in the round while picking up momentum on its way to the tournament title.

The Mules finished with 218½ points to easily outdistance runnerup Rogers at 167½ and Ross with 152. Maumee was fourth at 117 and Macomber rounded out the top five with 110½.

"Bedford just had too many in the finals," Voggenthaler said.

Mike Mezinger was the top finisher for Ross, taking second in the 119-pound division. In the

championship finals, the Ross senior lost 7-1 to Greg Bish of Tiffin Columbian.

Mezinger, in his first competition since suffering a knee injury two weeks ago in practice, was the top-seeded wrestler in the division while Bish was seeded number three.

Mezinger won three consecutive decisions to reach the finals.

Other Little Giants' finishes were fourths by Matt Marinis (98), Jim Carroll (185) and Matt Smith (heavyweight). Taking sixths for Ross were Jerrid Potter (132), Shawn Ramirez (155) and Todd Beatty (175).

Marinis is a freshman, Carroll, Potter and Ramirez sophomores, and Beatty and Smith are seniors.

"Everyone of the kids we took up there had at least one win," Voggenthaler pointed out. "In a tournament of this caliber that's pretty good."

Last year, Ross finished 11th of 15 teams.

Ross will be back in action Saturday, Jan. 5, when it hosts the Mal Mackey Memorial Tournament at Ross High School.

Ross captures Mal Mackey crown

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

If Al Voggenthaler and his Ross High School wrestling team had been awarded the runnerup trophy, they would have turned it down.

"We decided before the finals that we did not want to wrestle for second," Voggenthaler said after Saturday night's Mal Mackey Memorial Varsity Wrestling Tournament finals at Ross High School.

It turned out Voggenthaler and his team never had the choice of turning down the second place award; instead, the Little Giants walked away with the title after the finals followed a script that could not have been written any better according to the Ross coach.

The Little Giants, third heading into the finals, pulled out the title as three of four Little Giants in the championship finals won and three others in the consolation finals won. That piled up to 133½ points and a three-point win over Rossford, the pre-tourney favorite.

Rossford had led the tourney through the semifinal round but had to settle for the trophy the Little Giants did not want. Toledo St. John finished third with 127 points while a fast-closing Huron was fourth with 120.

Rounding out the finishes in the seven-team tourney were Vermillion with 106½, Toledo St. Francis with 65 and Sylvania Southview with 58.

It was Ross's night after the afternoon's semifinals.

Mike Mezinger, Ross's 119-pound champion, was named the tournament's outstanding wrestler after surviving the tough division.

Added to that, Little Giant heavyweight Matt Smith sealed the Ross win with a pin in the finals and at the same time won the trophy for the most pins in the least amount of time.

"For us to win it," Voggenthaler explained, "we had to go for everything we could get. As it turned out, I could not have written a better script."

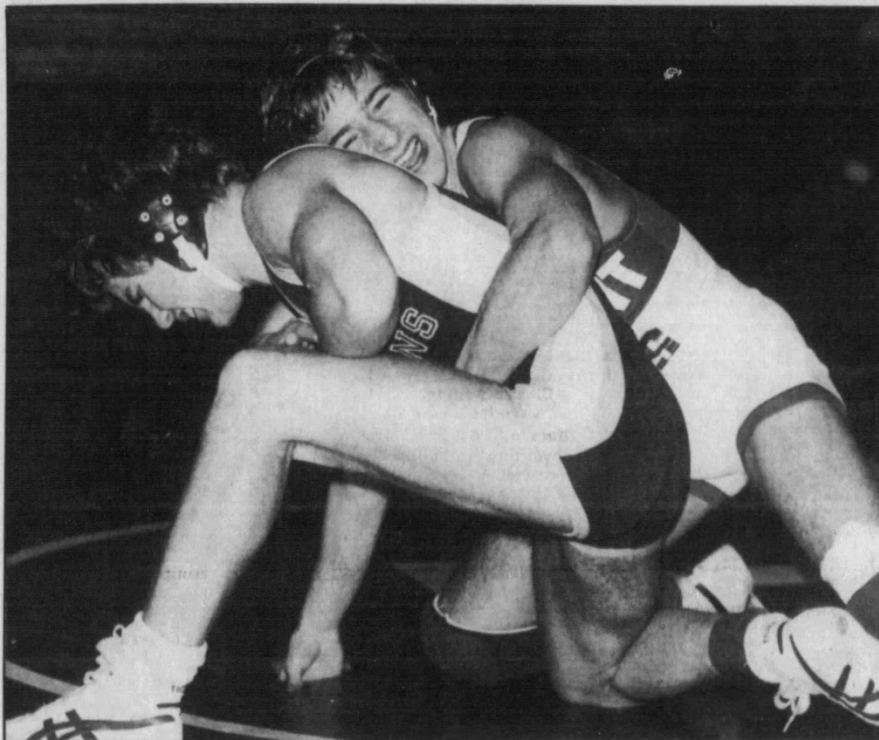
Mezinger, with his 18-6 romp over Tom Brady of St. John's in the finals, added kindling to the Ross fire that was started by freshman Matt Marinis.

