

Ross's band-aid brigade in Findlay

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

One thing Ross is sure to receive today in the Buckeye Conference Wrestling Tournament in Findlay, is the "Band-Aid" Trophy.

That's presented to the team that used the most tape to put 13 wrestlers on the mat — Ross has it, hands down. No doubt about it.

"They are going to wrestle," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said confidently late Friday, but then added reluctantly, "I guess."

Tim Donnersbach and Gilbert Palacios, two Little Giants that would figure to do well in the tourney if they were 100 percent healthy, are the "I guessers" in Voggenthaler's mind.

The tournament begins at noon today in the Findlay High School gym. That's routine enough, but for the finals, vaudeville will stage a comeback.

Tonight, the consolation finals will begin at 7 p.m. and will be wrestled to completion with the benefit of the use of three mats. That's when the theatrics begin.

At 8 p.m., one mat will be used for the finals — spotlights — and all the showbiz trappings will be used. That could lead into a long evening but that's the way it is to happen.

Voggenthaler will be happy to have any of his charges in the spotlight. The single best bet to reach the finals for the Little Giants is heavyweight Troy Amor. The senior 260-plus pounder is 14-4 this season with 12 of his victories coming via the "pin" route.

"I am pretty sure he (Amor) will be seeded first," the Ross coach said.

Other wrestlers figuring to do well for Ross include Andre Parks, 141, Mike Pena, 129, Donnersbach, and Palacios. The latter two, especially Donnersbach, would figure to place high if it weren't for gimpy knees.

Two other wrestlers for Ross clashed during a wrestle-off Tuesday — one survived, one didn't. Jim Lipstrow and Tim Walter, both 148, were going for the right to wrestle today but Lipstrow's forehead proved to be a bit stronger than Walter's nose and the result put a slightly damaged Lipstrow in the conference tournament.

Lipstrow received several stitches in his forehead while Walter underwent surgery on his nose Wednesday morning. Lipstrow is 0-1 in varsity action.

Parks, says Voggenthaler, should be seeded at 141 but probably not the top seed. Parks has a 13-3-1 mark as a junior.

Pena is a defending conference champ but not at the weight he won it at last season. The senior will wrestle at 129 after taking the crown at 122 last year. Pena is carrying a 10-4-1 mark.

Donnersbach, 12-3, is at 178. He missed the last dual meet with Elyria after injuring the knee against Sandusky. In that match, Donnersbach did not notice the injury until he began to walk off the mat after a win.

Palacios, a junior, will be at 108. He is 8-6 this season.

"If Palacios does not wrestle," Voggenthaler said, "no one will be at that weight."

The remainder of the Ross lineup will have to scratch for anything it can get. Paul Adams, 188, is 7-6 and could be a dark horse in the competition.

At 101, sophomore Wayne Orndorf will be looking for a win after going 0-8 so far this season. Eddie Salcedo, a junior with a 4-6 mark, is at 115 with another sophomore, Rod Perkins, 2-9, at 122.

Doug Smith, another sophomore, will be at 158. He has a 1-5 mark in varsity wrestling. Greg Brown, 1-5, will take the mat at 170. He is a junior.

Should Donnersbach not be able to go, Voggenthaler will use sophomore Tom Smith, 0-5 for the season.

Elyria wins 12th Buckeye mat crown; Ross is fifth

Pena wins second conference title



ANDRE PARKS of Ross won his first Buckeye crown. He defeated Mike Lindsen of Harding in the 141-pound division.

By BOB MARKER
News-Messenger Sports Editor

FINDLAY — Elyria followed a tradition while Ross grabbed its share of individual champions despite finishing fifth Saturday in the 18th Buckeye Conference Wrestling Tournament at Findlay High School.

Elyria won its 12th conference title, finishing comfortable ahead of runnerup Lorain 14½-11½. Sandusky was third with Mansfield fourth and Ross's 98 points taking fifth. Marion Harding, Findlay, and Admiral King rounded out the field.

"I thought on paper," Ross Coach Al Voggenthaler said, "that Lorain Senior would be favored, but Elyria always seems to win it." He was right on the latter but he was also right about the closeness of the battle for the rest of the spots. The Little Giants finished only 1½ points away from the second spot and at the same time, tied the champion Pioneers for individual titles with three.

Ross had a chance at four individual crowns but a tiring Tim Donnersbach was pinned by the tournament's "outstanding wrestler" Domenico Marocco of Marion Harding in the finals of the 178-pound division.

Mike Pena, 129, claimed his second conference title for Ross while Andre Parks and Troy Amor won their first individual titles. Mark Walther finished third at 135

and Doug Smith was fourth at 158 for Ross.

Pena, a senior and the 122-pound champ in the 1978 tourney, won the 129-pound crown this time around. He defeated Terry Little of Elyria 6-1 in the finals.

"There was a little more pressure on me this time," Pena said while savoring his second title, "because of winning last year." Parks captured the 141-pound division title and, ironically, had his toughest match in the semis rather than the finals. Against Jeff McQuillen of Mansfield in the semis, Parks met a wrestler that wrestled in a style resembling the Ross junior's.

"He has a low stance and I have a hard time wrestling people with a stance that low," Parks said. "In the finals, it was easy because the guy's (Mike Lindsen of Harding) legs were weak and it was easy to get to them."

Parks defeated Lindsen 9-1 for his first championship.

