

FREMONT ROSS ■ WRESTLING

Little Giants hope strength in numbers will result in more wins

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

FREMONT — Wrestling hasn't always been an easy sell for Ross wrestling coach Mike Mezinger.

But finally, the seventh-year coach will have some numbers to play with in 2010-11. And he's got many more on the way in his lower levels.

"I'm really happy with the turnout and the numbers we have," Mezinger said. "We have 25 out right now and we're still trying to get more from the football team."

Mezinger is hoping those numbers will help the Little Giants (4-8 in dual meets a year ago) close the gap on the competition. It was common for Ross to drop 24 points in a duals competition last season on forfeits alone.

"That's a lot of points to come back from in a match," Mezinger said. "But we had a lot of new faces and we were moving kids back and forth between the

varsity and junior varsity teams."

One of the weight classes that suffered automatic losses was the 103-pound class. The 112-pound class also lost a lot of points.

But now Mezinger has a number of kids who can compete for those spots. His son Bailey Mezinger, who wrestles at 103-pounds is one of them. Bailey, a freshman, has plenty of talented classmates, including Sam Lewis and Bobby Hrynicw.

Lewis and Hrynicw are expected to compete anywhere from the 103-pound class to the 119-pound class.

"Right now 112 is too early to determine," Mezinger said. "But we have four or five kids that will batte it out."

Sophomore Trevor Brown is expected to slide into the 145-pound slot. Eddie Chavez, another sophomore, should compete for the 152 slot. Chavez earned honorable mention Greater Buckeye Conference recognition as a freshman at 160.

"Both of those kids have worked all summer long and have improved greatly from last season," Mezinger said.

Freshman Trey Grine (130, 135 pounds) is expected to compete for time in the middle weights.

Grine could slide into whatever spot isn't occupied by returning GBC champion and senior Steven Johnson. Johnson was 34-9 last season at 130 pounds, finishing second at sectionals before getting a tough draw at districts.

"I'm expecting a lot from Steven this season," Mezinger said. "There's no reason he can't be a real player in Columbus and accomplish some big things."

Mezinger's biggest returnee, though, is senior Tyler Trautwein. Trautwein (189 pounds) is a two-time defending GBC champion and state qualifier a year ago.

As a junior, Trautwein went 42-4, a mark Mezinger thinks the former junior high state champion is capable of improving on.

"With him being a senior, I think he's got a lot of high expectations for himself," Mezinger said. "A state championship is one of his goals and with some hard work, it's in reach."

"He should've placed last year and he knows that — that'll drive him to do greater things this time."

Ross also hopes to do greater things in the GBC, after finishing third a year ago.

"The GBC will be wide open this year," Mezinger said. "It's definitely a goal for us to get a title in the conference before we leave."

"We've finished second a few times, but we'd definitely like to go out like the football team did."

E-mail Kevin Shields at KShields@gannett.com.

AT A GLANCE

■ Coach: Mike Mezinger, seventh season
■ 2009-10: 4-8 in dual meets.

■ Key Losses: Miguel Marquez, 112, 119; Tony Rodriguez, 119; Wyatt Wukie, 171; Kent Weaver, 140, 145; Matt Christensen, 125, 130, 135; Jalen Heidelberg, 140, 145; Eric Brodstock, 160.

■ Key Returnees: Seniors Steven Johnson, 125, 135; and Tyler Trautwein, 189; sophomores Eddie Chavez, 152; and Trevor Brown, 135, 140.

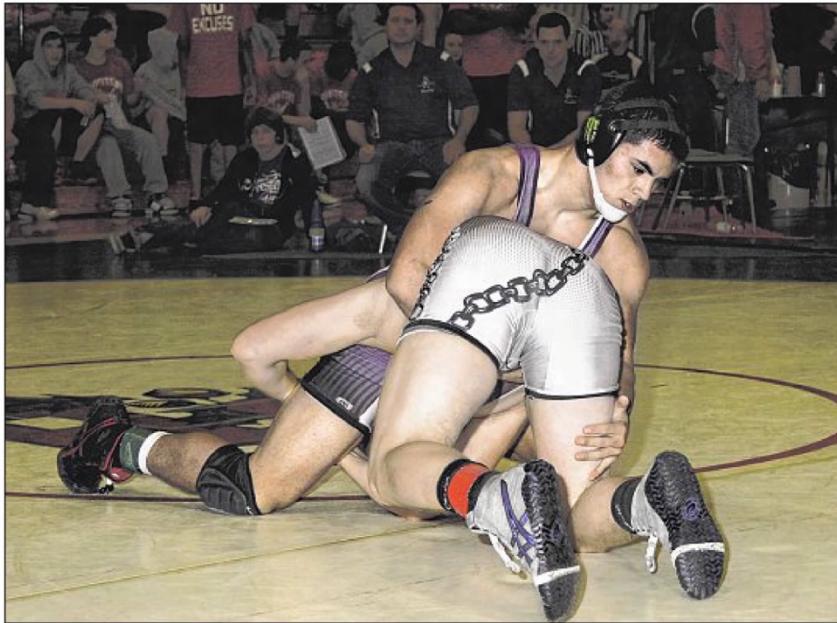
■ Key Newcomers: Freshmen Bailey Mezinger, 103; Trey Grine, 130, 135; Sam Lewis, 103, 112, 119; and Bobby Hrynicw, 103, 112, 119.

SCHEDULE

Dec. 4 at Oak Harbor Invite, 10 a.m.
Dec. 15 Oak Harbor/Genoa, 6 p.m.
Dec. 22 at Perkins, 6 p.m.
Dec. 29 at Tiffin Invite, noon.
Dec. 30 at Tiffin Invite, 10 a.m.
Jan. 5 Clyde/Sandusky, 6 p.m.
Jan. 8 Mal Mackey Tourney, 8 a.m.
Jan. 21 at Oregon Clay, 4 p.m.
Jan. 22 at Oregon Clay, 10 a.m.
Jan. 26 at St. Francis, 6 a.m.
Jan. 29 at Elmwood Invite, 10 a.m.
Feb. 5 at Celina, 9:30 a.m.
Feb. 12 GBC at Marion Harding, 11 a.m.

Wang's Buffet

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING ■ OAK HARBOR INVITATIONAL



Doug Hise | News-Messenger correspondent

Fremont Ross' Tylor Trautwein works Rossford's D.J. Recknagel during Saturday's Oak Harbor Invitational.

Rockets win own tourney

Oak Harbor gets clutch performances, rolls to title

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

OAK HARBOR — Oak Harbor's Jake Cramer has taken the term "wrestling up" to new heights over the past two seasons.

After making it to Columbus as a 103-pounder his freshman year, Cramer moved up to 140 a year ago and placed fifth at state, helping the Rockets to a Division II runner-up finish.

Now this season, the junior has moved up even further to the 171-189 range and he's off to a great start in his quest for a third straight trip south.

Cramer was voted the Most Outstanding Wrestler of the Oak Harbor Invitational Saturday, as he was 1-of-7 championship wrestlers for his team, which rolled up 315 points en route to the overall team championship.

Cramer wrestling up at 189-pounds, defeated Fremont Ross' Tylor Trautwein by fall in 1:44 for the title.

"Jake had the toughest weight class by far," said Oak Harbor coach George Bergman. "And I told those guys earlier whoever won that weight class was getting my vote for Most Outstanding Wrestler."

Included in Cramer's class were Trautwein and Rossford's D.J. Recknagel, both state qualifiers from a year ago. The class also featured the state runner-up from two years ago, Garrett Connor from Kettering Fairmont.