Marinis, 98, went up against National AAU champ Mark Tinney of Rossford in the finals and came out on top 3-2, escaping from Tinney for the final point with three seconds remaining in the match.

"We kind of thought that Marinis had to win," Voggenthaler said. "That kid (Tinney) had never been beaten and for a freshman, he is very physical."

The Ross coach said that he never doubted the Marinis had escaped in the final second even though the call was protested hotly by Rossford Coach Jim McCumber.

"I don't think there was any doubt about it. The kid had Marinis' head, but he did not have control and Matt was facing him



News-Messenger/Bill Kennedy

MIKE MEZINGER, top, grimaces as he controls Tom Brady of St. John during the 119-pound finals. The Ross senior was named the tournament's outstanding wrestler.

when they went out of bounds."

Tinney lost a team point after the match for unsportsmanlike conduct when he slapped Marinis' hand on the mandatory post-match handshake.

"That win definitely got the spark going," Voggenthaler said. "And Mezinger built the fire."

Following that, Dave Middleton, 133, took a third with a consolation final 5-3 win over Dave Hook of Vermillion.

Ross 145-pounder John Lozano lost to Darin Hook of Vermillion 17-7 but the Ross junior's efforts in getting to the finals was enough to keep the fires burning.

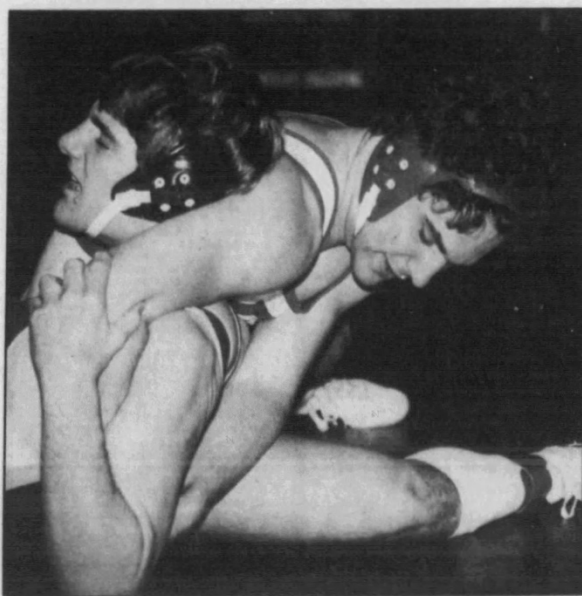
Todd Beatty, 175, added more fuel to the Ross fire with a lightning-quick pin in the championship finals. Bob Nagucki of St. John had the Ross senior in trouble when he lifted him from the mat but instead of taking Beatty down, the Little Giant caught Nagucki coming down, flipped him on his back and pinned him in 37 seconds.

That set the stage for the final two matches, both involving Ross wrestlers in the consolation finals.

"It came down to those two matches," Voggenthaler said. "If we won them, we had the tournament."

Voggenthaler's unwritten script was reaching the climax. Jim Carroll, Ross sophomore 185-pounder, responded with a 9-8 win over Matt Solberg of Huron. That set the stage for Smith.

Smith was up against Pat McNea of Huron, a wrestler he



News-Messenger/Bill Kennedy

TODD BEATTY, right, of Fremont Ross, pulls the shoulders of Toledo St. John's Bob Nagucki toward the mat in the 175-pound championship finals Saturday night at Ross.

had pinned in 1:15 earlier in the day. This time, it took a little longer...a minute and one second longer before Smith clinched the title for the Little Giants.

Other finishes in the top four for

the Little Giants including the thirds by Middleton, Carroll and Smith were fourths by freshman Greg Abdo at 105, junior Todd Scherer at 112 and sophomore Jerrod Potter at 138.

Wrestling

Mal Mackey tourney

TEAM STANDINGS

Ross (FR)	133½	Vermillion (V)	106½
Rossford (R)	130½	S. Francis (SF)	65
St. John's (SJ)	127	Southview (S)	58
Huron (H)	120		

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

(First and second)

- 98-Matt Marinis (FR) d. Mark Tinney (R) 3-2.
105-Rick Kessler (SF) d. Dan Martis (R) 6-4.
112-Augie Graziano (V) d. Rick Munson (H) 19-3.

- 119-Mike Mezinger (FR) d. Tom Brady (SJ) 18-6.

- 126-Matt McCumber (R) p. Nate Knauer (SJ) 5:34.

