

1990 DISTRICT...

# District final step to state

News-Messenger reports

Fifty-seven area wrestlers will vie for spots in the 53rd State Wrestling Tournament beginning today in district competition.

Oak Harbor qualified 11 wrestlers for the Division II district at Lexington High School, which begins today at 5:30 p.m.; La-kota qualified nine and Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic eight for the Division III district at Fostoria High School, which begins today at 2:30 p.m.; and Fremont Ross will be represented by five wrestlers when the Division I district begins at noon Saturday at Toledo Rogers High School.

Ross's Dan Lopez (140), Terry Carter (160) and Chad Green (275) earned district berths with sectional championships last weekend. They will be joined at the district by David Boda (103) and Brian Palomo (130).

The finals at Rogers will take place at 7 p.m.

Jarad Swint (140) and Scott Reineck (112), who won sectional titles last weekend, lead St. Joe's district contingent. St. Joe's Jason Yerkes (103), Craig McAfee (119), Joe Caballero (125), Pat Militello (171), Mike McGrath (189) and Curt Gonya (275) also qualified.

Five sectional champions — Cody Roth (103), Eric Lippert (125), Ryan Tyson (130), Chad Biddle (135) and Jeremy Coleman (160) — qualified for La-kota, which will also send Randy Tyson (112), Jason Conrad (152),

See DISTRICT, B-2

# District

**Continued From B-1**

Matt Milligan (171) and Matt Paxson (275) to Fostoria.

Oak Harbor is led into the district by sectional champions Bill Scherf (130), Craig Tomor (152), Chris Losie (171), Rob Monak (189) and Mike Casey (275). Other Oak Harbor qualifiers are Brad Kersten (103), Brian Kersten (119), Bob Shanteau (135), Marti Frisch (140), Rob Hurrell (145) and Jasen Palmer (171).

Other qualifiers for the Division II tournament, which resumes Saturday at noon and concludes with 7 p.m. finals, include sectional champ Bubba

Taylor (112), Brian Villalon (119), Ray Long (160) and Jay Eisenhower (189) of Clyde; Mike Zeno (112) and Paul Yost (125) of Margaretta; and Bellevue's Chris Kile (125), Jeremy Didion (130), Brian Weider (135), Don Didion (140), Ken Strunk (145) and Scott Eisenhauer (152).

Gibsonburg's Steve Fetterman (119), Hugo Villarreal (145) and Bob Jahna (160); Matt Miesle (130) and sectional champ Scott Medon (275) of Woodmore; and Branden Tester (103), Jason Hubley (119), Brian Pearson (135); Todd Spencer (140), Jay Drouillard (145) and sectional champ Brian Kigar (189) of Genoa also qualified for the Division III district, which continues at noon Saturday and concludes with 7 p.m. finals.

# Ross advances four wrestlers

News-Messenger reports

TOLEDO — Four Fremont Ross wrestlers will advance to the Ohio High School State Wrestling Tournament after placing in the top four at the Division I District Tournament Saturday.

Dan Lopez, 140, and Chad Green, heavyweight, of Ross won district titles at Toledo Rogers High School while the Little Giants' Terry Carter, 160, and Dave Boda, 103, were second and third, respectively. The top three finishers advanced to the state meet this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Cincinnati Gardens.

Sandusky won the district title with 97 points. Oregon Clay was second with 71, Perrysburg third with 69 and Ross was fourth with 67½. Toledo St. John's came in fifth with 53.

It is the largest contingent of Ross wrestlers in the state tournament since coach Al Voggenthaler took four in 1976. The Ross total matched that of champion Sandusky which had taken 11 wrestlers into the district tournament.

Green, Voggenthaler said, had the best shot at winning the district title but Lopez and Carter had to face wrestlers they had lost to earlier in the season. Boda, the Ross coach added, "was a pleasant surprise."

Brian Palomo, the fifth Little Giant in the district tournament, did not place, losing in the first rounds of the championship and consolation rounds.

"This was a nice 52nd birthday present," Voggenthaler said. He turned 52 Sunday.

"The kids," he said in his best slang, "done good."

Green, 29-2, rolled through his first two matches, pinning Ken Crampton of Toledo Start in 4:48 and outpointing Ron Ford of Springfield Local 17-6 in the semifinals. In the finals, Green was pushed into overtime by Chad Wojciechowski of Toledo Bowsher before winning 6-4.

"Green had problems," Voggenthaler said, "because 'Wojo' is short and stubby and he could not get any leverage. In the

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See ROSS, B-4

# ROSS

**Continued From B-1**

overtime, Green basically wore him down."

Lopez, 31-2, won the rubber match against Bill Taylor of Toledo Rogers. Taylor defeated Lopez 10-0 in the Rogers Tournament finals in December but the Ross senior beat Taylor 11-7 in a later dual meet. This time, Lopez had two takedowns in the last minute with the second coming in the final 10 seconds producing a 6-4 win.

Carter lost to Joshua Deer of Toledo Waite 14-6 in the finals. Carter pinned Deer in the Mal Mackey Tournament finals at Ross in early January.

"Those two are so even," Vogenthaler said, "that I guess it

was just Deer's turn to win."

Carter, 30-5, had to defeat two wrestlers who had beaten him previously. In the first round, the Ross senior topped Kevin Ruddy of Toledo Central Catholic 12-6 and in the semifinals, stopped Mike Drake of Clay 9-7. Ruddy defeated Carter in a dual meet at Ross and Drake stopped Carter in his first match of the season.

In the match for third and the final state-qualifying spot, Boda defeated a wrestler he had lost to the sectional tournament consolation finals. This time, Boda topped Glenn Worthington of Mansfield Senior 6-5 after falling to Worthington 6-3 and settling for fourth in the sectionals a week earlier.

The state tourney Division I wrestling competition begins at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.