

SPORTS

Park rolls to OVAC mat title

• Oak Glen, Barnesville,
St. John win class titles

By JEREMY MIDEI
Times Leader Sports Writer

Saturday evening marked the end of the 53rd OVAC Wrestling Tournament. The team competition, however, was finished around 3 p.m. on Friday afternoon.

That's when Wheeling Park built its insurmountable lead, one that the Patriots would only add to over the course of the tournament.

Gene Monteleone and Co. put on a superlative performance, racking up more than 200 points, which established a new OVAC Tournament record and leaving the remains of would-be competitors in their wake.

"We're back" is all Abbie Rush said of the Patriots, and that pretty much says it all.

Wrestling fans, both hardcore and casual alike, know the Patriots are good, but even Monteleone was surprised with their performance.

It couldn't have gone any better for Park, which also crowned the sixth four-time OVAC champion in 125-pounder Abbie Rush.

"When you see the list of names, it's a pretty big honor to be listed with people like Bobby Douglas and Clay Tucker," said Rush.

Winning your fourth title is something to remember, but winning it while your team runs away with the overall title? Now that's something special, according to the Park senior.

"When this group of coaches came back my freshman year, we knew something special was going to happen. And with all the preparation the wrestlers and coaches have put in, it just makes this so much better."

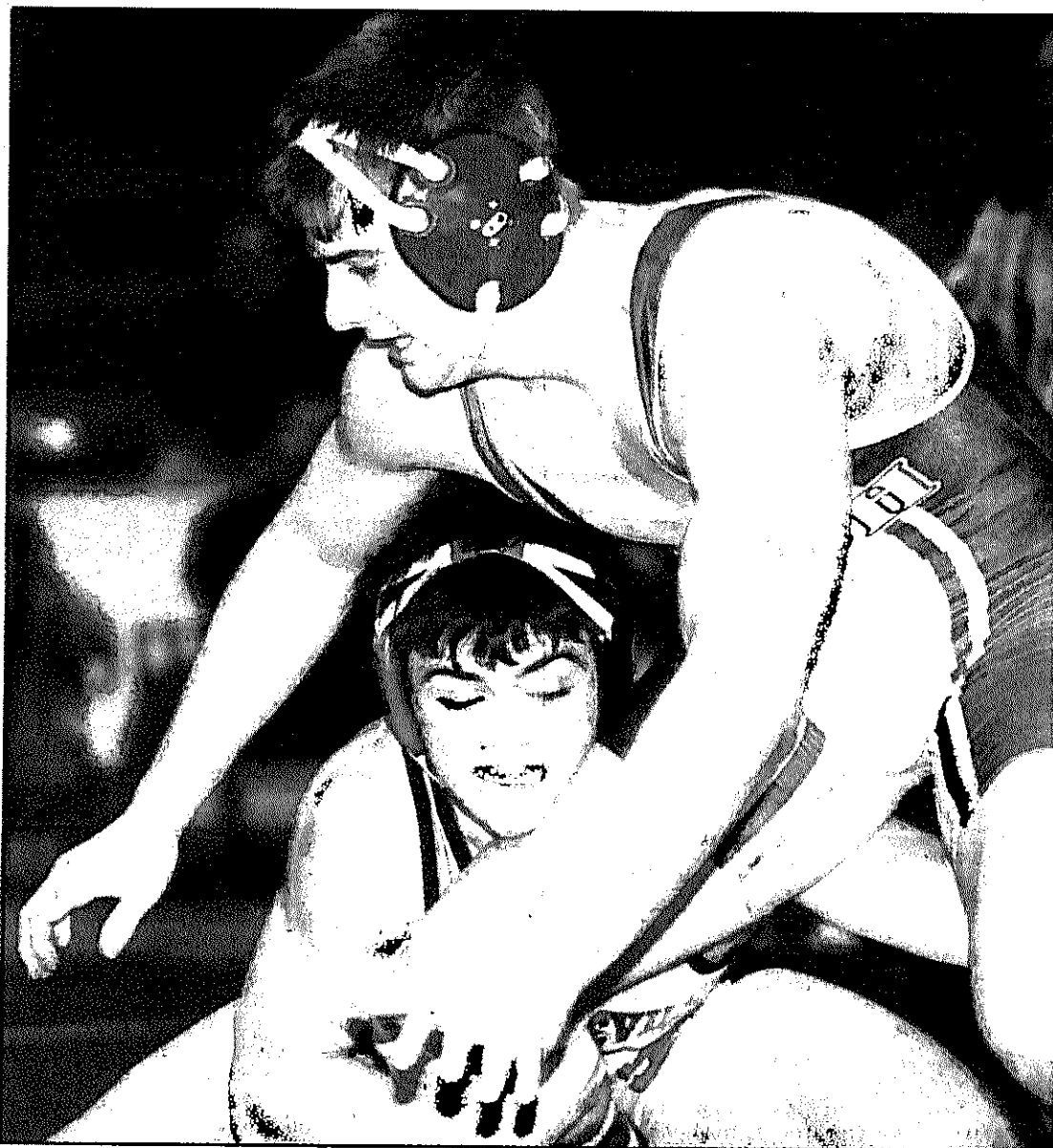
Rush staved off a strong effort from Union Local sophomore Chase Clark for a 7-2 win and OVAC wrestling immortality.

"Chase is a tough kid, and when I got that five-point move, my whole strategy changed," said Rush. "I was looking for the pin, but I got conservative after that, and I wish I hadn't. But no regrets."

The seventh four-time winner wasn't too far behind as St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller was also crowned in the 145-pound champion match.

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Schuller, Rush join elite group

AROUND
THE MAT

By
**RICK
DELUCA**
Times Leader
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And then there were seven.

Just four years ago, only three wrestlers had swept through the giant Ohio Valley Athletic Conference, never losing and always finding their way to the top of the winners' stand.

Over a span of just three years, that number has more than doubled and Saturday night, for the first time, two wrestlers become four-time OVAC champs on the same night.

St. Clairsville's Zack Shuller, a tough hombre with a knack for taking opposing wrestlers to school, and Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush, a finesse wrestler that beats opponents any way possible, became the sixth and seventh OVAC wrestlers to win four titles.

Only five OVAC wrestlers preceded the duo. Bridgeport great Bobby Douglas was the first in 1961, followed by East Liverpool's Mark Emmerling, Edison South's Kelly Shields, Beaver Local's Adam Hoppel and Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker.

Rush officially became the sixth OVAC wrestler with four individual OVAC titles with his 7-2 decision over Union Local sophomore Chase Clark in the 125-pound

championship bout.

Rush's run through the OVAC tournament pushed his season record to 35-2. He pinned Wellsville's Andrew Gibbs in the first round in 25 seconds, registered a fall in 1:03 over Meadowbrook's Taylor Hales in the second and stopped Edison's Brian Porkrajac by fall at the 1:18 in the third round. Brooke's Jim McFarland fell victim to Rush in a 5-0 decision in thesemi-finals.

"I didn't start feeling any pressure until the semis," he said. "But once I got that first take down in the semis, I said oh man here we go. It was time to go and I had to do what I did. I'm glad it's done."

In the title bout, Rush jumped out to a 5-0 lead in the first period with a takedown and near-fall that put the Park wrestler up early.

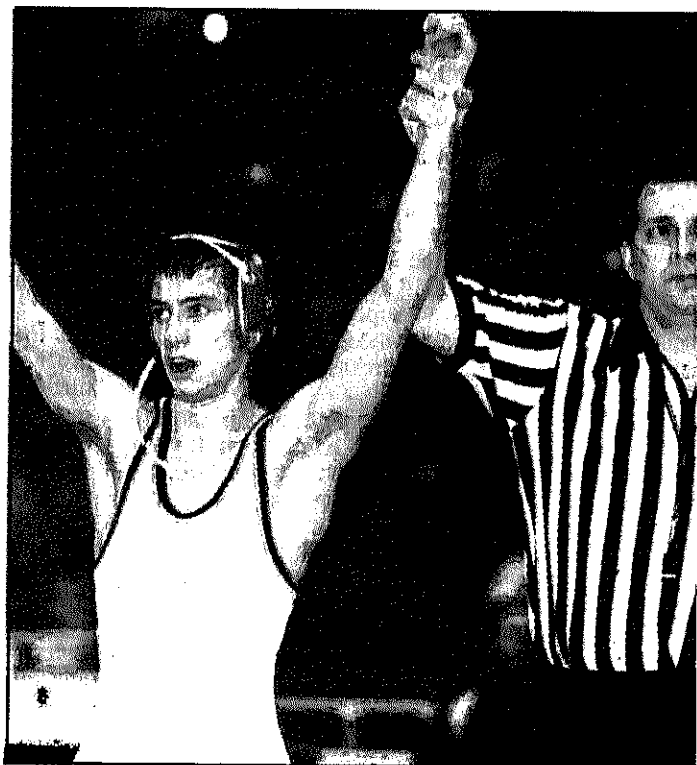
"In the finals, once I got the five-point lead in the first period, my strategy changed from being aggressive to being a bit more defensive," the Park grappler said in describing his title bout. "I hoped that it wouldn't happen that way, but that clock, it was just click away. It seemed to take a while."

Clark picked up a point in the second period, but Rush's takedown midway through the third period extending the lead to 7-2 and from there Rush just had to coast.

"You never get tired of it (being on top of the winners' stand)," Rush said after becoming only the sixth OVAC wrestler to win four OVAC titles in his career. "It just makes all of that hard work and effort pay off."

"It's pretty neat, especially with our team doing as well as we are in this tournament," Rush added. "It means

See, MAT, Page C4



T-L Photos/JOE

TOP: St. Clairsville's Zach Schuller grabs onto a leg of S Central senior Mick Nicola during Saturday's 145-pound final. Schuller prevailed by a 3-2 score.

ABOVE: Buckeye Local's Justin Turnbull gets his arm after winning the 103-pound championship match Saturday.

SPORTS

ard / C6

Park rolls to OVAC mat title

St. Clairsville, Barnesville, John win class titles

MIDEI
Sports Writer

Evening marked the end of the 53rd OVAC Wrestling. The team competition, however, was finished around 3 p.m. on Jan. 21.

St. Clairsville built its insurmountable lead, one that the other teams could only add to over the course of the tournament. The team from Park put on a superlative performance, putting up more than 200 points, which established a new OVAC Tournament record and leaving the other teams in the dust.

"It's all Abbie Rush said of the Patriots, 'It's much more than just a win,' much says it all."

"The fans, both hardcore and casual alike, are good, but even Monteleone was impressed with their performance."

"It has gone any better for Park, which also has won its sixth four-time OVAC champion in 125-pounder."

"To see the list of names, it's a pretty big honor to be listed with Bobby Douglas and Clay Tucker," said Rush.

"Our fourth title is something to remember, but winning it while it is away with the overall title? Now that's something special, especially for Park senior."

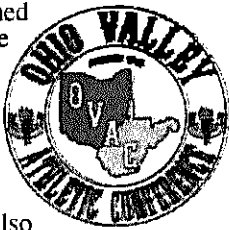
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"I did a strong effort from Union Local sophomore Chase Clark and OVAC wrestling immortality."