- 132-Marcus Bowen (S) d. Rod Carazzi (SF) 10-4.

- 138-Mike Perdue (H) d. Tad Langenderfer (SJ) 3-2, overtime.

- 145-Darin Hook (V) d. John Lozano (FR) 17-7.

- 155-Mike Romp (R) won by default over Scot Simpson (S).

- 167-Tony Beier (SJ) p. Brian Romp (R) 1:55.

- 175-Todd Beatty (FR) p. Bob Naguchi (SJ) 0:37.

- 185-Tim Anderson (SJ) d. John Murphy (R) 18-9.

- HVY-Ron Recknagle (R) d. Jack Friell (V), overtime, criteria.

CONSOLATION FINALS

(Third and fourth)

- 98-Chris Bohrer (H) p. Cal Kynard (SF) 4:21.

- 105-Jeff Gashel (H) d. Greg Abdoo (FR) 12-4.

- 112-Tom Sabo (SF) d. Tod Scherer (FR) 5-3.

- 119-Dan Colatruglio (H) p. Bill Carr (SF) 1:17.

- 126-Jerry Geck (S) d. Brett Carmel (H) 13-12.

- 132-Jim Keegan (V) d. Jerrid Potter (FR) 3-2.

- 138-Dave Middleton (FR) d. Dane Hook (V) 5-3.

- 145-Paul Harmon (SF) d. Steve Swanson (SJ) 3-2.

- 155-Fred Breeding (V) d. Ray Morris (SJ) 9-3.

- 167-Kris Bachman (V) d. Mark Fantozzi (H) 2-0.

- 175-Kelth Klikma (H) d. Brian Marshall (SF) 2-1.

- 185-Jim Carroll (FR) d. Matt Solberg (H) 9-8.

- HVY-Matt Smith (FR) p. Pat McNea (H) 2:16.

Outstanding wrestler: Mezinger (119), Fremont Ross.

Most pins in least amount of time: Smith (HVY), Fremont Ross, three in 7:05.

Ross pins BG 57-9; Lakota and Genoa win

Fremont Ross flattened Bowling Green while Genoa and Lakota picked up closer but convincing high school wrestling victories Tuesday night.

Ross, 2-0 in dual matches, buried the Bobcats 57-9, losing just two of 13 bouts. The Little Giants' win included eight pins, the quickest being 41 seconds by heavyweight Matt Smith in the final bout of the match.

Smith flattened Bowling Green's Scott Drury for his victory.

Other pins were registered by Matt Marinis (98), Mike Mezinger (119), Dave Middleton (138), Shawn Ramirez (155), Todd Beatty (175) and Jim Carroll (185).

Mezinger's pin was registered at the 50-second mark in his match against Dan Long. Ramirez had the third quickest fall for the Little Giants, 1:09 against Chris Kirby.

The match served as a Ross tuneup for the St. Xavier 14-team invitational tournament in Cincinnati this weekend.

Ross 57, Bowling Green 9

MATCHES

98-Matt Marihis (R) p. Wes Parrit 2:49.
105-Greg Abdoo (R) p. Greg Rizzuto 3:32.
112-Todd Scherer (R) d. Derek Rocket 16-1.
119-Mike Mezinger (R) p. Dan Long 0:50.
126-Matt Lochotzki (R) d. Bill Kirby 2-1.
132-Jerrid Potter (R) d. Matt Riesen 9-2.
138-Dave Middleton (R) p. Dennis Finnigan
2:24.
145-Doug Kirkbride (BG) d. John Lozano 11-9.
155-Shawn Ramirez (R) p. Chris Kirby 1:09.
167-Dan Murphy (BG) p. George Weissinger
1:55.
175-Todd Beatty (R) p. Rod Allen 2:56.
185-Jim Carroll (R) p. Rhett Drain 10-3.
HVY-Matt Smith (R) p. Scott Drury 0:41.
Season records: Ross 2-0.

Little Giant matmen at Cincy

By BOB MARKER

News-Messenger Sports Editor

Fremont Ross will hit the long road south this weekend to compete in the 14-team St. Xavier Invitational Wrestling Tournament in Cincinnati.

Wrestling begins at 4:30 p.m., Friday, with wrestling through the semifinal round. The second session will be from noon Saturday to 4 p.m. while a third session for consolation finals runs from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The championship finals begin at 7:45 p.m. Saturday.

"I would say this is like a mini-state tournament," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said. "We have North Canton Hoover, Cleveland St. Joe and Cleveland St. Ignatius in the tourney and they were second through fourth in the state tournament last season."

In addition to those teams and Ross will be host St. Xavier, Colerain, West Chester Lakota, Sycamore, West Carrollton, Xenia, Lancaster Fisher Catholic and Columbus St. Charles.