Recknagel took third in the class with Connor taking fifth. For Trautwein, who had breezed in earlier rounds in getting falls in 10 and 15 and 48 seconds, the loss to Cramer was just his fifth in his last 51 matches.

"Tylor just went for a throw and got caught," said Ross coach Mike Mezinger. "And when you're down five points to a guy like Cramer, it's hard to come back."

Trautwein looked to have an early advantage after picking Cramer up on his back twice, but after his failed move, Cramer was in total control.

"I just tried to stay solid throughout the match and wait for him to get tired," said Cramer. "He's a very good opponent and with me normally being a 171 wrestler, it was good win for me to move up today

AVON LAKE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INVITATIONAL

Bellevue stays invitational champs

BY DAN GILLES
News-Messenger correspondent

AVON LAKE — When the final round of the 30th Annual Knights of Columbus Wrestling Tournament at Avon Lake High School began Saturday night, Bellevue held a seemingly comfortable 18.5-point lead over second-place Port Clinton.

That's before the Redskins made it anything but comfortable while the Redmen only scored eight points during the championship round.

Port Clinton's late charge fell just 3.5 points short, however, and Bellevue came away with its second-straight team championship at the K of C. The Redmen outscored the Redskins, 20.5-20.5.

"It was a close one," second-year Bellevue coach Paul Zolman said. "I was a little anxious, that's for sure. I wasn't happy until they handed me the team trophy."

"I told the kids that this means a lot. When you walk into a tournament and you're the returning champions, you've got a target on your back. So, everybody's looking to knock you off of your pedestal."

Bellevue didn't have any individual champions, but it did place eight wrestlers in the top four.

"We came into today in fifth place as a team, and I told the kids, 'Listen, you can give it up now or you guys can suck it up and come together as a team,'

work harder than you've worked this entire offseason and see what you can do," Zolman said. "They accepted the challenge, and I'm very proud of the kids for that. They accomplished goal No. 1 for the season.

"The semifinal round, we had six guys in that round and two got into the championship. So, the other four guys combined with the three others in the wrestlebacks came back and all but one won to force third-place matches."

Both Casey Dodson (119) and Will Stephens (160) advanced to their respective championship matches. However, both came up short in their quests for individual glory.

Dodson, Bellevue's lone returning K of C champion, was defeated by two-time K of C runner-up and defending state placer William Spangler of Keystone, 10-3. Meanwhile, Stephens lost to his friend and rival Jared Fleming of Port Clinton, 9-2.

"Will Stephens and Casey Dotson each took second, but they both had great tournaments," Zolman said. "They lost in the final match, but they both wrestled real well to get there."

"They ran into some tough kids in the finals. Spangler from Keystone is a returning state guy. He's as tough as they come. Casey went out there and wrestled tough against him but he came up a little short. Will Stephens going against Port Clinton ... Port

SEE BELLEVUE I 8

and beat him."

As for the move up, Cramer said the change has mostly been muscle and technique.

"It's definitely a different wrestling style," Cramer said. "Those boys are a lot bigger and it's all about horsepower at that level. There's a lot more endurance and strength involved."

Also winning championships for the Rockets were Tyler Hackworth (125 pounds), Luke Cramer (135 pounds), Alex Bergman (145 pounds), Ian Miller (160 pounds), Konnor Witt (171 pounds) and Sean McGee (215 pounds).

"Ian was his usual dominant self again,

SEE ROCKETS I 8

ROCKETS FROM 7

as was Konnor Witt," Bergman said. "Tyler Hackworth had a good opponent in the finals and won a close match, which was good to see. Then Sean McGee was 0-3 here last year and one year later he wins it. It was nice to see him be rewarded."

Jared Chambers was second at 145, while Kameron McDaniel (103 pounds), Alec Bowlick (112 pounds), Brock Evans (119 pounds) Hunter Gresh (140 pounds) and Kyle Mincheff (152 pounds) all won third-place matches.

"I was impressed with all our guys," Coach Bergman said. "The effort was great and we had great senior leadership."

Shelby took second (193 points), with Oregon Clay (180.5) going third and the Little Giants (169 points) finishing fourth. Genoa was ninth with 70 points, behind Oak Harbor's "B" team (70.5 points) in eighth.

Trautwein was one of four runner-up finishers for Ross. Also earning second-place finishes were Trey Grine (135

pounds), Steven Johnson (140 pounds) and Jalil Dolton (285 pounds).

"All of them had really tough matches in the finals," Mezinger said. "Steven Johnson's was one of the best matches all night. Angelo Amenta was a state qualifier last year and we almost had him at the end."

Mezinger liked what he saw the most from his sophomore heavyweight, Dolton.

"Last year he was our 215-pounder and didn't win very many matches," Mezinger said. "Now he's up to heavyweight and he's looking pretty good."

Adding a third-place finish for the Little Giants was Miguel Marquez at 125 pounds. In total, Ross placed 10 grapplers on the podium.

"We held our own for having five freshmen in the lineup," Mezinger said. "They're still working hard and hopefully this is a little eye-opener for them to keep working hard. But for as young as this team is, we did pretty good."

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Wrestling

Oak Harbor Invitational

■ **Team Standings:** 1. Oak Harbor A, 315; 2. Shelby, 193.5; 3. Oregon Clay, 180.5; 4. Fremont Ross, 169; 5. Kettering Fairmont, 165; 6. New Lexington, 142.5; 7. Alliance, 113; 8. Oak Harbor B, 70.5; 9. Genoa, 70; 10. Rossford, 63.

■ **Site:** Oak Harbor HS, Oak Harbor.

■ **103 pounds:** 3. Kamron McDonald (OH) dec. Justin Reeder (SH), 12-1; 5. Baily Mezinger (FR) pin Colin DelValle (KET), 2:10.

■ **112:** 3. Alec Bowlick (OH) def. Tate Haar (OH), forfeit; 5. Alex Grimm (SH) pin Sam Lewis (FR), :54.

■ **119:** 3. Brock Evans (OH) dec. Adam Klavinger (GEN), 4-1; 5. Brian Henneman (CLAY) dec. Bobby Hrynciw (FR), 7-0.

■ **125:** 1. Tyler Hackworth (OH) dec. Matt Dengliner (KET), 3-2; 3. Miguel Marque (FR) dec. Nathan Moore (GEN), 10-5.

■ **130:** 3. Shawn Gantka (GEN) dec. Ryan Huffman (KET), 5-0; 5. Austin Devault (CLAY) dec. Josh Chambers (OH), 5-0.

■ **135:** 1. Luke Cramer (OH) pin Trey Grine (FR), 5:55; 3. Brad Hawkins (AL) pin Logan Scott (GEN), :54; 5. Tyler McLay (SH) dec. Tristen Epling (OH), 11-1.

■ **140:** 1. Angelo Amenta (CLAY) dec. Steven Johnson (FR), 7-2; 3. Hunter Gresh (OH) def. Jim Chambers (OH), forfeit; 5. Trevor Phelps (SH) dec. Garrett Poiry (GEN), 9-2.

■ **145:** 1. Alex Bergman (OH), 5-0; 2. Jared Chambers (OH), 4-1; 6. Tyler Vailer (FR), 0-5.

■ **152:** 3. Kyle Mincheff (OH) dec. Evan Head (SH), 8-0.

■ **160:** 1. Ian Miller (OH) dec. Tommy Kimbrell (KET), 21-9.