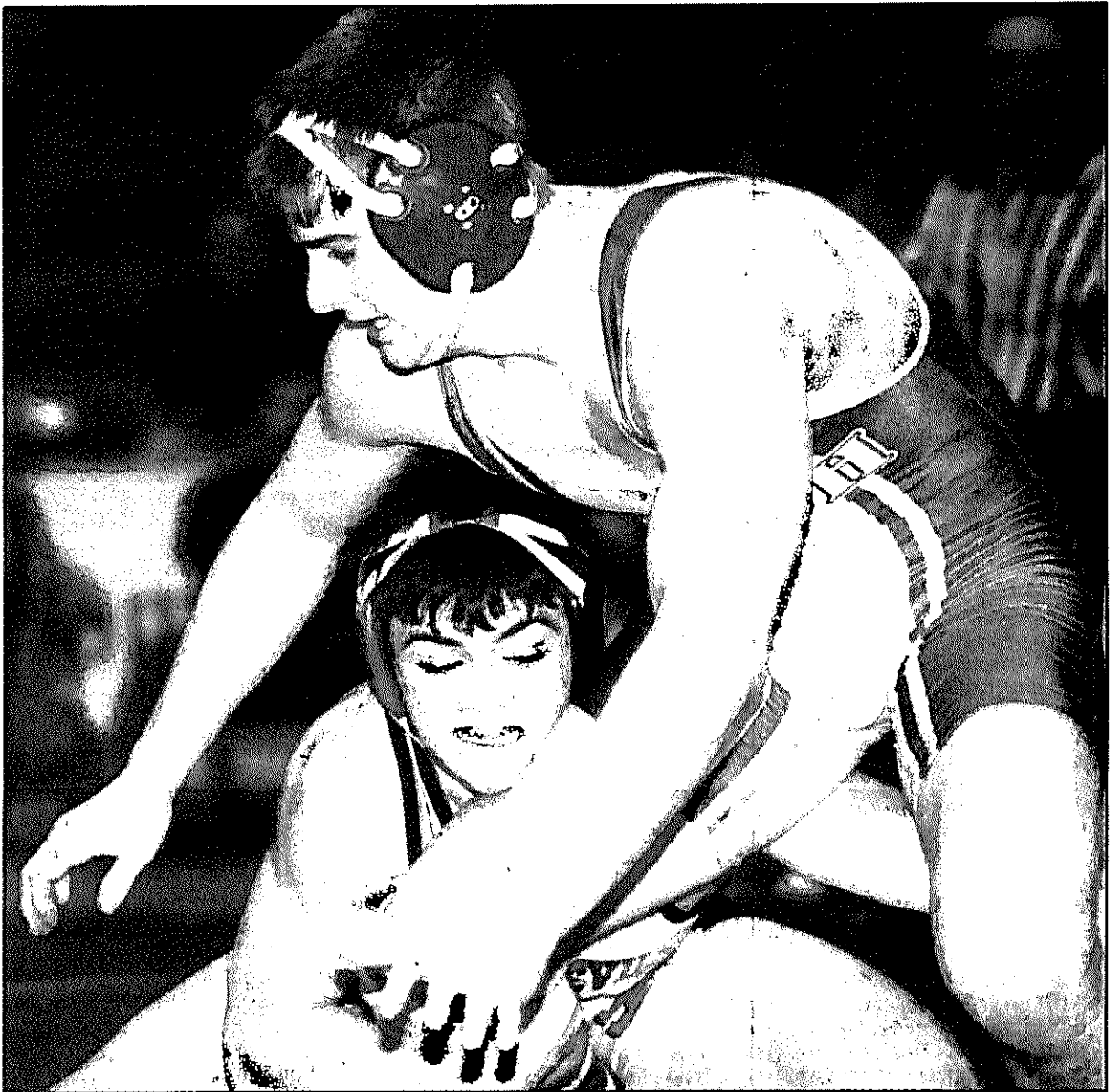
"A tough kid, and when I got that five-point move, my whole strategy changed. 'I was looking for the pin, but I got conservative. I wish I hadn't. But no regrets.'"

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OVAC wrestlers preceded the duo. The first was Bobby Douglas in 1961, followed by Liverpool's Mark Emmerling, Edison's Matt Shields, Beaver Local's Adam Hoppel and Union Local's Clay Tucker.

Shuller became the sixth OVAC wrestler with four titles with his 7-2 decision over Union Local's Chase Clark in the 125-pound

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Rush's run through the OVAC tournament pushed his season record to 35-2. He pinned Wellsville's Andrew Gibbs in the first round in 25 seconds, registered a fall in 1:03 over Meadowbrook's Taylor Hales in the second and stopped Edison's Brian Porkrajac by fall at the 1:18 in the third round. Brooke's Jim McFarland fell victim to Rush in a 5-0 decision in the semi-finals.

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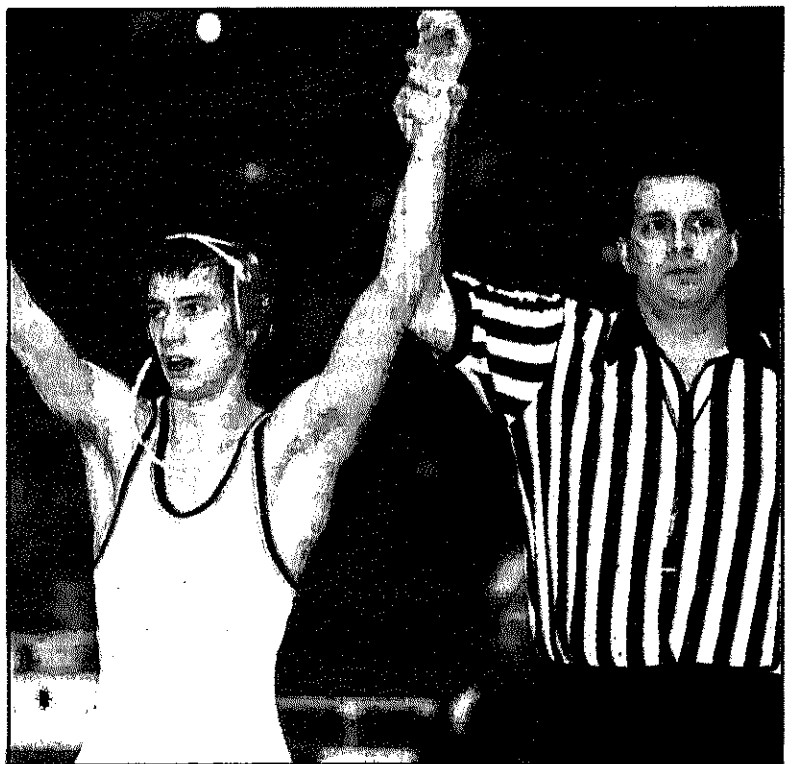
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"You never get tired of it (being on top of the winners' stand)," Rush said after becoming only the sixth OVAC wrestler to win four OVAC titles in his career. "It just makes all of that hard work and effort pay off."

"It's pretty neat, especially with our team doing as well as we are in this tournament," Rush added. "It means

See, MAT, Page C4



T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH

TOP: St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller grabs onto a leg of St. John Central senior Mick Nicola during Saturday's 145-pound OVAC final. Schuller prevailed by a 3-2 score.

ABOVE: Buckeye Local's Justin Turnbull gets his arm raised after winning the 103-pound championship match Saturday night.

OVAC Wrestling Results

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

103 -- Justin Turnbull (BL) dec. Nick Taylor (WP), 8-4.
 112 -- Ronell Green (WP) dec. Jimmy Reisz (Beall), 7-2.
 119 -- Dustin Daugherty (Camb) dec. Stephen Jewell (WP), 6-2.
 125 -- Abbie Rush (WP) dec. Chase Clark (UL), 7-2.
 130 -- Willie Saxton (BL) maj. dec. Derek Caudill (Beav), 18-6.
 135 -- Joe Skoff (SJC) dec. Sean Mahley (Camb), 5-2.
 140 -- James Myers (IC) dec. Jessie Mahan (OG), 4-2.
 145 -- Zack Schuller (StC) dec. Mick Nicola (SJC), 3-2.
 152 -- Zac Bowers (MF) dec. Brad Brooks (HC), 3-1.
 160 -- Rhett Northcraft (OG) dec. Bud Hines (Barnes), 6-5.
 171 -- Josh 5-2
 189 -- Kyle Reeder (BEAV) dec. Bobby Scurlock (CAMB), 7-5
 215 -- John Horn (Shen) dec. Paul Jesseris (Barn), 8-3.

THIRD PLACE MATCHES

103 -- Ryan Asbury (OG) dec. Taylor Yoder (MF), 4-0.
 112 -- Daniel Felton (Brooke) dec. Elhan Dray (OG), 8-2.
 119 -- Ryan Stephen (Barn) dec. Jared Border (Cald), 6-2.
 125 -- Tim McFarland (Brooke) won by default, Zac Androsko (StC).
 130 -- Ronnie Green (WP) dec. Dan Ray (Camb), 7-2.
 135 -- Torey Prickett (MC) maj. dec. Bruce Kennedy (WP), 11-2.
 140 -- Kayne Malko (SJC) dec. Chad Ware (MF), 2-1 (2OT).
 145 -- Justin Seebach (Cald) pinned Chad Teague (Camb), 3:42.
 152 -- Jeff Pettit (Cam) dec. Cody Miller (OG), 5-0.
 160 -- Dustin Hill (WP) dec. Jacob Donley (HC), 5-0.
 171 -- Kirk Wetherell (Camb) dec. Dan Dunn (Beaver), 5-0.
 189 -- Josh Greathouse (OG) major dec. Brandon Rickman (JM), 12-2.
 215 -- Bryan Rowland (OG) dec. Tommy Kettlewell (WP), 9-2.

FIFTH PLACE MATCHES

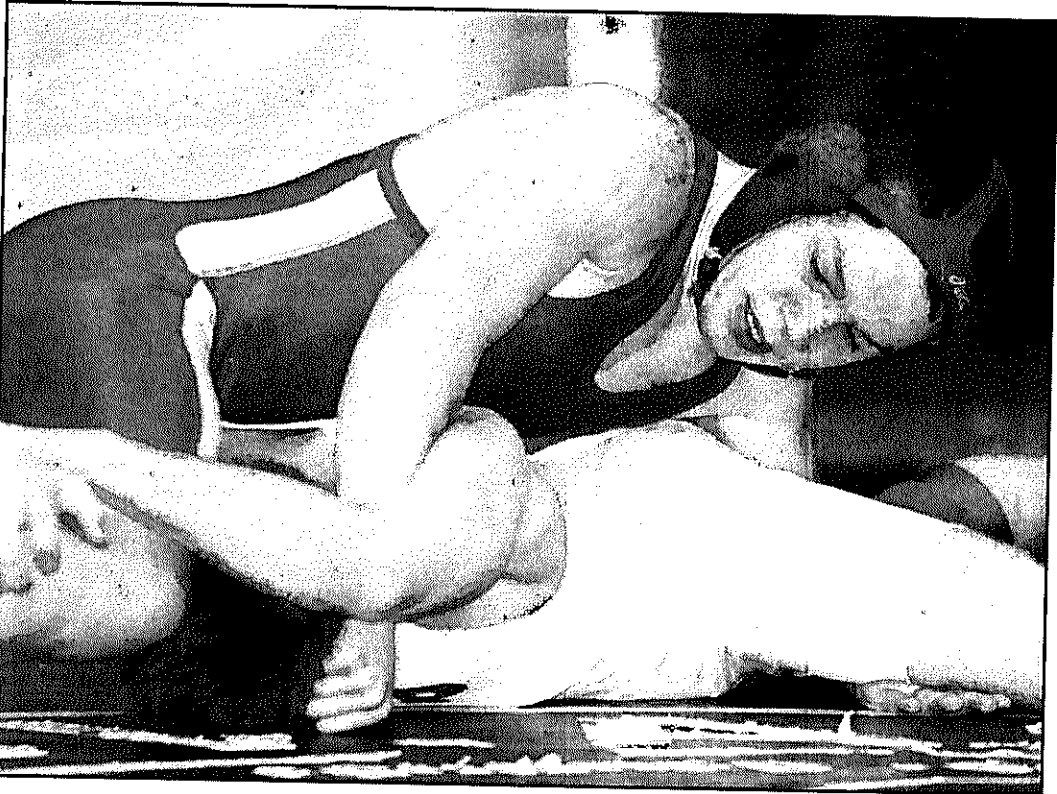
103 -- Nick Risdon (HC) dec. Dirk Bauer (WC), 4-1.
 112 -- Paul Rose (Camb) maj. dec. Justin Rossiter (Mead), 11-0.
 119 -- Chaz Clark (UL) dec. Mike Slaga (BL), 13-8.
 125 -- Jon Ray (Camb) dec. Derrick Holt (MF), 4-1.
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 135 -- Andy Stine (Ed) dec. Jon Bittinger (Beav), 4-0.
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 145 -- Adam Messenger (Barn) dec. Nathan Schaal, 5-1.
 152 -- Bryan Skoff (SJC) pinned Craig Johnston (IC), 1:33.
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 171 -- Branko Buscic (Weir) dec. Mark Chambers (JM), 10-7.
 189 -- Derick Hesson (Cald) dec. Matt Hill (WP), 5-0.
 215 -- Taylor Potts (JM) dec. Shane Clark (MF), 4-2.