"It will be a real meat grinder," Voggenthaler said, "but I feel that we are mentally prepared for it. The only bad thing is that we will be getting down there late because we cannot leave before 11 a.m., Friday, because of exams."

"That may be OK because the kids won't have much time to think about an opponent," the Ross coach explained. "This way, they will get out of the van, put on the uniform and hit the mats."

Ross will have four seeded wrestlers in the tournament: Matt Marinis, fourth seeded at 98, third seeded Mike Mezinger at 119, Todd Beatty, fourth at 175 and 185-pound Jim Carroll, seeded third.

To get to St. Xavier High School, take I-75 south to Cincinnati. Take the Paddock Road exit west off I-75 to North Bend Road. Turn left on North Bend and St. Xavier is approximately 1½ miles west on North Bend Road. Paddock Road is approximately five miles south of the 275 belt-way and immediately follows the Galbraith Road exit.

Little Giants

8th at St. X

CINCINNATI — Four Fremont Ross High School wrestlers will be competing in today's championship semifinal round in the St. Xavier Invitational Wrestling Tournament at St. Xavier High School.

The Little Giants are eighth with 38 in the 13-team tournament after receiving a number byes in first round. Hoover and Xenia are tied for lead with 61.

"Yeah, those byes hurt us in the scoring but it helped them to advance so it may pay off in the long run," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said.

Matt Marinis, 98, Mike Mezinger, 119, Jim Carroll, 185, and heavyweight Matt Smith were first round winners for Ross.

Marinis defeated Sean Boyden of Lancaster Fisher Catholic 5-1 in his match and will face top-seeded Chris Kurmin of Cleveland St. Ignatius in the semis. Mezinger will face second-seeded Stacy Green of North Canton Hoover in the semis after defeating Chris Hall of West Chester Lakota 17-7 in the first round.

Carroll, third-seeded, defeated Tony Johnson of Cleveland St. Joe 17-7 and will face Bill Wood of West Chester Lakota in the semis. Smith pinnes fourth-seeded Bob Bouchard of St. Xavier in one minute and faces second-seeded Rod Stewart of Xenia in his first match today.

Little Giants eighth in St. X tournament

CINCINNATI — Fremont Ross finished eighth in the St. Xavier Invitational Wrestling Tournament Friday and Saturday.

Xenia won the tournament with North Canton Hoover, the pre-tourney favorite second, Cleveland St. Joseph third and Cleveland St. Ignatius fourth.

Mike Mezenger, 119, was third in that division, pinning Frank Gron of Cleveland St. Joseph in 4:56 of the consolation finals. The Ross senior had been knocked into the consolation rounds when he lost a 5-4 decision to Stacy Green of North Canton Hoover in the championship semifinals round.

Matt Marinis and Matt Smith brought home fourths for the Little Giants.

Marinis, 98, lost his championship semifinal match to top-seeded Chris Kurman of St. Ignatius 11-2 before coming back to reach the consolation championships. In the match for third, Marinis lost in overtime to Miek Elsass of North Canton Hoover via criteria after the overtime session had ended in a scoreless tie. The regulation match had ended 2-2 but Elsass was awarded the match because he had the match's only takedown.

Smith, a senior heavyweight, came close to knocking off the tournament's top seed and eventual champion, Rod Stewart of Xenia in the semifinals. He was leading 10-9 after scoring on a takedown, a reversal and a pair of three-point nearfalls in the first two periods but Stewart scored on a reversal and a three-point nearfall in the final two minutes to pull off the victory.

In the consolation finals, Smith was pinned by Brian Reid of St. Joseph in 2:16 and settled for fourth.

"It was a good tournament for us," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said. "Just about everyone of the kids did a nice job."

The Little Giants will be in action again at 1 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 19, at Findlay in a triangular with the host Trojans and Lima Shawnee.

Ross matmen sweep 2 foes

FINDLAY — The Ross wrestling team picked up one lopsided victory and one close triumph in triangular meet action here Saturday.

The Little Giants blew away the host Trojans 64-9 and edged Lima Shawnee 32-27. In the other match, Shawnee drilled Findlay 62-12.

Double winners for Ross were Matt Marinis at 98, Mike Mezinger at 119, Shawn Ramirez at 155, Todd Beatty at 175 and Matt Smith at heavyweight.

Marinis pinned Findlay's

Nathan Wilhelm in 37 seconds and defeated Shawnee's Dave Cross 5-0.

Mezinger flattened both of his opponents, Findlay's Scott Hostettler in 4:58 and Shawnee's Bill Blum in 3:07.

Ramirez picked up a forfeit victory in the Findlay match and 6-0 victory over Gary Huffman in the Shawnee match.

Beatty was a double-pin winner, decking Findlay's Travis Powell in 38 seconds and Shawnee's Tony Umum in 3:05.