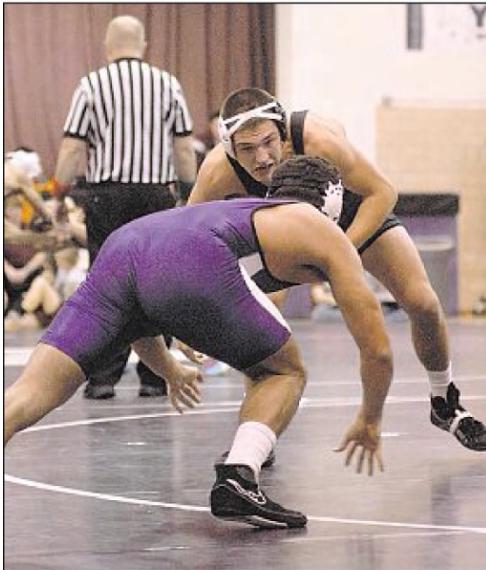
■ **171:** 1. Konner Witt (OH) pin Derek Ratliff (SH), :42.

■ **189:** 1. Jake Cramer (OH) pin Tyler Trautwein (FR), 1:44.

■ **215:** 1. Shean McGee (OH) dec. Terry Saunders (AL), 1-0; 5. Alan Randolph (NL) pin Dee Bell (FR), 2:56.

■ **285:** 1. Brandon Rinehart (SH) pin Jalil Dolton (FR), 4:14.

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING



Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger
Oak Harbor's Ian Miller squares off against David Garza of Fremont Ross during a wrestling match Wednesday in Fremont.

Ian Miller helps Rockets take tri-match at Fremont

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

FREMONT — Ian Miller may have already passed his most difficult test of the season.

However, despite winning Oak Harbor's first Iron Man title at Cuyahoga Falls Walsh Jesuit this past weekend, the senior wasn't about to let up against Fremont Ross or Genoa Wednesday.

Miller, ranked as the nation's second-ranked wrestler at 152 pounds, pinned Ross's David Garza in 33 seconds and ended the night with a pin of Genoa's Jaron Bintz in 3:18 as the Rockets swept the tri-match. Oak Harbor topped the Little Giants 54-9 and downed its arch-rival Comets 50-12.

"I'm just trying to make it all count right now," said Miller, who wrestled at 152 pounds in Wednesday's duals after winning the Iron Man title at 145. "I

trained hard all summer and all my focus was on winning the Iron Man title. I went to bed the first night not too happy with my performance the first day, but I was really tough on the second day."

Miller's only loss during his state championship season a year ago came in double overtime at the Iron Man finals, where he lost to the nation's top-ranked wrestler in his class. The tournament is touted as one the nation's best and features teams from all across the country.

"I think he's just a little bit better this year," said Oak Harbor coach George Bergman. "He was pretty dominant last year, but this year I think he's a little bit more confident, he's stronger and his technique is better."

But Miller is far from alone as far as dominant wrestlers go for Bergman. In total, the Rockets suffered just five losses in their two matches Wednesday with two

coming on forfeits.

The feature match of the event was a re-match between Oak Harbor's Jake Cramer and Ross's Tylor Trautwein at 189 pounds. Cramer came out on top at the Oak Harbor Invitational in their first meeting Dec. 4, pinning Trautwein in 1:44.

And to prove it wasn't just a bad day for the Ross star, Cramer bested Trautwein again Wednesday, winning in an 8-3 decision over the Little Giant's two-time defending league champion and state qualifier.

"For Jake to beat Tylor twice in the same year, it says something," Bergman said. "It showed the first time wasn't a fluke."

Cramer also downed Genoa's Jake Sheehy by a 7-4 decision. It was one of two tough bouts for the Comets' 189-pounder as he lost a tight battle to Trautwein 5-3

SEE ROCKETS | B2

ROCKETS FROM B1

in his first match.

"Tylor's match with Cramer was obviously the big one that everyone was waiting for," said Little Giants coach Mike Mezinger. "And it was a good match. I think the 103 match, though, better."

In the 103-pound matchup, Oak Harbor's Cameron McDaniel topped Ross's Bailey Mezinger 4-1 in triple overtime.

McDaniel beat Bailey two weeks ago in Oak Harbor by quite a few points, so Bailey was ready for him," Coach Mezinger said. "And he almost came out on the winning end."

Others winning a pair of matches for the Rockets were McDaniel (103), Tate Haar (112),

Brock Evans (119), Tyler Hackworth (125), Luke Cramer (135), Alex Bergman (145), Konnor Witt (171) and Sean McGee (215).

"Tate Haar did an excellent job filling in tonight, going 2-0," Coach Bergman said.

As for Hackworth, the win over the Comets' Logan Scott gave the Rocket senior 100 for his career.

For Ross, who also lost 39-35 to Genoa, it wasn't quite the event to remember.

"We just got to pick it up in the wrestling room," Coach Mezinger said. "I don't know what our problems were tonight. We had a lot of guys being hesitant and not going after kids and you can't do that, especially against Oak Harbor."

Steven Johnson and Jahil Dolton were the lone Ross

wrestlers with multiple wins Wednesday. Johnson defeated Oak Harbor's Hunter Gresh 6-1 at 140 pounds and took down Genoa's Josh Pierce in a 2-0 decision to close his book. Dolton (285) won his match against the Rockets in a forfeit, before pinning Dustin Reeder in 3:00.

Miguel Marquez (125), Trey Grine (135) and Tyler Valier (145) all won matches against the Comets.

"We're young and these guys got to grow up quick," Coach Mezinger said. "They got to learn that this isn't middle school anymore and it's going to take a lot of work in practice."

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HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Local Results

OAK HARBOR 54, FREMONT ROSS 9

- **Site:** Ross H.S., Fremont.
- **103 pounds:** Cameron McDaniel (OH) dec. Bailey Mezinger (Ross), 4-1.
- **112:** Tate Haar (OH) maj. dec. Sam Lewis (Ross), 12-0.
- **119:** Brock Evans (OH) maj. dec. Bobby Hrynciw (Ross), 18-7.
- **125:** Tyler Hackworth (OH) dec. Miguel Marquez (Ross), 3-1.
- **130:** Chambers (OH) forfeit.
- **135:** Luke Cramer (OH) dec. Trey Grine (Ross), 5-2.
- **140:** Steven Johnson (Ross) dec. Hunter Gresh (OH), 6-1.
- **145:** Alex Bergman (OH) dec. Tyler Valier (Ross), 6-1.
- **152:** Kyle Mincheff (OH) dec. Eddie Chavez (Ross), 6-3.
- **160:** Ian Miller (OH) pin. David Garza (Ross), :33.
- **171:** Konnor Witt (OH) forfeit.
- **189:** Jake Cramer (OH) dec. Tylor Trautwein (Ross), 8-3.
- **215:** Sean McGee (OH) pin. Dee Bell (Ross), 1:00.
- **285:** Jahil Dolton (Ross) forfeit.