SEVENTH PLACE MATCHES

103 -- Ed Lehotay (Mead) dec. Zack Porter (Bell), 8-1.
 112 -- Jesse Brown (Shen) maj. dec. Zack Delguzzi (Ed), 14-6.
 119 -- Jeff Trigg (Shad) dec. Troy Eckleberry (OG), 12-7.
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CHAMPIONSHIP SEMIFINALS

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 112 -- Ronell Green (WP) dec. Daniel Felton (Brooke), 5-2; Jimmy Reisz (Beall) dec. Ethan Dray (OG), 2-1.
 119 -- Dustin Daugherty (Camb) pinned Chaz Clark (UL), 5:57; Stephen Jewell (WP) dec. Ryan Stephen (Barn), 1-0 (2OT).
 125 -- Abbie Rush (WP) dec. Tim McFarland (Brooke), 5-0; Chase Clark (UL) dec. Derrick Holt (MF), 5-4.
 130 -- Willie Saxton (BL) maj. dec. Zack Basich (WC), 18-4; Derek Caudill (Beav) dec. Ronnie Green (WP), 5-3.
 135 -- Joe Skoff (SJC) maj. dec. Jon Bittinger (Beav), 13-1; Sean Mahley (Camb) dec. Andy Stine (Ed), 4-2.
 140 -- Jessie Mahan (OG) dec. Chad Ware (MF), 9-4; James Myers (IC) dec. Kayne Malko (SJC), 6-1.
 145 -- Mick Nicola (SJC) tech. fall Chad Teague (Camb), 20-1; Zack



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

UNION LOCAL'S Chase Clark is on top of Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush during the championship match at 125 pounds. Rush prevailed in the match to win his fourth straight title.

● OVAC

Continued from Page C1

Friday's team results might as well have been carved in stone; all four division leaders retained their advantages to the tournament's end. The aforementioned Patriots tore through OVAC 4-A; a young Martins Ferry squad was unable to keep pace with the dynastic Golden Bears; Barnesville dethroned reigning champion Caldwell in 2-A; and the Irish were the class of the small-school field, mixing it up with the big boys in the overall standings.

Last year, Cambridge's Sean Mahley was felled by Nicola in the finals of 130. This time around, it was Skoff's turn as the senior Irishman defeated the Cambridge junior 5-2 for the OVAC championship at 135 pounds.

Skoff has been a bridesmaid twice, but it was finally time for him to be the bride. He finished as the runner-up his freshman and sophomore years and was unable to compete last season due to illness.

"It's pretty awesome," said Skoff, who gave all the credit to his cousin, Mick. "Mick showed me some of his technique in the practice room, and it helped a good bit."

A trio of Buckeye Local seniors entered the evening session with title aspirations.

Derek Caudill was undefeated coming into the tourna-

ment, but Willie Saxton put a big black mark on his record in the 130-pound championship.

Saxton dropped an 18-6 bomb on the Beaver Local wrestler, winning his second OVAC title in the process. All six of Caudill's points came on let-ups as Saxton put on a clinic.

"What happened last year was definitely motivation for me," Saxton said. "I was focused on weight the entire week. I expected a close match, but either way you still have to wrestle for six minutes.

Justin Turnbull picked up his first OVAC place -- and if you're only going to do it once, you might as well go all out.

Turnbull won the championship in a wide-open 103-pound weight class with an 8-4 decision over Wheeling Park freshman Nick Taylor. Turnbull improved to 20-7 with the win.

"I trained all year with this in mind, so yeah, it feels pretty good," said Turnbull. "I could have done better, but (Taylor) is tough to wrestle against."

Senior Josh Cologie picked up his first OVAC title and Buckeye Local's third on the day when he scored a 5-2 decision over Wheeling Park's Adam Gibson, avenging an earlier loss.

"Josh was creating the action at Wheeling Park (earli-

er in the season) and Gibson was capitalizing," said Buckeye coach Brian Davis. "Tonight, when he made any attacks, Josh needed to make them count. He was very focused this week."

Beallsville sophomore Jimmy Reisz finished second at 112, dropping a 7-2 decision to Wheeling Park junior Ronell Green. The loss was only Reisz's second of the year (31-2).

Martins Ferry's lone champion came at 152 pounds when Zac Bowers recorded a 3-1 decision over Brad Brooks of Harrison Central.

"We weren't real sure about the Cameron kid, but we knew if we got through him (Zach) had a chance," said Ferry coach Babe Sidon. "Both are good wrestlers, using the same style and we thought whoever got that take down would win the match."

Oak Glen's Rhett Northcraft scored a hard-fought 6-5 victory by virtue of a last-second escape over Barnesville senior and top seed Bud Hines.

The champions at the remaining weights were: Dustin Daugherty, Cambridge (119); James Myers, Indian Creek (125); John Horn (Shenandoah); Kyle Reeder (189).

● Mat

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a lot with our team doing as well as it is, but I don't think we would be doing as well as we are if it wasn't for our coaches."

"Before my freshmen year, we had only seven wrestlers on our roster and now we are over 40," the Wheeling Park senior pointed out. "And with the jayvee kids in the room and the full schedules, that's just amazing."

Park, with coach Gene Monteleone at the helm, came in as the tournament favorite to take it all and that's just what the Patriots did.

"Hopefully, I can break the top and stand on the podium down at Huntington and my team can be state champions to go with this great year," Rush said looking ahead to the remainder of the season and the Patriots' hopes in the post-season.

Schuller become No. 7 with

3-1 in the period.

In the third period, Schuller gave up an escape point to narrow the count to 3-2 then he held on as Nicola came ever so close to a match ending take-down. Schuller thus became No. 7.

"I'm real happy. This is quite an experience," an elated Schuller said after winning his fourth. "It's a combination of feeling good, being and getting the job done."

"I had a good match," Schuller said about his championship bout. Mick's a good wrestler. We've been wrestling since peewee."

"It just got me more pumped up," the Red Devil wrestler said about joining such an elite group and then added, "It was amazing (the fan support). I never had support like that before."

"That's the next thing on the list," Schuller said about

ly serving their country in the military. One former champ who was unable to attend was Scott Mills, formerly of Steubenville who is currently serving in Iraq.

Another '81 champ back is Navy commander Mike Tluchowski, a former standout from Steubenville. Tluchowski is a Navy pilot.

CURRENT RIVER High baseball coach and former OVAC champion Kyle Rose was honored by having the tournament dedicated to the River grad. Rose was honored in 2002 as the Eastern District baseball coach of the year and in 2005 as the OVAC assistant coach of the year. Rose, confined to a wheelchair as a result of an automobile accident following his sophomore year of college, has been very active as a teacher and coach at the Monroe County school.

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215 -- John Horn (Shen) dec. Bryan Rowland (OG), 5-1; Paul Jefferis (Barn) dec. Shane Clark (MF), 2-1 (2OT).
275 -- Jimmy Bowersock (Beav) pinned Ralph Petrella (Steub), 5:16; Jeremiah Hinerman (Ed) dec. Jeff Coole (MF), 5-2.

UNION LOCAL'S Chase Clark is on top of Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush during the championship match at 125 pounds. Rush prevailed in the match to win his fourth straight title.

T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

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"What happened last year was definitely motivation for me," Saxton said. "I was focused on weight the entire week. I expected a close match, but either way you still have to wrestle for six minutes."

Justin Turnbull picked up his first OVAC place -- and if you're only going to do it once, you might as well go all out.

Turnbull won the championship in a wide-open 103-pound weight class with an 8-4 decision over Wheeling Park freshman Nick Taylor. Turnbull improved to 20-7 with the win.

"I trained all year with this in mind, so yeah, it feels pretty good," said Turnbull. "I could have done better, but (Taylor) is tough to wrestle against."

Senior Josh Cologie picked up his first OVAC title and Buckeye Local's third on the day when he scored a 5-2 decision over Wheeling Park's Adam Gibson, avenging an earlier loss.

"Josh was creating the action at Wheeling Park (earli-

er in the season) and Gibson was capitalizing," said Buckeye coach Brian Davis. "Tonight, when he made any attacks, Josh needed to make them count. He was very focused this week."

Beallsville sophomore Jimmy Reisz finished second at 112, dropping a 7-2 decision to Wheeling Park junior Ronell Green. The loss was only Reisz's second of the year (31-2).

Martins Ferry's lone champion came at 152 pounds when Zac Bowers recorded a 3-1 decision over Brad Brooks of Harrison Central.

"We weren't real sure about the Cameron kid, but we knew if we got through him (Zach) had a chance," said Ferry coach Babe Sidon. "Both are good wrestlers, using the same style and we thought whoever got that take down would win the match."

Oak Glen's Rhett Northcraft scored a hard-fought 6-5 victory by virtue of a last-second escape over Barnesville senior and top seed Bud Hines.

The champions at the remaining weights were: Dustin Daugherty, Cambridge (119); James Myers, Indian Creek (125); John Horn (Shenandoah); Kyle Reeder (189).

● Mat

Continued from Page C1

a lot with our team doing as well as it is, but I don't think we would be doing as well as we are if it wasn't for our coaches."

"Before my freshmen year, we had only seven wrestlers on our roster and now we are over 40," the Wheeling Park senior pointed out. "And with the jayvee kids in the room and the full schedules, that's just amazing."

Park, with coach Gene Monteleone at the helm, came in as the tournament favorite to take it all and that's just what the Patriots did.

"Hopefully, I can break the top and stand on the podium down at Huntington and my team can be state champions to go with this great year," Rush said looking ahead to the remainder of the season and the Patriots' hopes in the post-season.

Schuller became No. 7 with an exciting win over top-seeded Mick Nicola in the spirited 145-pound title match.

Schuller, who posted over 100 career wins and three OVAC titles while wrestling at Buckeye Local, has been equally impressive under the tutelage of St. C head coach John Vrotsos, posting a 26-1 record this season.

After a scoreless first period, Schuller gained an escape point then surprised Nicola with a takedown at the 51-second mark of the second. A Nicola escape pulled the St. John Central grappler to within

3-1 in the period.

In the third period, Schuller gave up an escape point to narrow the count to 3-2 then he held on as Nicola came ever so close to a match ending takedown. Schuller thus became No. 7.

"I'm real happy. This is quite an experience," an elated Schuller said after winning his fourth. "It's a combination of feeling good, being and getting the job done."

"I had a good match," Schuller said about his championship bout. Mick's a good wrestler. We've been wrestling since peewee."

"It just got me more pumped up," the Red Devil wrestler said about joining such an elite group and then added, "It was amazing (the fan support). I never had support like that before."

"That's the next thing on the list," Schuller said about a run at a state title. "It's one match at a time. We've got the Panther Classic, Sectionals, Districts and then the state tournament."

MAT NOTES

REMEMBERING PAST athletes, coaches and officials has always been a strong point of the OVAC and its staff and directors. Each and every year, one of the highlights of the giant OVAC tournament has been the return of past conference champions.

This year's returning class, the 1981 OVAC champs, include a pair who are current-

ly serving their country in the military. One former champ who was unable to attend was Scott Mills, formerly of Steubenville who is currently serving in Iraq.

Another '81 champ back is Navy commander Mike Tluchowski, a former standout from Steubenville. Tluchowski is a Navy pilot.

CURRENT RIVER High baseball coach and former OVAC champion Kyle Rose was honored by having the tournament dedicated to the River grad. Rose was honored in 2002 as the Eastern District baseball coach of the year and in 2005 as the OVAC assistant coach of the year. Rose, confined to a wheelchair as a result of an automobile accident following his sophomore year of college, has been very active as a teacher and coach at the Monroe County school.

MARTINS FERRY'S Jack Regis was honored by the OVAC as the Official of the Year. He's a former mayor in the city of Martins Ferry.

BUCKEYE LOCAL'S Gary Glover was honored with the Syd Stolz Award for his contributions to the OVAC. Glover is retired from Weirton Steel and is currently active with Buckeye Local schools.

DAN DOYLE, representing the OVAC wrestling coaches, presented a check for over \$3000.00 to OVAC executive secretary Tom Rataiczak for use in the newly formed OVAC Sports Museum.

SPORTS

Wednesday
January 18, 2006

For comments regarding local sports stories, or ideas for future stories, please e-mail sports@daily-jeff.com

53rd OVAC Wrestling Tournament to begin Thursday Cambridge has 10-seeded grapplers; Caldwell's Seebach among returning champs

JEFF HARRISON
THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

Wrestling takes the local spotlight this week when the 53rd annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament unfolds Thursday through Saturday at WesBanco Arena in Wheeling.

Nearly 500 wrestlers from 35 conference schools will compete in approximately 850 matches during three days of competition, with 14 individual champions crowned by the conclusion of the event Saturday night.

Two-time defending overall champion Oak Glen and Wheeling Park are among the pre-meet favorites, with Cambridge as the top local contender.

The Bobcats, who own tournament victories at Barnesville and Sheridan thus far and also took part in the competitive Brecksville Tournament and the Ohio Dual Tournament, lead the local teams with 10 seeded wrestlers (second only to

Wheeling Park's 11 seeded grapplers) including Dustin Daugherty (first at 119), Bobby Scurlock (first at 189), Sean Mahley (second at 135), John Nicolozakes (second at 275), Jon Ray (third at 125); Chad Teague (fourth at 145), Kirk Wetherell (fourth at 171), Paul Rose (fifth at 112), Justin Britnell (sixth at 215) and Dan Ray (seventh at 130).