And Smith also picked up a pair of pins, one over Findlay's Stu Jordan in 2:33 and the other over Shawnee's John Looney in 3:05.

onal Cartridge

Ross 64, Findlay 9

MATCHES

- 98-Matt Marinis (R) p. Nathan Wilhelm :37.
- 105-Mike Daniels (F) d. Greg Abdoo 7-0.
- 112-Scott Derodes (F) won by default over Todd Sherer.
- 119-Mike Mezinger (R) p. Scott Hostettler 4:58.
- 126-Jerry Palomo (R) p. Denny Ross 2:56.
- 132-Jerrid Potter (R) d. Bobby Kunkle 8-7.
- 138-Dave Middleton (R) d. Jeff Miller 11-2.
- 145-John Lozano (R) p. Tim Hamlin 1:46.
- 155-Shawn Ramirez (R) won by forfeit.
- 167-George Weissinger (R) p. Les Rayle 1:49.
- 175-Todd Beatty (R) p. Travis Powell :38.
- 185-Jim Carroll (R) won by forfeit.
- HVY-Matt Smith (R) p. Stu Jordan 2:33.

Ross 32, Lima Shawnee 27

MATCHES

- 98-Matt Marinis (R) d. Dave Cross 5-0.
- 105-Greg Abdoo (R) p. Bryan Bellows 3:56.
- 112-Jim Kline (LS) d. Todd Sherer 10-2.
- 119-Mike Mezinger (R) p. Bill Blum 3:07.
- 126-Jim Walker (LS) d. Jerry Palomo 11-4.
- 132-Shawn Bellows (LS) d. Jerrid Potter 12-3.
- 138-Mike Kendig (LS) d. Dave Middleton 18-0.
- 145-Scott Beach (LS) d. John Lozano 3-2.
- 155-Shawn Ramirez (R) d. Gary Huffman 6-0.
- 167-Jim Shafer (LS) p. George Weissinger 5:35.
- 175-Todd Beatty (R) p. Tony Umum 3:05.
- 185-Jim Carroll (R) and Mike Hiler (LS) draw 2-2.
- HVY-Matt Smith (R) p. John Looney 3:05.

Carroll seals Ross mat win

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

Jim Carroll was as surprised as Todd Beatty was mad when Sandusky wrestling coach Ken Colatruglio shifted gears in the middle of a high school wrestling match Tuesday.

While it was a surprise move, Carroll helped Ross survive with a clutch pin as the Little Giants defeated the Blue Streaks 37-25 in the Ross High School gym.

The Sandusky coach's sudden move pushed sophomore Cliff Jolly up a weight class to 185. In the original lineup, Jolly was to go against Beatty at 175 and Carroll was to receive a forfeit at 185.

"I was at the Ross tournament," Colatruglio disclosed, "and I figured if we were to beat Ross, we could take them at 185."

Sandusky held a 25-19 lead when Colatruglio pulled the switch. The forfeit at 175 deadlocked the match at 25-25.

"That ticked me off," Beatty said after the match, "I was ready to wrestle."

Carroll, however, was not quite ready although his performance did not show it.

"I was not expecting to wrestle," he said. "I had only loosened up with the team before the match so I was not too loose."

But, as Carroll pointed out in his style, the Ross sophomore started quickly, got a takedown for a 2-0 lead, but a Jolly reversal knotted it at 2-2 at the end of the first period.

A two-point nearfall by Carroll and a reversal by Jolly made it 4-4 midway through the second period before Carroll escaped, got the takedown and quickly flopped Jolly onto his back for the fall at the 3:27 mark.

"He's just a sophomore," Colatruglio pointed out about Jolly after his move backfired, "and he made a mistake."

All that was left after Carroll's clutch performance was Ross heavyweight Matt Smith's 90-second pin of Sandusky's Bob Hirt.

Colatruglio's move caught Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler by surprise.

"I did not think he would do something like that," Voggenthaler said, "but Carroll responded very well. He got himself going."

Continuing, the Ross coach said, "Obviously, we were not too sharp. We have had only one actual practice in the past eight days.

"Our lightweights were sluggish and unfortunately, that is where they are strong," Voggenthaler said.