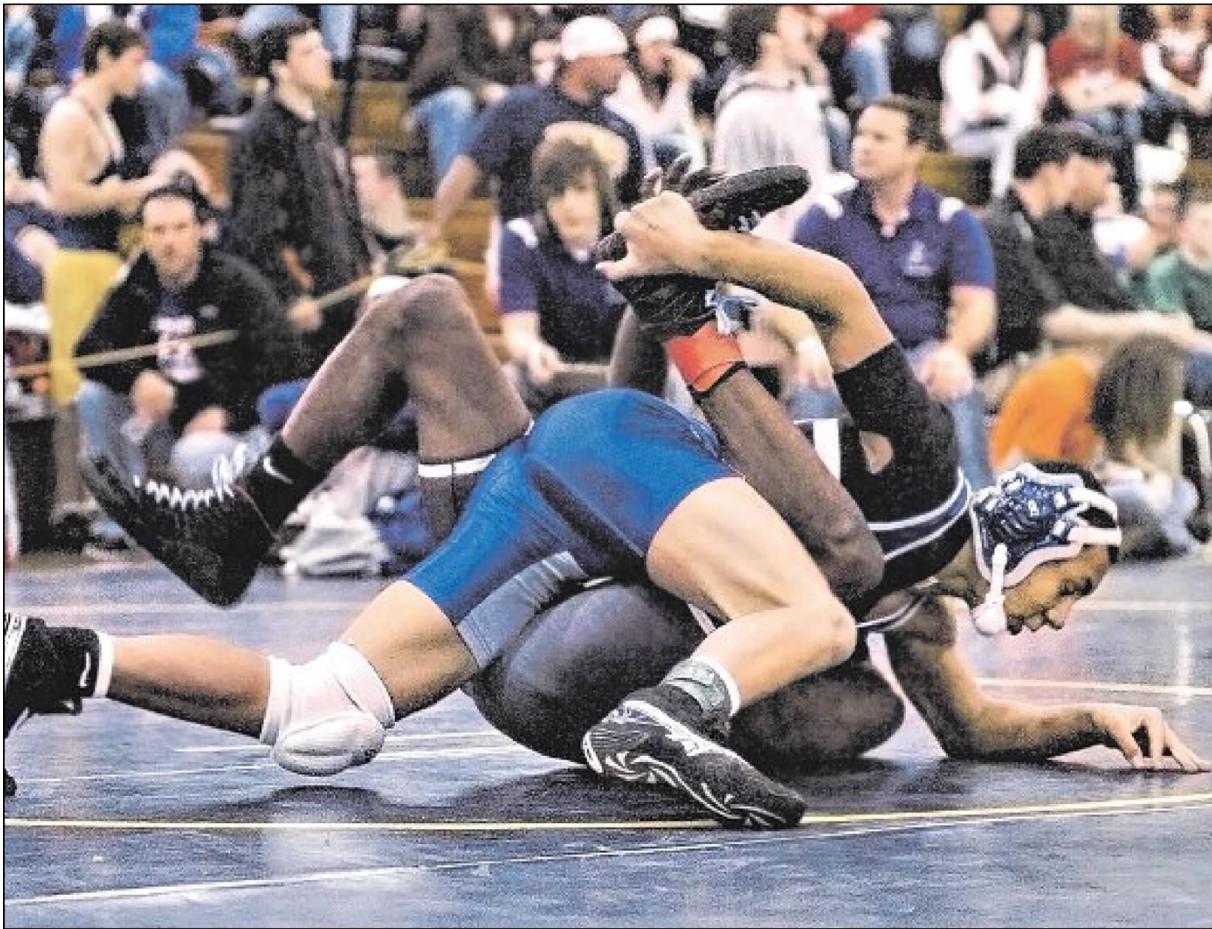
OAK HARBOR 50, GENOA 12

- **Site:** Ross H.S., Fremont.
- **103 pounds:** Cameron McDaniel (OH) forfeit.
- **112:** Tate Haar (OH) maj. dec. Adam Klavinger (G), 10-2.
- **119:** Brock Evans (OH) dec. Max Reeder (G), 3-1.
- **125:** Tyler Hackworth (OH) maj. dec. Logan Scott (G), 11-2.
- **130:** Drew Keenan (G) dec. Chambers (OH), 5-0.

- **135:** Luke Cramer (OH) maj. dec. Garrett Poiry (G), 10-0.
- **140:** Hunter Gresh (OH) dec. Josh Pierce (G), 7-2.
- **145:** Alex Bergman (OH) forfeit.
- **152:** Jacob Fejes (G) dec. Kyle Mincheff (OH), 4-3.
- **160:** Ian Miller (OH) pin. Javon Bintz (G), 3:18.
- **171:** Konnor Witt (OH) pin. Mike Snider (G), 3:30.
- **189:** Jake Cramer (OH) dec. Jake Sheehy (G), 7-4.
- **215:** Sean McGee (OH) dec. Nick Keller (G), 7-4.
- **285:** Dustin Reeder (G) forfeit.

GENOA 39, FREMONT ROSS 35

- **Site:** Ross H.S., Fremont.
- **103 pounds:** Bailey Mezinger (Ross) forfeit.
- **112:** Adam Klavinger (G) dec. Sam Lewis (Ross), 6-1.
- **119:** Max Reeder (G) maj. dec. Bobby Hrynciw (Ross), 9-0.
- **125:** Miguel Marquez (Ross) dec. Logan Scott (G), 8-1.
- **130:** Drew Keenan (G) forfeit.
- **135:** Trey Grine (Ross) dec. Garrett Poiry (G), 8-1.
- **140:** Steven Johnson (Ross) dec. Josh Pierce (G), 2-0.
- **145:** Tyler Valier (Ross) forfeit.
- **152:** Jacob Fejes (G) dec. Eddie Chavez (Ross), 9-2.
- **160:** Javon Bintz (G) pin. David Garza (Ross), 3:40.
- **171:** Michael Snider (G) forfeit.
- **189:** Tylor Trautwein (Ross) dec. Jake Sheehy (G), 5-3.
- **215:** Nick Keller (G) pin. 2:34.
- **285:** Jahil Dolton (Ross) pin. Dustin Reeder (G), 3:00.



Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger

Fremont Ross' Trey Grine battles Newark's Dujuan Booker during Thursday's Wendy's Invitational at Tiffin Columbian.

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING ■ WENDY'S INVITATIONAL

Ross finishes third with three individual titles

BY JEREMY BICKELHAUPT
Staff writer

TIFFIN — The Fremont Ross wrestling team took third place at the Tiffin Wendy's Wrestling Tournament on Thursday at Columbian High School by posting a team score of 140.5.

The host Tornadoes were first with 184 points.

Ross wrestlers Trey Grine, Steven Johnson, and Tylor Trautwein captured first place in the 130-, 140-, and 189-pound divisions respectively.

"Trey, being a freshman, and in his first two-day tournament, really stepped it up," said Ross coach Mike Mezinger. "Steven and Tylor both did a really nice job winning this tournament for the second year in a row."

Miguel Marquez took third in the 125-pound division for the Little Giants. Jalil Dolton placed

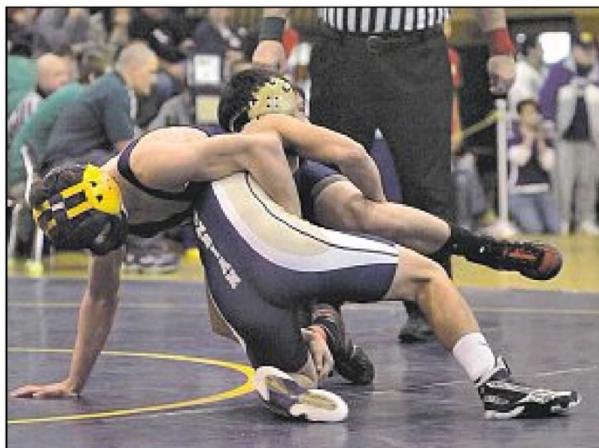
fourth in the 285-pound class and Bailee Mezinger (103) and Eddie Chavez (152) each captured fifth place for Ross.