Seven of those wrestlers placed in last year's event headed by Mahley's runner-up finish at 130 pounds. Scurlock was fourth at 189, Rose placed sixth at 103, Daugherty was seventh at 119, Nicolozakes finished seventh at 275, Ray was eighth at 112 and Wetherell took eighth at 152.

Barnesville is next among local teams with six seeded grapplers, including Bud Hines (first at 160), Ryan Stephen (second at 119), Paul Jefferies (second at 215), Adam Messenger (fifth at 145), Charlie Fritter (sixth at 171) and Brian Grear (sev-

enth at 189). Hines finished third at 152 a year ago and Stephen was seventh at 112.

Other seeded wrestlers from area teams include: Caldwell — Justin Seebach (second at 145), Jared Border (third at 119) and Derick Hesson (fourth at 189); Meadowbrook — Justin Rossiter (sixth at 112) and Ed Lehotay (seventh at 103); Shenandoah — John Horn (first at 215). Seebach was the 135-pound champion a year ago; Horn was fourth at 215; Hesson finished seventh at 215 and Rossiter was eighth at 119.

Horn (24-0), by the way, is one of only two unbeaten wrestlers with a significant number of matches in the entire field (the other is Beaver Local's Derek Caudill, who is 20-0 and seeded third at 130 pounds).

Three local wrestlers have already reached the coveted 100-victory total for their prep careers — Cambridge's Daugherty, Caldwell's Seebach and

Shenandoah's Horn.

Probably the toughest weight class is the 145 pounds where there are returning OVAC champions. John Central, a two-time OVAC champion at 130 pounds, earned a 21-1 record; Caldwell's Seebach was second with a 17-2 mark; and the third seed was Zack Schuller of St. Clairsville, who was the 145-pound winner while at Buckeye and was seeded third with a 17-2 mark.

Other returning champions are Daniel Felton of Brookfield, who was the 145-pound winner seeded fourth at 145 pounds; Ronnie Green of Wheeling Park, who was the 145-pound champ who is seeded fourth at 145 pounds; and Abbie Rush of Wheeling Park, the year ago and a three-time OVAC champion at 145 pounds, who is seeded first in that same class. Northcraft of Oak Glen, last year's 145-pound champion, is seeded second at 145 pounds.

See C



OVAC Tournament once again yields a host of memories

Each and every year, the OVAC's huge wrestling tournament is a fan draw all by itself. Plots and subplots. Big stories and little stories. Highly-publicized, much-anticipated matches and matches that no one thought would ever materialize.

Good weather, bad weather, always a big crowd.

Whether you were in the WesBanco Arena any or all of the three days of this year's 53rd Annual Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament, you were treated to great wrestling and a bit of history.

This year's OVAC tournament handed the wrestling fan plenty.

Wheeling Park, the unlikely of championship hopefuls just four short years ago, was threatened with extinction when the Patriot roster numbered just seven wrestlers a few years ago.

Of course, the conference's



By
RICK DELUCA
Times Leader
Sports Writer

AROUND THE MAT

biggest school would not let the sport of wrestling fall by the wayside and with a determined coach in Gene Monteleone that did not happen. In fact, the Patriots have become the poster boys for the 'Winners Never Quit' slogan.

Monteleone has been a major part in the dramatic resurgence of Wheeling Park wrestling and Saturday's OVAC championship complet-

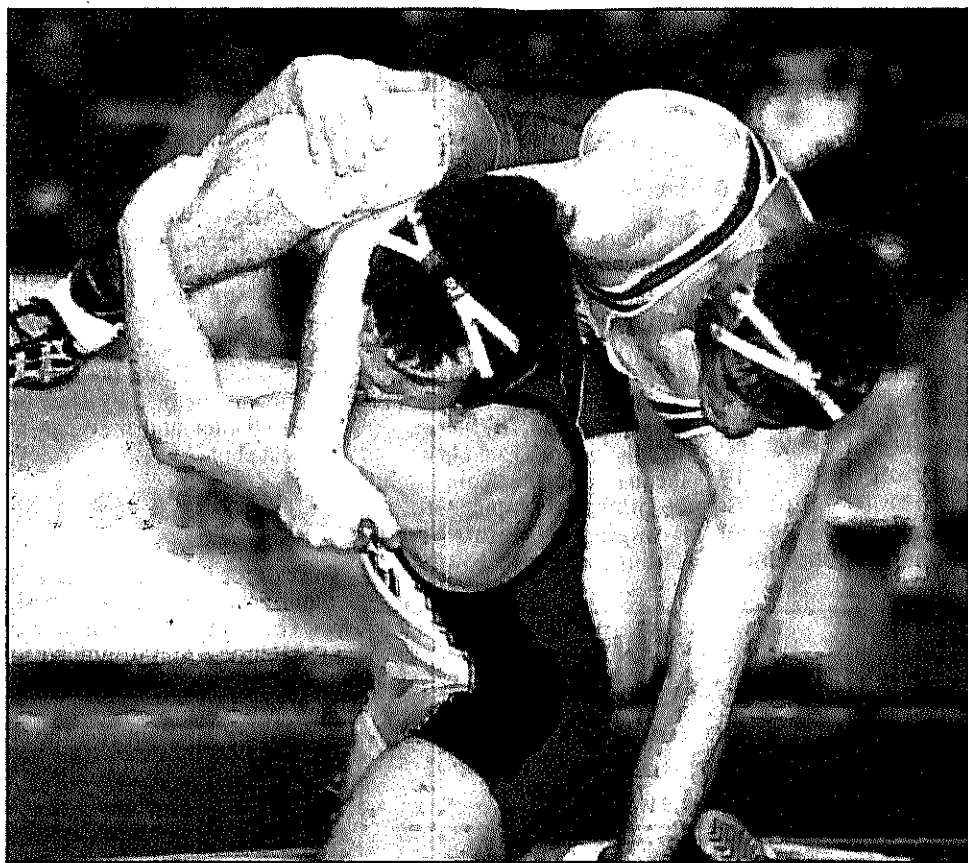
ed the Patriots' full-circle return.

It's hard to imagine that Park not only won an overall OVAC team championship just a few years after being able to fill only half the weight classes, but win in such a resounding manner.

Monteleone's grapplers all but wrapped up the title a day early, but consider the fact that the Patriots topped second place and defending champion Oak Glen by 70 points in the final team scoring. That's the same Oak Glen team that in about a month will start its drive toward an unprecedented 10th straight West Virginia state wrestling title.

Then again, one of the key elements to the Park championship run was the effort of senior Abbie Rush, who along with St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller, become the latest to join a growing list of four time

See, MAT, Page B4



T-L Photo/JOE

ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Zach Schuller goes for a take down of St. John Central Nicola during their 145-pound championship match during Saturday's OVAC Wrestling Tournament at WesBanco Arena.

● Mat

Continued from Page B1

OVAC champions.

Rush, wrestling at 125 pounds, became the conference's sixth four-time champ with an impressive 7-2 decision over a very tough Chase Clark of Union Local in the title bout. Although Clark is just a sophomore, the Jet wrestler did make Rush's final OVAC tournament match an easy one.

Rush said after winning his fourth title that he actually went into a defensive mode after jumping out to a 5-0 lead in the first period.

The Patriot wrestler said that he didn't plan on getting a big lead early and wrestling defensively made the clock run what seemed to be a lot slower than normal.

Schuller's title matchup with St. John Central's Mick Nicola at 145 had everyone in the Wesbanco Arena holding their collective breaths as the two put on a great show on the main mat.

Nicola wasn't the top-seed in the weight class for nothing. Now a senior, Nicola has been one of the OVAC's premier wrestlers since his freshmen year. It was only fitting that the two would square off in the premier bout of the tournament.

Schuller registered a thrilling 3-2 decision over Nicola, but the Fighting Irish grappler nearly pulled off a stunning upset in the final seconds as he came every so close to a two-point takedown.

Considered one of the toughest wrestlers in the conference since winning his first title as a freshman, Schuller was later selected as the Bierkorte Award winner as the tournament's most outstanding wrestler.

While Schuller and Rush were joining the five previous four-time winners in unison, Schuller was the more dominating of the two throughout the tournament and defeated the first and seconds seeds in winning his crown.

Lost in the all the hoopla connecting with Schuller, Rush and the Wheeling Park Patriots was another final performance by Buckeye Local's always tough wrestlers.

Panther head coach Brian Davis has done an outstanding job in continuing the success that Buckeye Local wrestling has had since current Shenandoah School superintendent Dan Doyle got the program off the ground while he coached at the Connorville-based school.

Davis has produced six OVAC champions in three years at the school, adding three of those winners this year.

Buckeye Local had three individual champions, the most of any school in the tournament, and had the Hercules Award winner and the school's jayvee coach was honored as the top junior high coach. Not

a bad weekend for the Panthers.

Senior Justin Turnbull captured the 103-pound title with an impressive 8-4 win over Wheeling Park's Nick Taylor. Taylor is just a freshman and will be back, but Turnbull has seen his last OVAC tournament as a wrestler.

Turnbull had a rather deceiving record coming into the tournament with seven losses as a top-seed, but the Panther wrestler had wrestled a weight higher at 112 through most of the season.

"It's really exciting to win here," a very subdued Turnbull said after the event. "It was really great that we had three winners."

Willie Saxton is a very well known and respected name on the mats in the Ohio Valley.

Saxton gave the Panthers a second title with an amazing performance in his 130-pound championship bout win over previously-unbeaten Derek Caudill of Beaver Local.

Saxton registered an 18-6 major decision and won his second OVAC title. As a freshman, he placed third in the OVAC tournament and last year struggled with weight and eventually did not wrestle in the tournament.

"Willie did great," Davis said about Saxton's performance. He just put on a take-down clinic. I don't know that I've seen him wrestle that well. That Caudill kid was a two-time champ here and a two-time state placer."

"And Cologie, I think I was most happy for him," added about his third champ, 171-pound Josh Cologie.

"That kid (Wheeling Park's Adam Gibson) beat him 6-0 earlier in the year and he just came out and took control of the match and never looked back."

"He has always shown the potentially, but last year down here everyone else got the chance to see his potential," he added about Cologie.

"I was more surprised last year. We expected him to win tonight. You could see it in his attitude when he went out on the mat."

Buckeye also had a pair of freshmen place sixth in the tournament.

Possibly, the tournament's biggest surprise came at 152 pounds.

Martins Ferry's Zac Bowers came into the tournament with a 15-4 season mark and was only a fifth seed, but had an exceptional tournament en route to a OVAC title.

Bowers had to beat the fourth seed in the quarterfinals, then eliminated Cameron's Jeff Pettit, the top-seed, in the semi-finals.

In the title match, Bowers edged Harrison Central's Brad Brooks with a 3-1 decision. It was Brooks' second straight runner-up finish.

LY JEFFERSONIAN

Section

B

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SPORTS

Tournament to begin Thursday
Caldwell's Seebach among returning champions

cluding enth at 189). Hines finished third at 152 a year ago and Stephen was seventh at 112.

Other seeded wrestlers from area teams include: Caldwell — Justin Seebach (second at 145), Jared Border (third at 119) and Derick Hesson (fourth at 189); Meadowbrook — Justin Rossiter (sixth at 112) and Ed Lehotay (seventh at 103); Shenandoah — John Horn (first at 215). Seebach was the 135-pound champion a year ago; Horn was fourth at 215; Hesson finished seventh at 215 and Rossiter was eighth at 119.

Horn (24-0), by the way, is one of only two unbeaten wrestlers with a significant number of matches in the entire field (the other is Beaver Local's Derek Caudill, who is 20-0 and seeded third at 130 pounds).