Amor backed up his third place finish of last year with the heavyweight title this year. He finished "pinning" his way through the tournament with a fall over Dennis Carpenter of Elyria in 2-40.

In the finals, Amor came from off the bottom to win the title. The instant Amor flipped Carpenter on his back, the Ross senior issued a big grunt.

"That always helps," he laughed.

Donnersbach, however, got as far as he did on heart . . . it was not practice. He had been unable to work out for the better part of two weeks because of an injured knee.

"I was pleased overall," Voggenthaler said, "but I was particularly pleased with Donnersbach's effort simply because he has been unable to practice. He overcame a psychological barrier with his knee and went out and went at it."

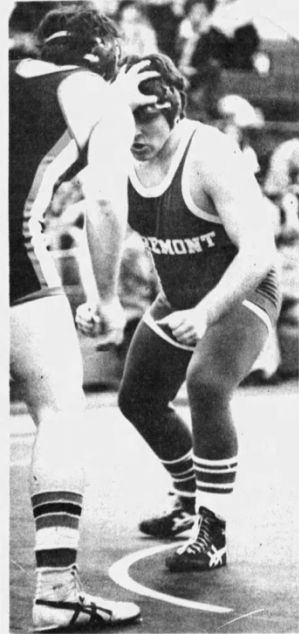
The Ross coach pointed out that his 178-pounder scored 31 points in two matches after opening the first round with a pin in what the coaches at the seeding meeting considered the tourney's toughest weight division.

"I think it was generally agreed that whoever won that division would get the most outstanding award," Voggenthaler disclosed.

In the finals against Marocco, Donnersbach took an 11-4 lead after one period and was up 16-9 when the Harding wrestler caught him in a cradle midway through the final period. It was at the 5:37 mark and Marocco had the crown.

Voggenthaler pointed out that his team may have finished higher had it not been for some disappointing one-point losses by several of the Little Giants.

"If losses can be encouraging, then those one-point losses were encouraging," Voggenthaler said while reflecting on the inexperience of his team.



THE HAND meant nothing to Ross heavyweight Troy Amor. He shook off the paw to pin Elyria's Dennis Carpenter in the finals.

BC tourney finals

TEAM STANDINGS			
Elyria	14½	Ross	98
Lorain	11½	Harding	68
Sandusky	10½	Findlay	67
Mansfield	10½	Adm. King	40½

CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS			
101-Paul Darnen (M) p. Neal McCarthy (S) 20; 108-Mike Trivett (E) p. Lavel Williams (M) 4:52; 115-Al Smith (E) d. Paul Francis (LS) 2:8; 120-Howard Carr (S) p. Sean Wallace (L) 3:06; 129-Mike Pena (R) d. Terry Little (E) 6-1; 135-Jamie Matos (L) d. Jay Garland (E) 7-0; 141-Andre Parks (R) d. Mike Lindsen (MH) 9-1; 148-Bruce Heister (F) d. Larry Gerold (S) 8-6; 158-Paul Teyman (M) d. Carl Mandake (E) 4-4; 170-Denis Marocco (AK) d. Bob Halter (S) 2-1; 178-Domenick Ma Rocco (MH) p. Tim Donnersbach (R) 5-37; 188-Dan Carpenter (E) d. Todd Auvil (L) 4-1; HVY-Troy Amor (R) p. Dennis Carpenter (E) 2-40.			

CONSOLATION FINALS			
101-Dan Matos (L) p. Robert Hannan (MH) 4-43; 108-Rock Jones (S) p. Troy Brady (MH) 16-1; 115-Gary Hipp (S) d. Tim Pratt (MH) 6-2; 120-Brian Kozlowski (AK) d. Mike Leffman (M) 4-0; 129-Ben Matos (L) p. John Rogers (AK) 3-34; 135-Mark Walther (R) d. Charles Jones (S) 14-0; Jeff McQuillen (M) p. Dennis Sloner (E) 4-0; 148-Steve Taylor (M) d. Ben Harrett (E) 4-2; 158-Paul Keegan (S) d. Doug Smith (R) 14-2; 170-Randy Smaltz (F) d. Jim Clark (E) 18-8; 178-Brad Mullins (L) d. Clarence Hughes (AK) 7-1; 188-Stanley Harris (M) d. Bill Curley (S) 8-0; HVY-Pete Fitzsimmons (F) p. Isaac Horton (L) 4-28.			

News-Messenger Sports

St. Joe finishes second

TOLEDO — Paced by Victor Flores, Doug Burns and Eric Szymanski, the St. Joe junior high wrestling team placed second of eight teams Saturday.

Flores (88), Burns (98) and Szymanski (148) each captured championships, as the Streaks finished 11½ points behind team champ Toledo St. Francis.

Capturing second place wins for St. Joe were Matt Freeh (93) and Mark Coleman (123).

Third place finishes include Tom Weickert (83), Mike Weickert (113), John Dondoro (129), Gary Chamberlain (135) and Mike Chamberlain (141).

TEAM STANDINGS: St. Francis 129, St. Joe 107½, Elmhurst 141½, Springfield 128, Maumee 91, Walke 80½, Bowling Green 59, Passett 54½.

VALENTINE



MIKE PENA of Ross is on his way to winning his second Buckeye Conference wrestling championship. He has control of Elyria's Terry Little in the 129-pound finals, eventually winning 6-1. Pena, a senior, won the 122-pound title in the 1978 conference tournament.