Woodmore notched a 10th-place finish (82.5) in the two-day tournament. Colton Datkun (112) took first for the Wildcats, while Evan Ulinski (103) and Cody Lockhart (160) each finished second. Dexter Emch placed fourth in the 130 pound division.

Margareta's Charlie Chesser (285) took first in the pinning all three of his opponents.

"Charlie has really stepped it up over the last two tournaments beating quality opponents," said Margareta coach Keith Taylor. "He's wrestling really smart, staying active in the matches and waiting on opportunities."

Tyler Rogers (103) took fourth, Adam Crum (112) placed fifth and Cody Reel captured sixth place for the Polar Bears.



Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger

Woodmore's Colton Datkun tries to take down Tiffin Columbian's Austen Molyet on Thursday during the Wendy's Wrestling Tournament at Tiffin Columbian.

High School Wrestling

Wendy's Wrestling Tournament

■ **Team Standings:** 1, Tiffin Columbian 184; 2, Lancaster 149.5; 3, Fremont Ross 140.5; 4, Whitmer 122.5; 5, Madison 122; 6, Elida 116.5; 7, Mohawk 109.5; 8, Newark 97.50; 9, Upper Sandusky 86; 10, Woodmore 82.5; 11, Maumee 82; 12, Margaretta 66; 13, Otsego 64.5; 14, Tiffin Calvert 61; 15, Perkins (B Team) 38.5.

■ **Site:** Columbian High School, Tiffin.

■ **103 pounds:** Evan Ulinski (WDM) pin Casey Cloe (MAU), :47; Ulinski dec. Tyler Rogers (MAR), :44; Ulinski dec. Derik Kopp (COL), 5-2; (1st) Jacob Spearman (LAN) dec. (2nd) Ulinski (WDM), 6-2; Rogers (MAR) pin Kameron Carpenter (NEW), 1-3; Rogers (MAR) dec. Riley Overholt (ELI), 7-0; Rogers (MAR) pin Carson Mengenirk (UPS), 2-0; (3rd) Derik Kopp (COL) pin (4th) Tyler Rogers (MAR), 1-1; Kopp (COL) dec. Bailey Mezinger (ROSS), 11-1; Mezinger dec. James Wingate (WTM), 2-0; Mezinger pin Trae Copwood (MAD), 4-2; (3rd) Kopp (COL) t-fall Mezinger, 18-1; (6th) Mezinger (ROSS) pin (6th) Carson Mengenirk (UPS), 4-3.

■ **112:** Colton Datkun (WDM) t-fall Adam Crum (MAR), 16-1; Datkun t-fall Darryl Moore (WTM), 17-1; Datkun dec. Austin Molyet (COL), 14-7; (1st) Datkun (WDM) dec. (2nd) Don Jackson (MAD), 20-8; Sam Lewis (ROSS) pin Dallas Bevard (LAN), 3:09; Ian Byngton (PER) pin Lewis (ROSS), 3:30; Adam Crum (MAR) dec. Lewis (ROSS), 5-4; Crum dec. Derek Hanson (UPS), 3-2; Molyet (COL) pin Crum, 3-2; (5th) Crum (MAR) dec. (6th) Byngton (PER), 12-5.

■ **119:** Logan Strop (LAN) pin Bobby Hrynic (ROSS), 3:52; (5th) Nate Boggs (PER) t-fall Bobby Hrynic (ROSS), 16-0;

■ **125:** Miguel Marquez (ROSS) t-fall Evan Wilson (CAL), 15-0; Marquez dec. Neil Thomas (UPS), 12-4; (2nd) Chad Shellhouse (MOW) dec. Marquez, 6-2; Marquez (ROSS) dec. (6th) Cody Reel (MAR), 8-7; (3rd) Miguel Marquez (ROSS) dec. (4th) Mason Correll (COL), 8-0; Reel (MAR) dec. Jared Ritzius (NEW), 8-7; Shellhouse (MOW) pin Tony Rozzi (WDM), 3:49; Adam Smith (WTM) dec. Rozzi, 6-4.

■ **130:** Trey Grine (ROSS) pin Coty Gibson (UPS), 4-5; Grine dec. Dalton Straub (MAU), 12-2; Grine dec. Dujuan Booker (NEW), 6-5; (1st) Grine (ROSS) pin (2nd) Kyle Parker (MOW), 5-15; Dexter Ernich (WDM) pin Adam Troyer (ELI), 3-40; Kyle Parker (MOW) pin Ernich, 5-15; Ernich dec. Scott Deluse (LAN), 8-4; (3rd) Dujuan Booker (NEW) dec. (4th) Ernich (WDM), 4-3; (6th) Coty Gibson (UPS) dec. Devon Lampman (MAR), 6-0.

■ **135:** (5th) Brady Kane (OTS) pin Jacob Tetzloff (MAR), 2-0.

■ **140:** Steven Johnson (ROSS) dec. Anthony Stoekey (MAR), 15-1; Johnson dec. Tony Didion (PER), 7-3; Johnson dec. Taylor Brokaw (NEW), 8-3; (1st) Johnson (ROSS) dec. (2nd) Craig Parker (MOW), 5-2; (5th) Steve Nye (UPS) dec. Stoekey (MAR), 13-3.

■ **145:** (3rd) Eric Gase (CAL) pin Trevor Brown (ROSS), :45; Brown (ROSS) pin Landon Green (LAN), :44; (6th) Zach Tiel (UPS) pin Brown (ROSS), :18; CJ Elswick (MAR) dec. Levi Edington (MOW), 8-2; TJ Durham (MAU) pin Elswick (MAR), 2-54.

■ **152:** Eddie Chavez (ROSS) pin Kyle Johnston (LAN), 4-58; Chavez (ROSS) dec. Tyler Smith (ELI), 6-4; (1st) Isaac Willians (COL) t-fall Chavez (ROSS), 17-1; (3rd) Rocco Caywood (MAU) dec. Chavez (ROSS), 7-3; (5th) Chavez (ROSS) forfeit INJ Alan Gullifer (UPS); (2nd) Devin Cartwright (MOW) pin Derek Mullins (MAR), :14; Blake Peterson (MAD) pin Mullins (MAR), :32; Tyler Brownell (PER) pin Gavin Beard (WDM), 2-30; Beard (WDM) dec. Josh Moore (NEW), 10-2; (3rd) Caywood (MAU) t-fall Beard (WDM), 19-4.

■ **160:** Cody Lockhart (WDM) t-fall Sean Campbell (PER), 16-0; Lockhart (WDM) dec. Dalton Cleghorn (MAU), 8-2; (1st) Ethan Bond (LAN) dec. (2nd) Lockhart (WDM), 7-2; Grant Price (MOW) pin J. Pridemore (MAR), 3:51; Dale First (MAD) pin Pridemore (MAR), 2:50.

■ **171:** Ryan Tittle (COL) pin. Michael Hauke (MAR), 1-40; Hauke (MAR) pin Ozzie Hernes (PER), 1-25; (6th) Nickoli Sackinger (ELI) pin. Hauke (MAR), 1-25.

■ **189:** Tyler Trautwein (ROSS) pin Brian Erdman (MAR), :18; Trautwein pin Jonathon Motter (MOW), :21; Trautwein dec. Jacob Jones (NEW), 12-4; (1st) Trautwein (ROSS) pin (2nd) Chris Rambo (MAD), 10-6; Trevor Thornton (UPS) dec. Erdman (MAR), 11-1; Theran Carroll (ELI) pin Spencer Linke (WDM), 2-28; Jake Smith (COL) pin Linke (WDM), 4-50.