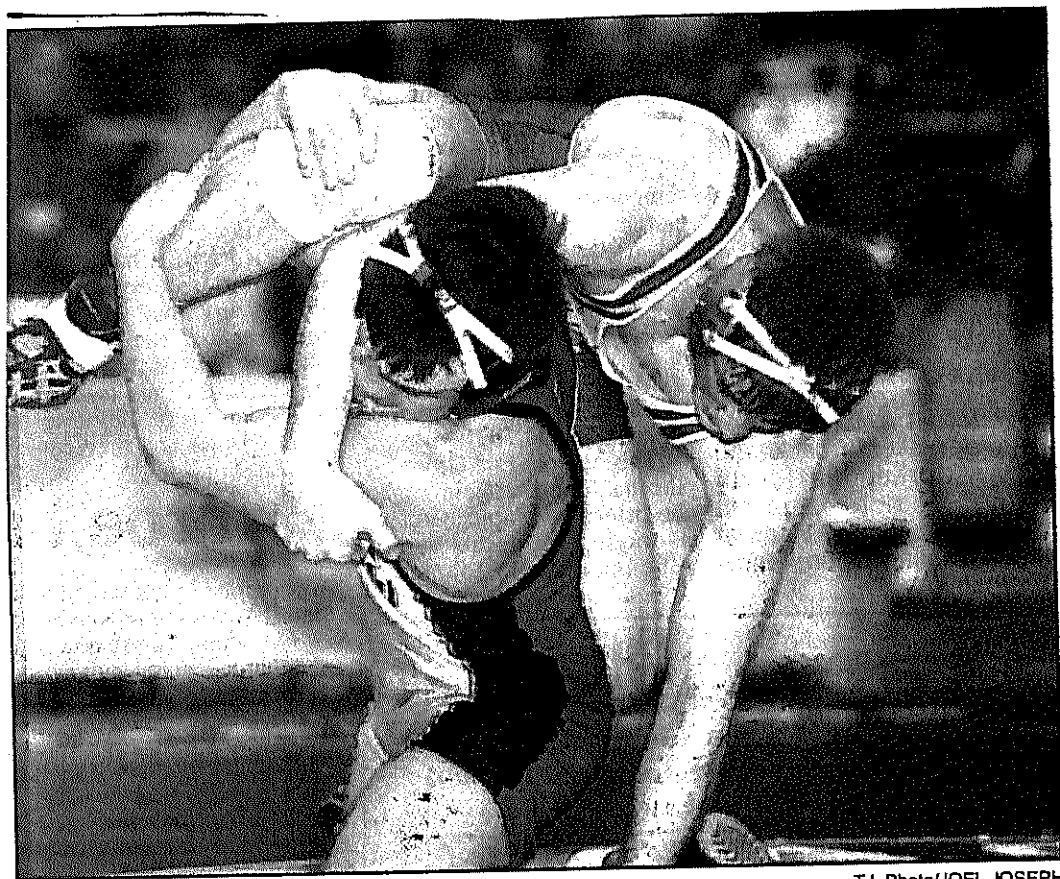
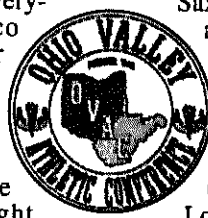
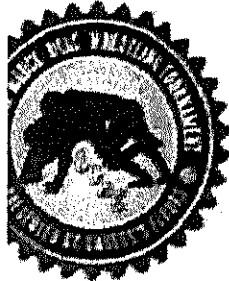
Three local wrestlers have already reached the coveted 100-victory total for their prep careers — Cambridge's Daugherty, Caldwell's Seebach and

Shenandoah's Horn.

Probably the toughest weight class this year is 145 pounds where there are no less than three returning OVAC champions. Mick Nicola of St. John Central, a two-time OVAC champion (last year at 130 pounds), earned the No. 1 seed with a 21-1 record; Caldwell's Seebach was seeded second with a 17-2 mark; and three-time OVAC titlist Zack Schuller of St. Clairsville (last year's 145-pound winner while at Buckeye Local) was relegated to the third seed with a 21-1 record.

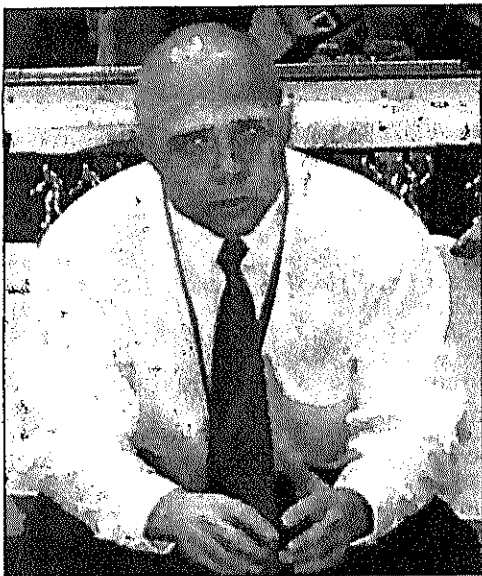
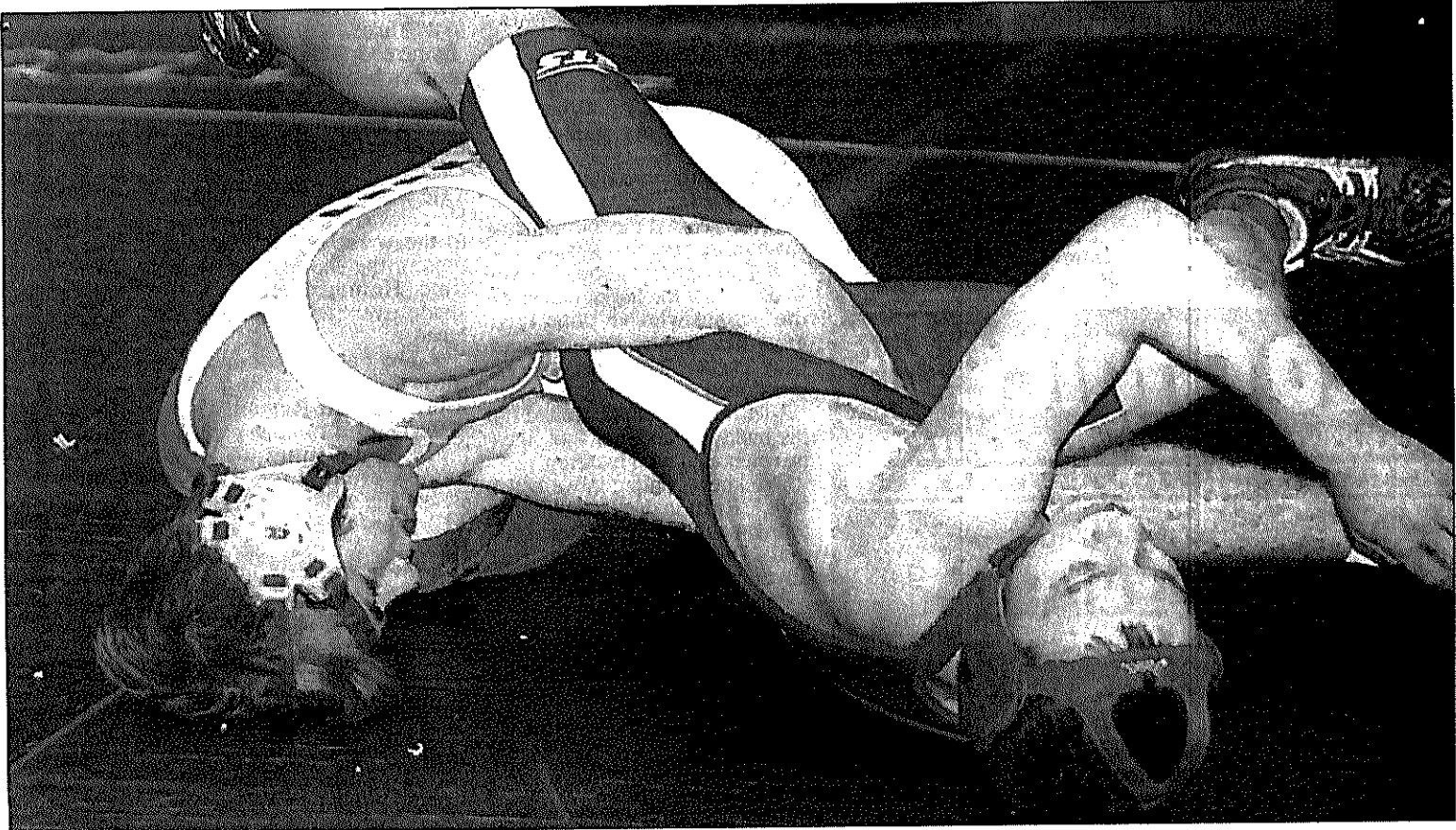
Other returning champions in this year's field are Daniel Felton of Brooke, last year's 103-pound winner seeded fourth at 112 this year; Ronnie Green of Wheeling Park, last year's 119-pound champ who is seeded second at 130; Abbie Rush of Wheeling Park, the 125-pound titlist a year ago and a three-time OVAC champion who is seeded first in that same division; and Rhett Northcraft of Oak Glen, last year's 160-pound

See OVAC page B-4



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Zach Schuller goes for a take down of St. John Central's Mick Nicola during their 145-pound championship match during Saturday's OVAC Wrestling Tournament at WesBanco Arena.



Saturday was an historic night for the Wheeling Park wrestling program at Wes-Banco Arena. Above, Patriot 125-pounder Abbie Rush becomes only the sixth wrestler to win four OVAC titles with a 7-2 victory over Union Local's Chase Clark. At left, Patriot head coach Gene Monteleone roots his Patriots on to a team point record. At right, Buckeye Local's Josh Turnbull (top) defeats The Park's Nick Taylor in the 103-pound final. Wheeling Park advanced five wrestlers to Saturday's championship finals.



Photos by Art Limann

A Rush Job

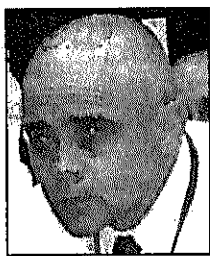
Wheeling Park runs away with OVAC Wrestling championship

By JIM ELLIOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

The way St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller sees it, there will be a day when he and his buddy Abbie Rush are able to think back to the day they turned the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament into a two-man show.

Schuller won't have a hard time remembering how he blitzed through what may have been one of the most competitive weight classes in tournament history and captured the David Bierkortte Award, the award given annually to the tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler.

And Rush won't soon forget



"We know we've got a pretty decent team, there's no doubt about that, but at the OVAC, Wheeling Park goes to wrestle."

Gene Monteleone

how his team ran away with the tournament's overall title in a wire-to-wire effort with a record 263.5 points, well ahead of second-place Oak Glen (193.5), Cambridge (193), Beaver Local

(158.5), and Bellaire St. John (130).

And no doubt, Schuller and Rush will both talk about how they became just the sixth and seventh wrestlers ever to win four

OVAC individual champions, joining Bridgeport's Bobby Douglas (1961), East Liverpool's Mark Emmerling (1989), Edison South's Kelly Shields (1993), Beaver Local's Adam Hoppel (2004), and Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker (2005).

"That's exclusive company," Wheeling Park coach Gene Monteleone said.

Yeah, they'll never forget. "It's going to be fun to look back on this," Schuller said soon after he edged Bellaire St. John's Mick Nicola 3-2 for the 145-pound title.

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WIRE

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That's a matchup that will go down in OVAC wrestling lore like Hoppel against Davia in 2004 or Moxley against Keenan in the early 80s.

Wrestling in a class that featured three former champions, Schuller emerged after topping Caldwell's Justin Seebach, the only wrestler to give Schuller a loss this season, in the semifinals and Nicola in the finals. Between those two, they already owned three OVAC championships, meaning Schuller took what might have been the toughest road ever to an individual OVAC title.

"I loved every second of it," Schuller said. "It makes it that much better knowing you had to beat some of the best guys to win. I used it as a motivator."

Rush had an easier time, so it seemed.

Now sporting a season record of 35-2, Wheeling Park's first ever four-time champion said one of the moves he put on Union Local's Chase Clark (25-3), a takedown and ensuing near fall that accounted for a quick five points, altered the way he carried out his victory in the 125-pound weight class.

"Chase is a tough kid," Rush said. "I've wrestled him before. At first, my goal was to wrestle to pin, but after I got the five-point move, my game plan changed."

"But it did give me room to make a mistake."

In four years at the tournament, Rush made very few mistakes.

"It feels pretty good," Rush said. "I saw the list of names of the people who've done this, guys like Bobby Douglas and Clay Tucker. It's an honor to be mentioned with them."

After he finished, he waited for his buddy to take his shot, then he celebrated with his team.

"We knew coming in we had a shot," Rush said. "It makes this tournament that much more special. The glass isn't half full anymore. It's all the way full."

Park had just two individual champions — Rush and Ronnell Green — but pushed five wrestlers into the finals and had 12 wrestlers finish in sixth-place or better in what proved to be the most dominant performance the tournament has ever seen from one team.

"We know we've got a pretty decent team, there's no doubt about that, but at the OVAC, Wheeling Park goes to wrestle," Monteleone said. "We just always rise to this occasion right here and we put an exclamation point on things."