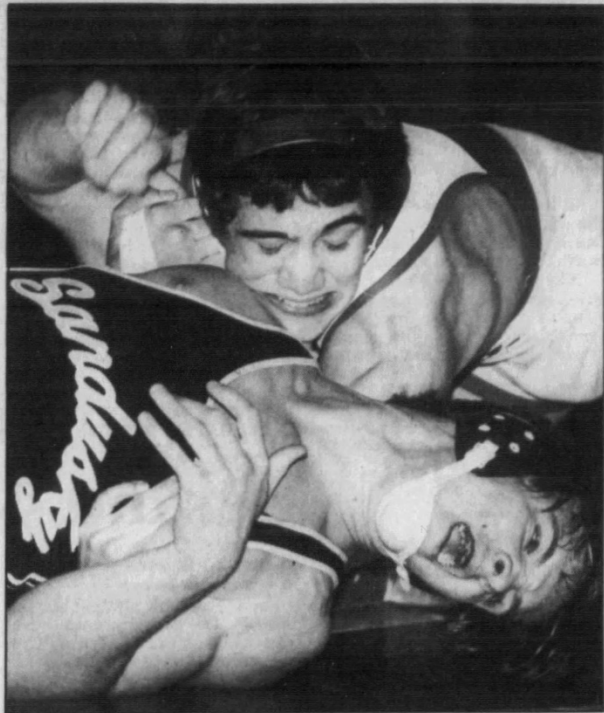
"This match was good for us because it may have showed us that we are not super men when we walk out on the mat," Voggenthaler added.

Ross won only five of the 11 matches actually wrestled but benefitted from Sandusky forfeits at 138 and 175. Matt Marinis, 98, had the only other fall for the Little Giants, pinning Jason Howland in 1:29.

Another Ross win went to Mike Mezinger, 119, 4-2 over Leon Cooley. The Ross senior trailed 2-1 after one period and did not take the lead until midway through the final period.

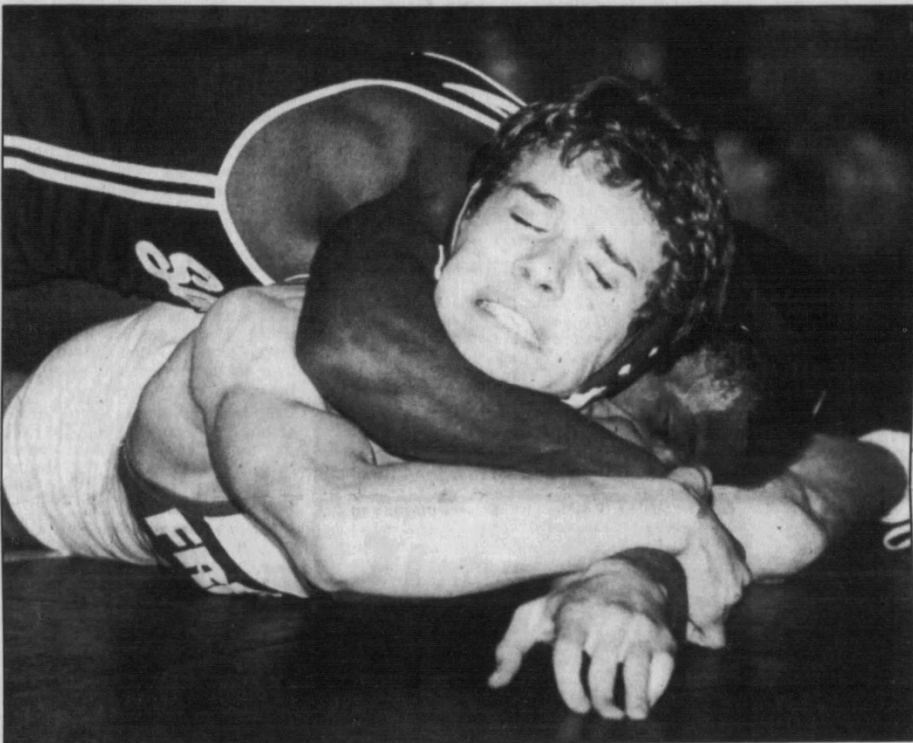
Shawn Ramirez, 155, had the other Ross victory, defeating Charlie McGowan 12-4.

Ross is off until Saturday when the Little Giants travel to Lorain for the Buckeye Conference tournament.



News-Messenger/Bill Kennedy

SHAWN RAMIREZ, top, of Ross uses his chin to pull the shoulders of Sandusky's Charlie McGowan toward the mat in the 155-pound bout.



News-Messenger/Bill Kennedy

JERRID POTTER of Ross struggles to get out of the grasp of Sandusky's Troy Randleman during

the 132-pound match Tuesday at Ross High School.

Scoreboard

Wrestling

Ross 37, Sandusky 25

MATCHES

- 98-Matt Marinis (R) p. Jason Howland 1:29.
- 105-Chuck Doud (S) d. Greg Abdoo 7-0.
- 112-Dan Steele (S) d. Todd Scherer 19-4.
- 119-Mike Mezinger (R) d. Leon Cooley 4-2.
- 126-Monroe Edmonds (S) p. Jerry Palomo 0:15.
- 132-Troy Randleman (S) d. Jerrid Potter 10-0.
- 138-Dave Middleton (R) won by forfeit.
- 145-Dion Dunn (S) d. John Lozano 3-1.
- 155-Shawn Ramirez (R) d. Charlie McGowan 12-4.
- 167-Marko Robert (S) d. George Weissinger 13-5.
- 175-Todd Beatty (R) won by forfeit.
- 185-Jim Carroll (R) p. Cliff Jolly 3:27.
- HVY-Matt Smith (R) p. Bob Hirt 1:30.