■ **215:** Kyle Marquez (COL) pin Jordan McCourt (MAR), 1-22; McCourt dec. Dallas Davidson (OTS), 5-1; Ryan Ellerhofer (NEW) pin McCourt, :41; (4th) Wuentin Poling (ELI) pin Dee Bell (ROSS), :59.

■ **285:** Charlie Chesser (MAR) pin Cadey Chance (COL), :41; Chesser pin Poke Harrison (OTS), 5-31; (1st) Chesser pin (2nd) Kevin Miller (LAN), 2-43; Jall Dolton (ROSS) pin Nathaniel Anese (MOW), 1-34; (4th) Dolton (ROSS) pin (6th) Harrison (OTS), 3-33; Devin Cox (MAD) pin Colton (ROSS), 3-50.

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING ■ CLYDE AND SANDUSKY AT FREMONT ROSS



JONATHON BIRD/NEWS-MESSENGER

Clyde's Beau Minnick tries to pin Bailey Mezinger of Fremont Ross during Wednesday's tri-meet at the Purple Pit. Clyde beat Ross and Sandusky and the Blue Streaks topped the Little Giants. See more photos at thenews-messenger.com.

Big day for Strickland

Clyde wrestler off to 15-0 start to senior season

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

FREMONT — There have been few athletes in the area that have had the kind of impact this school year that Trevor Strickland has had for Clyde.

First, it began with the senior deciding to play football again. Then as the fall ended, Strickland found himself being named to the All-Ohio third team on defense for Division III.

Now as the winter season has progressed, the star lineman is off to a 15-0 start on the wrestling mats.

Strickland earned two wins for the Fliers who swept a tri-meet from Fremont Ross and Sandusky on Wednesday night at the Purple Pit. Clyde topped the Little Giants 47-22, before ending the night with a narrow 34-33 victory over the Blue Streaks.

In other match Ross fell to its rivals from Sandusky, 38-33.

As for Strickland, a state qualifier at 215 pounds for Clyde a year ago, the move up to heavyweight this season came easy. And football helped in the process.

"I think it made my decision easier because I kept my weight up and it made my a lot stronger since I was always lifting," said Strickland.

On Wednesday he showed that strength early, pinning Ross's Jalil Dolton in 1:44 as the Fliers took all but five matches from the Little Giants. He followed it up with 10-0 win in the nightcap against Sandusky.

"It's a little different style of wrestling," Strickland said. "I've had to adjust to it. It definitely involves more strength, but I've used my height to my advantage."

Strickland, didn't play football as a junior, but he helped the Fliers (10-2) defense hold opponents to just 101 points in the regular season, including four shutouts.

"I loved it too much," Strickland said. "I had to go back."

He wasn't alone in the two-win column, though, as Clyde also got double wins from Beau Minnick (103), Blake Miller (112), Brad Smith (171) and Billy Ward (215).

"Things went pretty well tonight," said Fliers coach Rob Jennings. "We got a lot of young

guys and wrestled with a ton of heart. But we still make a ton of mistakes that we have to make sure we correct over the next couple of weeks."

The need for improvement was also echoed by Ross coach Mike Mezinger.

Despite getting two wins from his two seniors — Steven Johnson (140) and Tyler Trautwein (189) — in their final home dual meets, the Little Giants had far too many inconsistent performances.

"Our experience guys went out there and competed," said Mezinger. "They did really well. Most either split or won both."

"But our inexperienced guys need to pick it up, otherwise we won't win dual meets."

Johnson earned a win by fall (2:31) over Clyde's Dominic Sebetta and scored a 17-2 technical fall against Sandusky's Derrick Kirkwood.

"Things are going good," said Johnson. "I know it's my last year and I got to keep doing what I do best. And that's keeping on the attack and to keep winning. Hopefully I'll make it down to Columbus and help bring some hardware back to Ross."

Meanwhile, Trautwein fresh off a win at the Tiffin Wendy's Wrestling Tournament last Thursday at Columbian High School, earned a pair of major decision wins. He bested Clyde's Josh Trick 16-7 and earned a 12-2 victory in the nightcap against the Blue Streaks.

Success is welcome news to the two-time defending Greater Buckeye Conference champion, who has already been defeated twice after losing four matches all of last season en route to a trip to Columbus. Both came at the hands of Oak Harbor's Jake Cramer.

"Getting both Steven and Tyler out with two wins was nice," Mezinger said. "I think Tyler is just now getting into it. He got the late start with the football playoffs and wasn't in the best shape coming in."

"This past week however, he had a great week of practice and with the meat of our schedule coming up — that's good."

Adding a pair of wins for Ross at 130 pounds was Trey Grine. Eddie Chavez chipped in a pair of victories at 160.

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Wrestling

Clyde 47, Fremont Ross 22

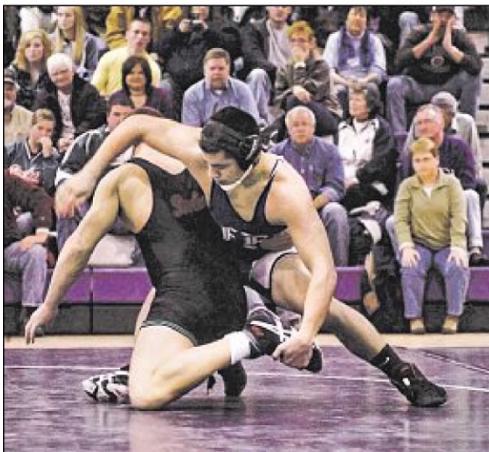
- **Site:** Ross H.S., Fremont.
- **103 pounds:** Beau Minnick (Clyde) major dec. Bailey Mezinger (Ross), 9-0.
- **112:** Blake Miller (Clyde) dec. Chris Zoellner (Ross), 6-0.
- **119:** Chris Hicks (Clyde) dec. Bobby Hrynciw (Ross), 6-2.
- **125:** Miguel Marquez (Ross) dec. Anthony Beier (Clyde), 6-1.
- **130:** Trey Grine (Ross) dec. Sahen Fultz (Clyde), 5-1.
- **135:** Casey Flores (Clyde), forfeit.
- **140:** Steven Johnson (Ross) pin. Dominic Sebeto (Clyde), 2:31.
- **145:** Blake Smith (Clyde) major dec. Trevor Brown (Ross), 13-4.
- **152:** Jim Colvin (Clyde) pin. Tyler Valier (Ross), 1:38.
- **160:** Eddie Chavez (Ross) pin. Jarel Perry (Clyde), 3:35.
- **171:** Brad Smith (Clyde), forfeit.
- **189:** Tylor Trautwein (Ross) major dec. Josh Trick (Clyde), 16-7.
- **215:** Billy Ward (Clyde) pin. Dee Bell (Ross), 1:15.
- **285:** Trevor Strickland (Clyde) pin. Jalil Dolton (Ross), 1:44.

Clyde 34, Sandusky 33

- **Site:** Ross H.S., Fremont.
- **103 pounds:** Beau Minnick (Clyde) pin. Nathan Maynard (S), 2:55.
- **112:** Blake Miller (Clyde), forfeit.
- **119:** Izaiah Brown (S) pin. Chris Hicks (Clyde), 1:38.
- **125:** Gene Porter (S) dec. Anthony Beier (Clyde), 7-2.
- **130:** Sahen Fultz (Clyde) pin. Will Vanseyoy (S), 1:16.
- **135:** Justin Ritchie (S) dec. Casey Flores (Clyde), 9-3.
- **140:** Derrick Kirkwood (S) dec. Dominic Sebeto (Clyde), 12-8.
- **145:** Justin Palma (S) pin. Blake Smith (Clyde), 1:19.
- **152:** Brandon Torres (S) pin. Jim Colvin (Clyde), 2:48.
- **160:** Eric Irby (S) dec. Tanner Aldrich (Clyde), 13-9.
- **171:** Brad Smith (Clyde) pin. Palma (S), 2:43.
- **189:** Aaron (S) dec. Josh Trick (Clyde), 10-6.
- **215:** Billy Ward (Clyde) pin. Webb (S), 1:23.
- **285:** Trevor Strickland (Clyde) major dec. Brown (S), 10-0.