"We had a goal when we came in and we stuck to that goal. Every time we had a team meeting, I could tell by the look in the guys' eyes that they had a quiet confidence."

The individual class champions were: Wheeling Park (AAAA), Oak Glen (AAA), Barnesville (AA), with 108.5 points, and Bellaire St. John (A).

Individual Matches

■ Buckeye Local senior Justin



Photo by Joel Joseph

St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller, right, battles Bellaire St. John's Mick Nicola during their 145-pound match Saturday night. Schuller won to claim his fourth OVAC crown.

Turnbull, the top seed in a topsy-turvy 103-pound weight class, doubled up Wheeling Park's Nick Taylor 8-4 to win his first OVAC championship.

The weight class featured zero returning place-winners from last year and had two unseeded wrestlers reach the quarterfinals — the only division to have any unseeded wrestlers get that far.

As a result, both Turnbull and Taylor needed to beat just one seeded wrestler along the road to the finals.

In the end, Turnbull proved the coaches had the right man at the top, as he dispatched Taylor (27-8), the first of four consecutive Wheeling Park wrestlers to make the finals.

He was later honored with the Hercules Award, given annually to the wrestler with the most pins in the shortest amount of time. He had three pins in a shade over two minutes combined.

■ The Patriots got their first individual champion after fourth-seeded Ronnell Green (29-3) rallied from an early 2-0 deficit by ripping off seven unanswered points against Beallsville's Jimmy Reisz in the 112-pound title bout.

Reisz (31-2) scored a quick takedown, then had no answer as Green responded with an escape, a takedown, a reversal, and another takedown.

It was the first individual title for Green, who dropped a tough 7-6 decision to Brooke's Daniel Felton in last year's final. Felton wound up third this year.

■ The top seed pulled through again at 119, with Cambridge's Dustin Daugherty (27-4) reversing his fortunes — he finished seventh last year — with a 6-2, reversal-filled victory over Wheeling Park's Stephen Jewell (23-5).

■ Willie Saxton, the top seed at 130, provided Buckeye Local with its second individual champion among the first five bouts when he out-pointed previously unbeaten Derek Caudill of Beaver Local, 18-6 — a major decision indeed.

Saxton (27-1), a senior, won his second OVAC championship. He also won one as a sophomore.

Caudill, the third seed, saw his record fall to 24-1.

■ Bellaire St. John senior Joe

Skoff (22-1) finally got the monkey off his back as he dumped Cambridge's Sean Mahley 5-2 in the 135-pound championship bout. Skoff was a runnerup as a freshman and a sophomore and missed last year's tourney because of illness, meaning he'd waited a long time for that moment.

Skoff jumped ahead with a first-period takedown, brushed off a short-second period rally by Mahley, and posted three points in the third period to earn the title.

■ Indian Creek's James Myers (24-3), the No. 2 seed who was the runner up at 119 last year, helped keep two-time defending champion Oak Glen waiting for its first individual title as he recorded a 4-2 win over top-seed Jessie Mahan in the 140-pound title bout.

Mahan managed a second-period reversal that momentarily gave him the lead, only to watch Myers pick up three points on an escape and a takedown in the third.

■ Martins Ferry's Zach Bowers surprised the 152-pound field — Harrison Central's Brad Brooks in particular — by rising all the way up from the fifth seed to give the Purple Riders their lone individual champion.

In his last three matches, Bowers (20-4) beat the fourth seed, the top seed, and the second seed, a path rarely traveled in OVAC tourney history.

Brooks, also an OVAC runnerup last year, saw his record fall to 21-6.

■ Second-seeded Rhett Northcraft (24-1) of Oak Glen won his second consecutive OVAC title with a great escape.

Hines, the top seed who now has a record of 26-2, rallied to tie the match at five, then Northcraft flipped himself out of harm's way in the third period on his way to a 6-5 victory.

■ At 171, second-seeded Josh Cologie (24-4) handed Buckeye Local its third individual title when he turned a strong third period into a 5-2 win over top-seeded Adam Gibson (32-4).

■ At 189, longtime wrestling power Beaver Local made its presence felt as second-seeded Kyle Reeder upset top seed Bobby Scurlock (27-4) of Cambridge.

Reeder (26-2) rallied big, picking up five third-quarter points

on his way to his first individual title.

■ Shenandoah's John Horn entered the tournament as one of only two seeded and unbeaten wrestlers. After his 8-3 victory over Barnesville's Paul Jefferis (26-4), he left the only one.

Horn, now 29-0, saw his victory highlighted by a pair of strong takedowns in the third period.

The match was dedicated to Jefferis' father Paul, a 175-pound OVAC champion in 1970 who passed away last summer.

■ In the heavyweight division, Jimmy Bowersock (22-1) was still pinning people in the semifinals before he ran into Edison's Jeremiah Hinerman (21-8).

Though Hinerman, the sixth-seed, gave a good effort, Bowersock claimed his first individual title.

Tournament Notes

Prior to the final rounds, River High School's Kyle Rose was honored with a standing ovation by those in attendance as the OVAC recognized him for all he's given to it over the years as a player, teacher, and coach.

Jack Regis 2006 was named the OVAC Official of the Year.

Buckeye Local's Gary Glover won the Syd Stolz Award for scorekeeping.

Park pacing OVAC

• Oak Glen, Barnesville, St. John lead classes

By JEREMY MIDEI
Times Leader Sports Writer

Wheeling Park fans, the fat lady is warming up.

The Patriots -- owners of a 10-point lead over Oak Glen when the sun rose Friday morning -- swelled that advantage to 26 points through Friday's championship quarterfinal and consolation fourth round.

And as the sun set on Friday, so did it set on the Golden Bears' overall title hopes.

Oak Glen's Larry Shaw cited superior numbers when all but conceding victory to coach Gene Monteleone's juggernaut.

"I just don't think we have enough," said Shaw, whose team has nine wrestlers alive compared to Park's 12. "We had a good day, but we needed one or two more guys to come out of the quarterfinals."

"Our concern has shifted from winning the overall title to winning our division."

While the Patriots can't exactly cruise to the title, Monteleone and Co. can breathe a little easier after living up to the hype.

"A lot of people had us tabbed as the pre-tournament favorite, and I think we're wrestling up to those expectations," he said. "Now it's down to the best guys, and every point is critical in these final rounds."



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

BARNESVILLE'S Ryan Stephen is in command of his 119-pound quarterfinal match against Meadowbrook's Travis Harless. Stephen won 10-0 to advance to today's semifinals

With teams now jockeying for position within their own division, each pinfall, each technical fall becomes of the utmost importance.

Well, at least in theory they are, as the division leaders are in front by sizeable margins.

Park owns a commanding 150.5-118 lead over Cambridge in OVAC 4-A; Oak Glen's 124.5-87.5 lead over Martins Ferry is seemingly insurmountable despite a Herculean effort from a young Rider squad; Barnesville has a comfortable 73.5-54 advantage over Caldwell; and the Irish of St. John Central are in control of OVAC 1-A, leading Shadyside 84-55.

Several local teams are perched in the top ten overall: Buckeye Local sits in sixth place; Martins Ferry, seventh; St. John Central, eighth; and the Shamrocks of Barnesville round out the top ten.

Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush and St. Clairville's Zack Schuller are both on track to become the OVAC's sixth and seventh four-time conference champ.

St. Clairville's Schuller set up a semifinal rematch at 145 with Caldwell's Justin

Seebach, who dealt the Red Devil senior a 7-6 setback early in the season.

Schuller dispatched Magnolia's Travis Helmick via pinfall, before dropping a 21-6 bomb on Edison's Nick Stine in the championship quarterfinals.

Rush, meanwhile, continued his walkthrough of 125, pinning Meadowbrook's Taylor Hales and Edison's Brian Potkrajac in a total of 2:21.

Wrestling commenced with 42 local wrestlers still alive in championship action, but that number was sliced nearly in half after the quarterfinals. 23 are still competing for OVAC championships.

None have more than the youthful Riders who boast six wrestlers who will take part in this morning's semifinals. Coach Babe Sidon told his team they'd have to knock off a few competitors they weren't expected to beat, and that's exactly what they did.

A pair of number two seeds fell Friday, both at the hands of Purple Riders.

"The kids are just doing what we as coaches knew they were capable of," said Sidon. "They are starting to believe

they can wrestle at this level, and we're starting to respond as a team for the first time all season."

Prior to Friday night, Taylor Yoder's pre-eminent claim to fame was his family tie to state runner-up Chas Yoder.

Now he can rest on his own laurels as the unheralded freshman knocked off second-seeded Dirk Bauer of Wheeling Central at 103, before picking up a decision over Meadowbrook's Ed Lehotay to advance to the semifinals.

He'll face Wheeling Park's Nick Taylor, the third-seeded wrestler in the class:

"Taylor's a good wrestler, and we knew if we got him on the right line, he could make his way through," said Sidon. "He won a few dogfights and really started the team off."

From 103 to 275: heavy-weight Jeff Coole knocked off Cambridge two-seed Jeff Nicolozakes by 4-2 decision in the quarterfinals.

"Jeff didn't believe he could wrestle at this level," said Sidon, "but now he does and all his hard work is coming to fruition."

Four other Ferrians are
See, OVAC, Page 7

● OVAC

Continued from Page 2

vying for a berth in Saturday evening's finals: sophomore Derrick Holt (125), senior Chad Ware (140), junior Zac Bowers (152) and senior Shane Clark (215).

St. John Central, meanwhile, advanced 40 percent of its wrestlers to this morning's semifinals: top seeds Joe Skoff and Mick Nicola, and three seeds Kayne Melko and Bryan Skoff are still in the hunt for titles.

On back-to-back mats, the elder Skoff and Nicola put on a display of synchronized wrestling. Skoff (135) defeated Bellaire's Chauncey Green, while Nicola (145) was next door taking care of another Big Reds' wrestler, Ross Johnson.

Melko, meanwhile, closed in on his 100th win with a 12-5 victory over Wheeling Park's Ronnie Nelson in the quarters.

Sophomore Bryan Skoff advanced to his semifinal match with Harrison Central's Brad Brooks with a pin of Indian Creek's Craig Johnston.

"If we want to reach our goal, and it's really attainable, we just need to win out," said St. John's Andrew "Chic" LaMotte. "We just need to focus on the matches we have left and step up."

St. John Central's Zack Kosky (130) is also alive in the consolation rounds.

The OVAC 2-A leading Shamrocks have three wrestlers still alive, including top-seeded Bud Hines at 160. Hines picked up a second-period pin of Shenandoah's Justin Rossiter to set up a semifinal matchup with Wheeling Park's Dusty Hill.

Two two-seeds -- Ryan Stephen and Paul Jefferis -- also advanced to the semifinals. Jefferis will match up with Martins Ferry's Clark at 215; Stephen will face Wheeling Park's Stephen Jewell.

Buckeye Local also drops a trio of wrestlers in today's semis.

Willie Saxton will face Wheeling Central's Zach Basich in the penultimate round after pinning Indian Creek's Dylan Pendleton.

103-pound top seed Ryan Turnbull made short work of

his quarterfinal opponent, Brooke's Brent Fluharty. He needed a total of 53 seconds to pin both Fluharty and second-round opponent, Indian Creek's Joe Lawrence.

At 171, Panther senior Josh Cologie will face Beaver Local's Dan Dunn. Cologie won by major decision in the quarters, defeating Oak Glen's T.J. Osbon, 12-3.

Besides Harrison's Brooks, two other Huskies are ready for their shot at a title.

Unseeded Nick Risdon defeated Bellaire's Zack Porter 11-5; he'll face Buckeye's Turnbull in the semis at 103 this morning.

And sixth-seeded Jacob Donley will go toe-to-toe with Oak Glen's Rhett Northcraft in the 160-

pound semifinals.

Union Local advanced two wrestlers, and both happen to be named Clark.

Chaz Clark defeated Bellaire's Erik Canter 11-5 after leading only 2-1 through one period. He'll face Cambridge top seed Dustin Daugherty in the semis at 119.

And Chase Clark defeated Shadyside freshman Johnny Merryman in a hard-fought match at 125.

The two wrestlers traded points until the third period when, with the score tied at 6, Clark took down Merryman and picked up three back points for an 11-6 victory.

The victory pits the younger Clark against fellow sophomore, Martins Ferry's Holt.