Ross flattens Rogers, Whitmer in triangular

News-Messenger Reports

TOLEDO — Al Voggenthaler, tongue-in-cheek, jokingly referred to his Ross High School wrestling team as the "Toledo City League champions," after a triangular match at Whitmer High School Thursday.

The Little Giants, in action for the first time since taking a second in the Buckeye Conference meet three weeks ago, defeated Toledo Rogers 41-21 and Whitmer 51-14 in the triangular. Rogers won the Toledo City League championship two weeks ago.

"I was a little worried going into the thing," Voggenthaler said, "but the kids got hot. There

was no one who did not have a good showing; there were no letdowns any place in the lineup."

Matt Marinis, Todd Scherer, Mike Mezinger, Jerry Palomo, Jerriid Potter, John Lozano and Matt Smith were double winners for the Little Giants. Palomo (126), Lozano (145) and Matt Smith (heavyweight) won both matches with pins. Smith had the quickest fall for Ross, pinning Chris Connor of Rogers in 1:40.

The double win raised Ross's final regular season record to an unblemished 7-0 mark. Last season, the Little Giants were winless in dual meets.

Wrestling

Ross 51, Whitmer 14

MATCHES

- 98-Matt Marinis (R) d. Mike Dorn 12-2.
- 105-Greg Abdoo (R) and Mike Constantino (W), draw, 7-7.
- 112-Todd Scherer (R) p. David Ninagean 3:23.
- 119-Mike Mezinger (R) d. Jim Wood 12-5.
- 126-Jerry Palomo (R) p. Ramon Ramirez.
- 132-Jerrid Potter (R) d. Tom Giovanni 8-1.
- 138-Dave Middleton (R) d. Jay Kamure 11-7.
- 145-John Lozano (R) p. Mike Parish 4:16.
- 155-Brent Coldiron (W) won by forfeit.
- 167-Vern Drew (W) p. George Weissinger 2:40.
- 175-Todd Beatty (R) p. Brian Rea 3:18.
- 185-Jim Carroll (R) p. Dave Pirwitz 2:54.
- HVY-Matt Smith (R) p. Tim Gill 3:13.

Ross 41, Rogers 21

MATCHES

- 98-Marinis (R) p. Dustin Montrie 3:16.
- 105-Jade Montrie (R) d. Abdoo 16-4.
- 112-Scherer (R) d. Matt Martin 4-0.
- 119-Mezinger (R) d. Tracey Orcutt 24-4.
- 126-Palomo (R) p. Rob Bucher 5:32.
- 132-Potter (R) d. Steve Mudrow 4-0.
- 138-Jim Kyser (R) d. Middleton 3-2.
- 145-Lozano (R) p. Joe Conner 5:45.
- 155-Mike Martin (R) won by forfeit.
- 167-Weissinger (R) won by default over Brian Odom.
- 175-Ken Rosemond (R) d. Beatty 17-7.
- 185-Mario Domiguez (R) d. Carroll 12-10.
- HVY-Smith (R) p. Chris Conner 1:40.
- Other match: Rogers 28, Whitmer 23.



BASKETBALL SPECIAL award winners named at the Ross Winter Sports Award Program Tuesday night were, left to right, front row: Nicole Buehler, Denise Wilkins, Sue Gahn, Michele Blue and Amy Wilkins; back row: Minerva Nevarez, Mark Miesle, Greg Bender, Chris Mosser and Manoh Jones.



SPECIAL AWARD recipients for swimming and wrestling at the Ross Winter Sports Award Program Tuesday were, left to right, front row: Lori Nighswander, Heather Winning, Kelly Sabiers; back row: Matt Marinis, Mike Mezinger, Todd Scherer, Mike Mullholand, Matt Smith, Tom McDonald and Brian Mowry.

Ross hands out winter sports awards

News-Messenger Reports

Sue Gahn, Greg Bender, Mike Mezinger, Heather Winning, Tom McDonald and Brian Mowry were named "most valuable" for their respective sports Tuesday evening during the Ross High School Winter Sports Award Program.

Gahn and Bender topped the girls and boys basketball awards, respectively, while Mezinger won in wrestling. Winning was the girls swim team top award winner while McDonald and Mowry shared the boys swim team top honor.

Gahn received her MVP trophy along with trophies for being the best free throw shooter, rebounder and defensive player. She also got a co-captain's trophy along with Michele Blue.