Sandusky 38, Ross 33

- **Site:** Ross H.S., Fremont.
- **103 pounds:** Bailey Mezinger (Ross) pin. Nathan Maynard (S), :14.
- **112:** Chris Zoellner (Ross), forfeit.
- **119:** Izaiah Brown (S) dec. Bobby Hrynciw (Ross), 9-4.
- **125:** Gene Porter (S) dec. Miguel Marquez (Ross), 16-9.
- **130:** Trey Grine (Ross) pin. Will Vanseyoy (S), 3:28.
- **135:** Justin Ritchie (S), forfeit.
- **140:** Steven Johnson (Ross) tech fall. Derrick Kirkwood (S), 17-2.
- **145:** Justin Palma (S) pin. Trevor Brown (Ross), :59.
- **152:** Brandon Torres (S) major dec. Tyler Valier (Ross), 16-4.
- **160:** Eddie Chavez (Ross) pin. Eric Irby (S), 3:43.
- **171:** Palma (S), forfeit.
- **189:** Tylor Trautwein (Ross) major dec. Aaron (S), 12-2.
- **215:** Webb (S) pin. Dee Bell (Ross), 3:14.
- **285:** Brown (S) dec. Jalil Dolton (Ross), 3-2.



Fremont Ross' Tyler Trautwein squares off against Oak Harbor's Jake Cramer during a wrestling match at Fremont Ross High School on Dec. 15.

JONATHON BIRD/NEWS-MESSINGER

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Pair of Ross wrestlers sets sights on state title

BY KEVIN SHIELDS
Sports writer

FREMONT — And then there were two.

That's all there is to Fremont Ross's senior class on the wrestling mats this season as Steven Johnson and Tyler Trautwein form what has become a dynamic duo for head coach Mike Mezinger.

The two have become almost guaranteed winners for the Little Giants at 140 and 189 pounds,

having combined for just three total losses.

But it hasn't always been this way.

The grapplers started their careers on complete opposite sides of the spectrum — now they're finally meeting towards the middle at the end of the road.

A road both hope will end in trips to the Division I state tournament in Columbus. Trautwein, the 189-pounder, has been to Columbus twice. His senior partner, Johnson (140 pounds), who

was defeated in districts a year ago, is on a quest for trip No. 1.

Johnson currently sits at 18-1 on the season with his only loss coming to Oregon Clay's Angelo Amenta, another state qualifier from a year ago, in the finals of the Oak Harbor Invitational.

"This just seems like the year for me," said Johnson who just won his second straight tournament title this past Saturday at Ross's Mal Mackey Tournament.

See Wrestling, 8

WRESTLING FROM 7

"But it's the breaking point for me now. It has to be this year."

The journey for Johnson has been long and grueling. Wrestling never came easy as he won just three matches as a freshman. But the 4.0 student wouldn't let the sport get the best of him.

"Steven loves the sport of wrestling and he made a commitment to it," said Mezinger. "He does it 12 months out of the year. And now he can see that he's reaping the benefits from that."

During the summer, Johnson wrestles with the Mat Sharks from Tiffin.

And while Trautwein trains for football in the summer and others kick back and enjoy new found free time, it's been a time for Johnson to make up his ground.

"That's where you make your leaps and bounds, while everyone else is just sitting and relaxing," Johnson said.

The leaps and bounds came in the form of 30 wins as a sophomore and a 34-9 record as a junior. Johnson now needs just 15 wins to reach 100 for his Little Giants career. Last year he reached districts for the first time before running into some stiff competition.

"I lost to the No. 1 seed by five points and the No. 2 seed by two points," Johnson said. "Then he ended up getting second at state and I'm at home because I lost to him by just two."

This year Johnson plans to be the one making the trip instead.

"He's just dominating his opponents," said Trautwein of his senior teammate. "He's not giving them a chance to do anything against him."

For the most part, neither has Trautwein. But his success has come a lot easier.

"Tylor is an athlete and he had success right away for us," Mezinger said. "And we only get

him four months out of the year. We don't get him for the summer because that's his time for preparing for football."

In middle school, Trautwein won a state wrestling title at 154 pounds. And finished fourth-nationally. In high school he's been a state qualifier and state alternate for Ross, while also winning back-to-back Greater Buckeye Conference titles at 189 pounds.

He went 42-4 as a junior.

"If I could have him 12 months out of the year, he'd be an animal," Mezinger said. "People can't believe that he's just an in-season wrestler."

"Both these guys could very easily move on and be wrestlers at the collegiate level."

Trautwein was third-team all-state and was named GBC offensive back of the year this past fall, helping the Little Giants to 9-2 record and the GBC championship (5-0). Ross lost to Toledo St. John's Jesuit after making the playoffs for the first time since 2006.

The Little Giants' main tailback rushed for 1,380 yards — seventh all-time on the Ross single-season list — on 258 attempts, scoring 13 touchdowns. His top performance came in the season finale against Sandusky where Ross clinched the league with a 21-7 victory. Against the Blue Streaks, Trautwein had 271 yards and two scores.

So one would've thought the transition to the mats from running the ball nearly 24 times a game would be natural. However, it's far from it.

Missing a full week of practice, Trautwein wasn't quite in wrestling shape as he faced Oak Harbor's Jake Cramer twice in the early part of the season. He fell to the Rockets' state qualifier twice, once by pinfall and the other by an 8-3 decision.

"I think it was a very big mental thing for him," Mezinger said. "All the success he had on the football field we were hoping

would carry over, but he did seem to be a little down mentally.

"He's really picked it up, though, and he's ready to go now."

Trautwein won Most Outstanding Wrestler honors at Saturday's Mal Mackey Tournament, earning five pins in 4:09.

"When you're so used to football for half a year, it's harder for me to get started," Trautwein said. "And that's what happened with Cramer. The first time he got me, but the second time I was up early, then just burned out."

As for his feelings about possibly burning out from his new football responsibilities.

"That wasn't really that hard to do," Trautwein said. "I just had to get my mind straight on wrestling and what I want to accomplish this year."

Goal one for both is to repeat as GBC champions. Goal two, make it to Columbus and place.

For now, though, they're trying to make the Little Giants a better team through their senior mentorship.

"It's nice knowing you're the only two seniors and the younger kids look up to you," Trautwein said. "We're pretty young this year, but we've been getting better."

If there's one thing Mezinger wishes he got more from his only two seniors it would be more openness.

"They aren't very vocal," Mezinger said. "They're my captains, but lead more by example. Jalil Dolton and Miquel Marquez are more my vocal guys."

As for competition between the two of them, Johnson said it's more limited to the team's running exercises due to the weight difference.

"But I can still tap Tylor out," Johnson said.

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WRESTLING

Ross's Trautwein champ at Maumee Bay Classic

Tylor Trautwein (189 pounds) earned an individual title as Fremont Ross finished the Maumee Bay Invitational in 15th place.

Trautwein was 4-0 with three pins.