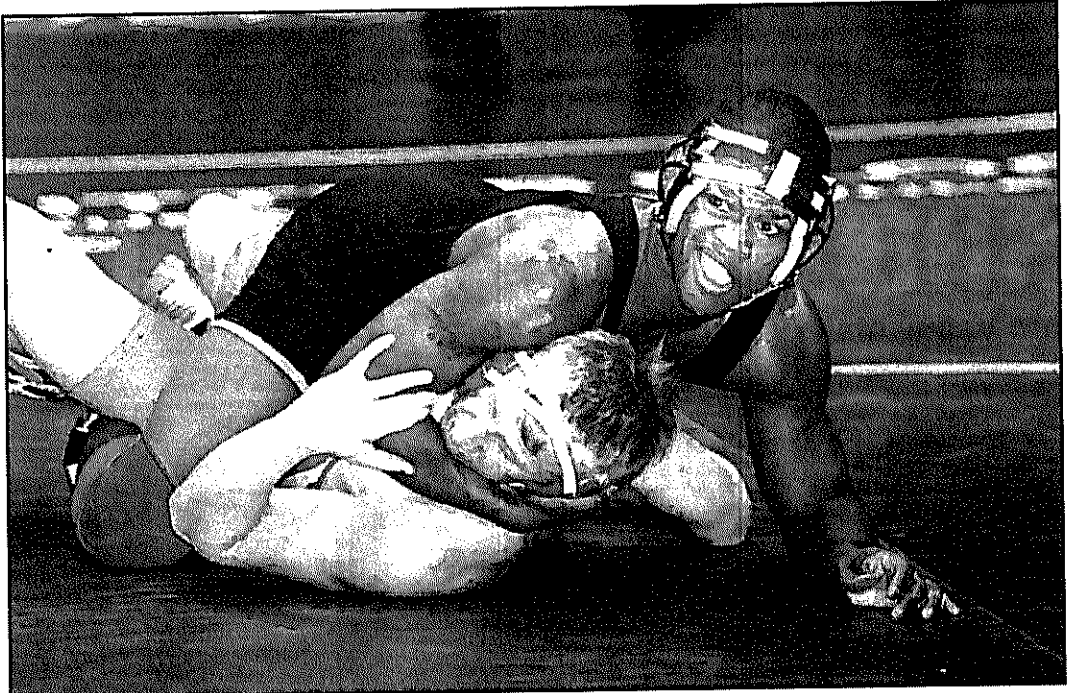
Beallsville's Jimmy Reisz continued to cut a wide swath through the field at 112. After pinning Levi Seebach of Caldwell in the second round, the Blue Devil sophomore tech felled Edison's Zack Delguzzi, 16-1.

He's now 30-1 on the season and will face Oak Glen three-seed Ethan Dray.

Bellaire was the hard-luck team of the day: the Big Reds of Shane Shaffer advanced seven wrestlers to Friday evening's quarterfinals, but all fell in the round.

The semifinals commence at noon today with the finals slated for 6 p.m.

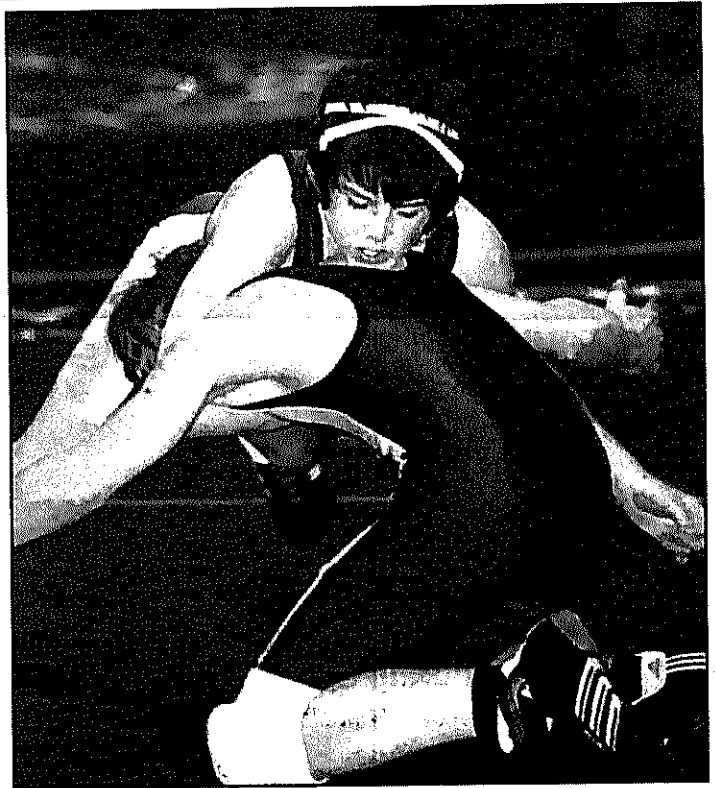
The presentation of the Mr. Mat and the Bierkorte Awards will take place this evening.



ABOVE: Harrison Central's Brad Brooks goes for the pin of Union Local's Allen Gray during their 152-pound quarterfinal Friday night. Brooks didn't get the pin, but managed a 17-1 technical fall.

AT RIGHT: Martins Ferry's Taylor Yoder works for leverage against Meadowbrook's Ed Lehotay. Yoder -- an unseeded wrestler -- advanced to today's 103-pound semifinals by knocking off two seeded wrestlers during Friday's action.

T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH



SPORTS

Mauck OVAC Tourney under way

• Park scores 49 to take early lead

By JEREMY MIDEI
Times Leader Sports Writer

Barely scratching the surface. That's what the first round of the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament does. It whets the appetite of wrestling aficionados, but little more.

The plots, the subplots, the story lines that make the tournament what it is have little time to emerge during Thursday's first round.

"The really crucial matches are on Friday morning and Friday night," said Wheeling Park's Gene Monteleone.

But one story surfaced immediately Thursday: the dominance of the Patriots and of potential four-time winner, St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller.

So how well did Day One go for Wheeling Park?

"Pretty well," understated Monteleone, whose team owns a 10-point lead over Oak Glen. "It's a low-pressure day. The fewer surprises, the more mundane it is, the better for us."

"The first day is all about moving as many wrestlers through to day two."

Mission accomplished for the Patriots: they lived up to the hype of being pre-tournament favorites by advancing 13 of 14 wrestlers into Friday's second round.

Abbie Rush, the vaunted 125-pounder questing for his fourth OVAC title, opened his title defense with a 25-second pin of Wellsville's Andrew Gibbs.

At 112, top-seeded Ronell Green bolstered the Patriots' title hopes with an opening round pin of John Marshall's Skip Ingram. And brother, Ronnie -- the second-seeded wrestler at 130 -- also won via pinfall.

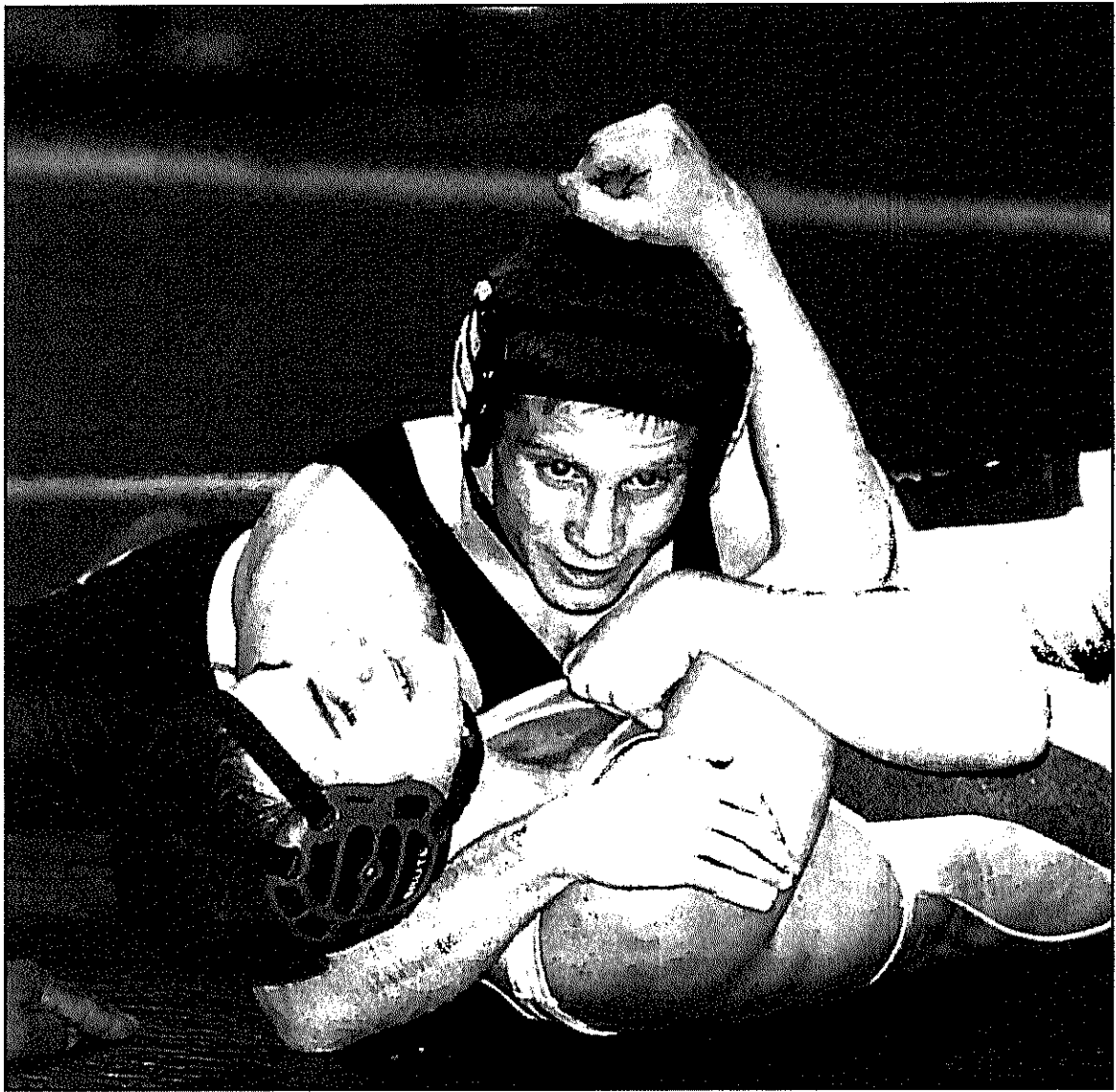
Wheeling Park's final top seed, Adam Gibson at 171, pinned Shenandoah's Josh Oppenheimer in 57 seconds.

Only one team had the kryptonite to the Patriots' Supermak, and lo and behold, it was ultra-rival Oak Glen. The Golden Bears' Joel Timmons knocked off eight-ranked Heath Beecher, 6-2.

"Heath's a light 145-pounder, and Coach (Larry) Shaw put Timmons on the line," said Monteleone. "He knew what he was doing."

"Joel's a two-time state qualifier," said

See, OVAC, Page B2

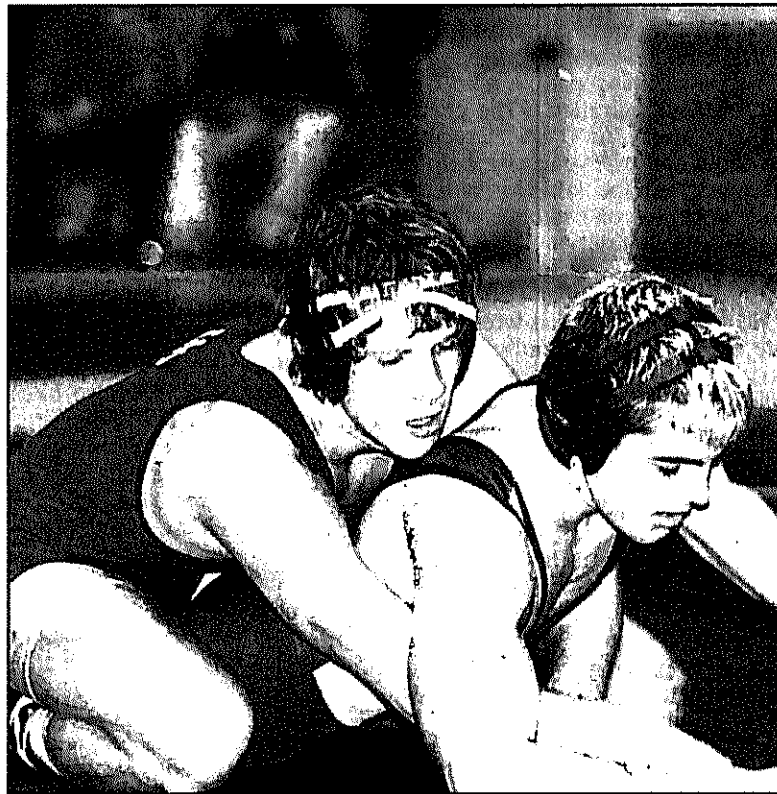


ABOVE: Buckeye Local senior Willie Saxton scores a pin against East Liverpool's Dennis Caldwell at the 1:03 mark of the first period during Thursday's OVAC tournament first round.