During the past season, Gahn, a senior, was named the Buckeye Conference player of the year while averaging 21 points per game. She was also named the Coaches Association District VI player of the year and will be playing in the McDonald's Classic at Otterbein College April 13. The game matches the top high school girls players in Ohio. Gahn was named to the third team Class AAA All-Ohio by the United Press International (UPI) coaches poll and received special mention in the Associated Press poll.

Denise Wilkins shared the best defensive player honor with Gahn. All three are seniors.

Other awards passed out by Coach Sue Wolf were the most improved varsity player trophy going to Minerva Nevarez. The most valuable reserve player is Nicole Buehler while the most

improved reserve player award went to Amy Wilkins.

In boys basketball, Bender, in addition to his MVP trophy, took home the best free throw shooter and rebounder trophies. He was also presented with a plaque from the Buckeye Conference for being a first team selection and its player of the year. Bender also got a captain's trophy along with co-captain Mark Miesle.

During the season, Bender, a 6-5 senior led Ross to a 15-6 record while averaging 19 points per game. He was named to the second team Class AAA All-Ohio by the UPI and was a special mention on the AP team. Bender will play April 20 in the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association All-Star Game in Canton.

Coach John Sawyer also passed out the best defender and most improved varsity player trophies to Miesle. The most valuable junior varsity player is Manoh Jones while the most improved JV player was Chris Mosser.

Mezinger led the wrestling honors passed out by Coach Al Voggenthaler. In addition to his MVP trophy, Mezinger also took home the trophy for the most takedowns during the season and the captain's trophy. His 96 takedowns for the season broke the old Ross mark of 72. Mezinger qualified for the state tournament and won one match before being eliminated.

During his Ross career, Mezinger won 75 matches and this past season was 28-4. In the past season, he helped Ross to a 7-0 dual record, opposite of the 0-7 that Ross had registered the previous season.

Other wrestling awards went to senior

Matt Smith for the most pins with 17, junior Todd Scherer as being the most improved and the Coaches' Award went to freshman Matt Marinis, one of three freshmen to qualify for the state tournament in the Class AAA division.

Voggenthaler also announced that John Lozano had been elected captain of the wrestling team for the 1985-86 season. Lozano will be a senior.

Winning, a senior who qualified for the state swim meet the past two years, topped the Lady Aqua Giants awards portion of the program. She also received the Coaches' Award and a captain's trophy. Kelly Sabiers was the team's other co-captain and received her trophy.

The most improved girl swimmer is Lori Nighswander. Coach Art Bucci presented the awards.

McDonald and Mowry shared the MVP award for the boys swim team. McDonald added the Coaches' Award to his honor.

The most improved boys swimmer honor went to Mike Mullholand while Mike Robinette and Tracy Turner were presented with captains trophies.

Bucci announced the captains for next season. McDonald and Mowry will be the boys co-captains while Julie Randolph and Dawn Vogel will be the girls co-captains.

Following are the letter winners:

THIRD YEAR

Girls basketball: Sue Gahn.

Boys basketball: Greg Bender, Mark Miesle and Chris Simmons.

Wrestling: Todd Beatty, Mike Mezinger and Dave Middleton.

Girls swimming: Kelly Sabiers and Heather Winning.

Boys swimming: Tracy Turner.

SECOND YEAR

Girls basketball: Michele Blue, Shelly Leggett and Denise Wilkins.

Boys basketball: Dave Kovaleski, Shawn McCarthy and Rodney Smith, mgr.

Wrestling: John Lozano, Matt Smith, George Weissinger and Bob Flahiff, trainer.

Girls swimming: Julie Randolph.

Boys swimming: Jim Boggs, Jon Lagrou, Tom McDonald, Brian Mowry, Mike Robinette, Andy Scott and Bill Taylor.

Cheerleaders: Brenda Brown, Tam Marinis, Lori Mooney and Monna Rodriguez.

FIRST YEAR

Girls basketball: Brenda Kline, Aimee LeJeune, Minerva Nevarez, Belinda Walters, Chris Yeager and Lisa Miarer, mgr.

Boys basketball: Karl Bury, John Cahill, Gregg Gallagher, Pat Hetrick, John Stierwalt and Halvar Oltersdorf, mgr.

Wrestling: Greg Abdo, Jim Carroll, Matt Marinis, Jerry Palomo, Jerrod Potter, Shawn Ramirez, Jesse Sepeda, Todd Scherer, Beth Yingling, trainer, and Romel Miller, mgr.

Girls swimming: Jamie Brudzinski, Elizabeth Goins, Lori Nighswander, Julie Schaaf, Julia Smith and Dawn Vogel.

Boys swimming: Paul Bietz, Mike Mullholand, Mike Nighswander, Ryan Nuhger, Steve Schaaf and Ty Weickert.

Cheerleaders: Jodi Beatty, Christy Michael, Ann Schroeder and Wendy Woolf.