Trey Grine (130 pounds) was 6-1 with three pins to finish third for the Little Giants.

Jalil Dolton was sixth at 285 for Ross.

Clay won the team title.

Wrestling

Ross at Maumee Bay Classic Invitational

■ **Team Standings:** 1. Clay 217; 7. Genoa 104; 15. Fremont Ross 77.5.

■ **Site:** Clay HS, Oregon.

■ **130:** Ryan Roth (Perrysburg) dec. **Trey Grine (Ross)**, 9-1; Grine pin Matt Veneville (Perrysburg), 3:03; Grine dec. Zach McCarthy (Defiance), 7-1; Grine pin Dalton Straub (Maumee), 1:31; Grine pin Auston Wilson (Brush), 4:00; Grine dec. Austin Yarnell (Wauseon), 10-6; Grine (3rd overall) dec. Ryan Roth (Perrysburg) 10-2.

■ **189:** Tylor Trautwein (Ross) pin Harrison Scott (Northview), :13; Trautwein pin Jordan Reed (Reynoldsburg), 3:50; Trautwein dec. Alec Medina (Lorain), 10-2; Trautwein (1st overall) pin Alex Bridges (Anthony Wayne), 5:01.

■ **285:** Jalil Dolton (Ross) pin Bailey Rahman (Northview), 1:02; Dolton pin Josh Wright (Mt. Vernon), 3:19; Mike Brown (Sandusky) dec. Dolton, 4-2; Zach Reynard (Grove City) pin Dolton, 3:43; Billy Miller (Perrysburg) dec. Dolton (6th overall), 4-1.

Local Wrestling Results

CELINA TOURNAMENT

- **Team Standings:** 1. Ayersville 207.5; 2. Elida 202; 3. Versalles 186; 4. Coldwater 180; 5. Fremont Ross 177; 6. Bellfountaine 151.5; 7. Celina 135; 8. Fostoria 104; 9. St. John's 74; 10. Oak Harbor 41..
- **Site:** Celina High School, Celina.
- **103 pounds:** (4) Bailey Mezinger (FR).
- **112:** (4) Tate Haar (OH).
- **119:** (5) Bobby Hrynciw (FR)
- **125:** (5) Miguel Marquez (FR).
- **130:** (1) Trey Grine (FR) def. Matt Subler (VER), 7-0; (6) Josh Chambers (OH).
- **140:** (3) Steven Johnson (FR); (4) Jared Chambers (OH).
- **152:** (3) Peyton Geary (FR).
- **160:** (4) Eddie Chavez (FR).
- **189:** (1) Tylor Trautwein (FR) pin Taylor Cayot (BEL), :50.
- **285:** (1) Jalil Dolton (FR) pin Tyler Wilder (CDW), 4:44.

Local Wrestling Results

CELINA TOURNAMENT

■ **Team Standings:** 1. Ayersville 207.5; 2. Elida 202; 3. Versailles 186; 4. Coldwater 180; 5. Fremont Ross 177; 6. Bellfountaine 151.5; 7. Celina 135; 8. Fostoria 104; 9. St. John's 74; 10. Oak Harbor 41..

■ **Site:** Celina High School, Celina.

■ **103 pounds:** (4) Bailey Mezinger (FR).

■ **112:** (4) Tate Haar (OH).

■ **119:** (5) Bobby Hrynciw (FR)

■ **125:** (5) Miguel Marquez (FR).

■ **130:** (1) Trey Grine (FR) def. Matt Subler (VER), 7-0; (6) Josh Chambers (OH).

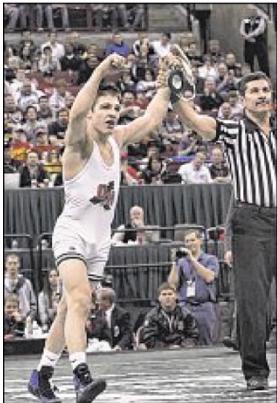
■ **140:** (3) Steven Johnson (FR); (4) Jared Chambers (OH).

■ **152:** (3) Peyton Geary (FR).

■ **160:** (4) Eddie Chavez (FR).

■ **189:** (1) Tylor Trautwein (FR) pin Taylor Cayot (BEL), :50.

■ **285:** (1) Jalil Dolton (FR) pin Tyler Wilder (CDW), 4:44.



Oak Harbor's Ian Miller has his hand raised after winning a state championship in 2010. The Rockets senior is favored to win again this season.

BRAKERMAN FROM B1

qualifier at 135 last year.

St. Joseph Central Catholic's Austin Hiltz (119) is rated 13th in Division III.

Clyde's Brad Smith projects 12th and Bellevue's Brendan Adkinson 17th at 171. Smith

won at Perrysburg this season.

Will Stephens (160) is 14th for the Redmen. Stephens was a state alternate last season.

Oak Harbor's Luke Cramer (130) is 15th.

Lakota's Stephen Klotz (215) is 16th in Division III. Klotz, a state qualifier last season, won at Lima Central this year.

Margareta's Charlie Chesser

WRESTLING ■ BRAKEMAN REPORT

Local trio favored to win state championships

News-Messenger reports

The 40th annual edition of Brian Brakeman's high school wrestling forecast projects Clyde's Trevor Strickland (285 pounds), and Oak Harbor's Ian Miller (152) and Jake Cramer (171) as state champions in Division II this season.

The Rockets were tabbed to again finish second to St. Paris Graham.

Brakeman's report was completed Jan. 23. Twenty-nine of his 42 projected state champions earned titles last year, 28 in 2009 and 27 in 2008.

Miller, ranked second nationally, earned district, sectional and Sandusky Bay Conference titles at 145 before taking a state championship by technical fall last season.



Strickland

Miller, third at state as a sophomore, won at Ironman and Medina (four falls and a major decision) this season.

Cramer, who pinned four of five opponents to win at Medina this season, was fifth at state at 140 last year.

Strickland, who has titles from Clyde, West Jefferson and Edison this season, was sixth at state at 215 last year.

Oak Harbor's Konner Witt (160) was projected to repeat as runner-up at state. Witt, second at 152 last season, won at Perrysburg, and was second at Ironman (at 171) and Medina (160) this year.

The Fliers' Billy Ward (215) was rated fourth. Ward, who is 25-0 with 20 pins this season, was a state alternate at 189 last year.

Clyde freshman Beau Minnick (103) projects fifth. Minnick, fourth at junior high state last season, won at Clyde and West Jefferson this year.

The Rockets' Alex Bergman (140) is rated sixth. He won at Perrysburg this season.

Tyler Trautwein (189) of Fremont Ross projects sixth in Division I. Trautwein, who advanced to the state quarterfinals last season, won at Tiffin Columbian and was second at Oak Harbor this year.

Oak Harbor's Tyler Hackworth (125) projects seventh. Hackworth, who qualified to state last season, won at Oak Harbor and Perrysburg this year.

Woodmore freshman Evan Ulinski (103) is rated seventh in Division III. He has titles from Woodmore and Bellevue this season.

The Little Giants' Steven Johnson (140) is rated 13th in Division I. He won at Columbian this season.

Gibsonburg's Damon Escobedo (145) projects 12th in Division III. Escobedo, who started the season at 152, was a state

See BRAKEMAN, page B4

Columbian and Woodmore this season.

The Fliers' Blake Miller is 22nd and Oak Harbor's Alec Bowlick 25th at 112.

Sean McGee (215) is 23rd for the Rockets.

Trey Grine (130) is 26th for the Little Giants.

Bellevue's Casey Dodson (119) is 27th.