AT RIGHT: Martins Ferry's Chase Tucker works for leverage against Wheeling Central's Doug Pell during Thursday's 145-pound match. Tucker prevailed in the match.

BELOW: Beallsville's Jimmy Reisz scores points against East Liverpool's Cagney Springer during their 112-pound first round match at the OVAC Tournament. Reisz prevailed via technical fall.

T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

MONROE CENTRAL's Mike English controls his match against Tyler's Chris Lemasters. English prevailed Thursday.



From The Pressbox

Mauck fees honored y undeservi



By SETH STAS
Times Leader Sports

Many consider C Kovalick the father of Valley wrestling.

The same people call Bobby Douglas as Ohio wrestling's favorite son.

Then where does the Ron Mauck fit in?

Maybe an uncle?

We'll leave the title up to wrestling historians, no matter what their final says, Mauck is a heavy in the sport and no one would dispute that.

According to Mauck, the only link to the aforementioned duo is the fact that all three are graduates of Bridgeport School.

"You can't put me in the same sentence with those guys (Kovalick and Douglas), Mauck said. "I am no close to those guys. They are a plateau all by themselves."

However, the higher the Ohio Valley Area Conference must have been somewhere in the area seeing the conference renamed its annual wrestling tournament after Mauck in 1977, calling it the Ron Mauck Wrestling Championship.

The announcement of a name change came in November and was a surprise to Mauck who has been associated with the OVAC since his coaching at Follansbee High School in 1967 when he began his career.

"I had no idea that I was going to be renamed (in honor)," Mauck said. "I was in total shock that night actually don't feel comfortable with it."

The reason for Mauck's uneasiness is the fact that the OVAC tournament has been around since the early 1900s and many great people have come through the (Ohio Valley) Wrestling family.

If you trace Mauck's lineage like most wrestling veterans, you trace back to Kovalick who coached Mauck at Bridgeport and at West Liberty.

"I was very fortunate to have Coach K from seventh grade the way through college," Mauck said. "My parents

See, MAUCK, Page B2

SPORTS

Friday, January 20, 2006

SIDE

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Mauck scores 49
points in early lead

By MIDEI
Sports Writer

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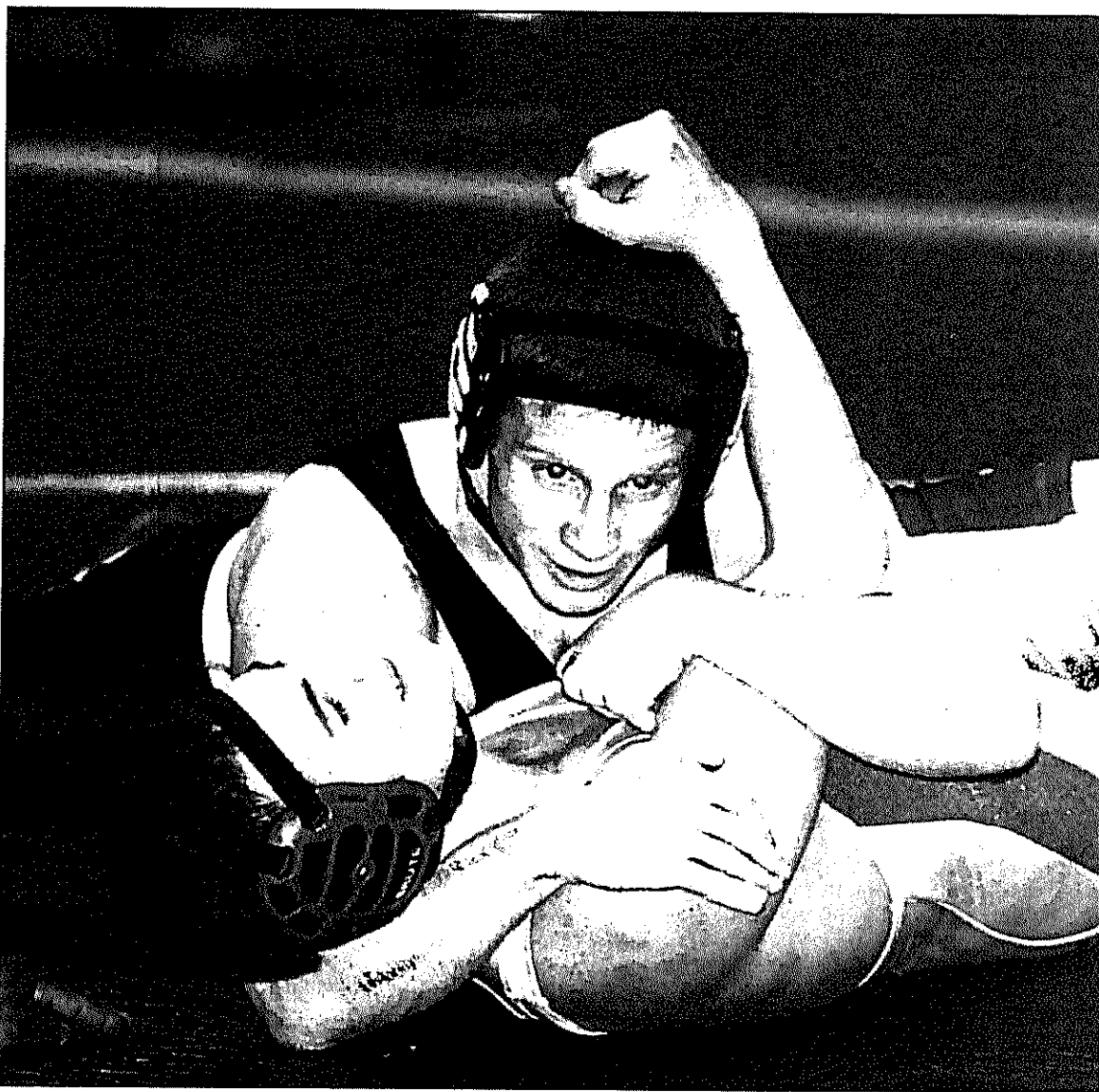
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See, OVAC, Page B2

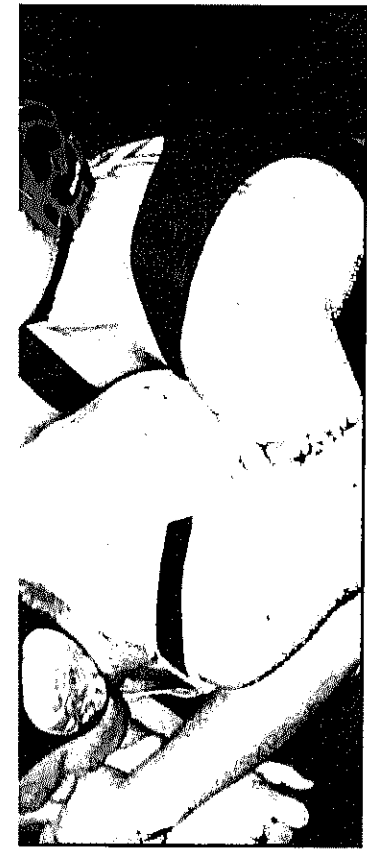
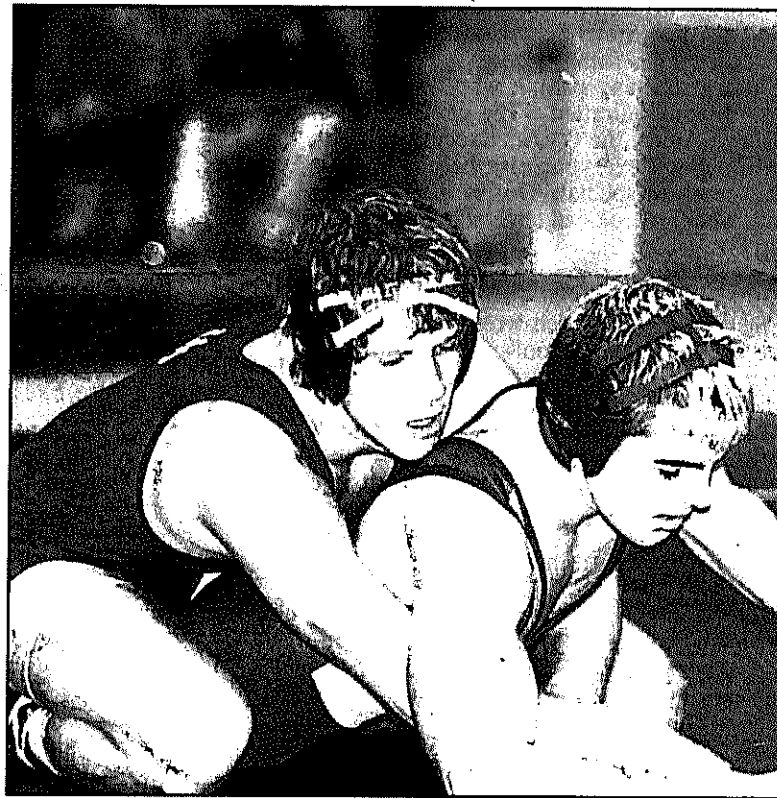


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T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH



From The
Pressbox

Mauck feels
honored yet
undeserving



By
**SETH
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Times Leader
Sports Writer

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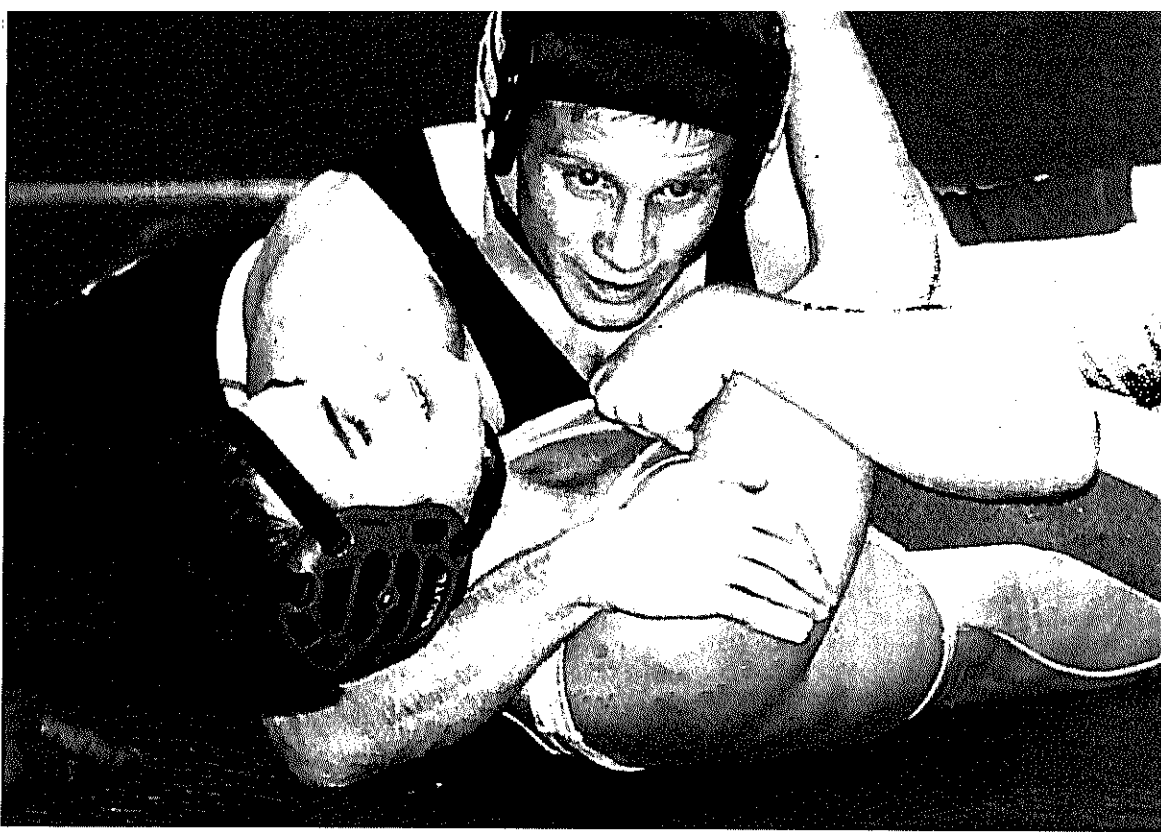
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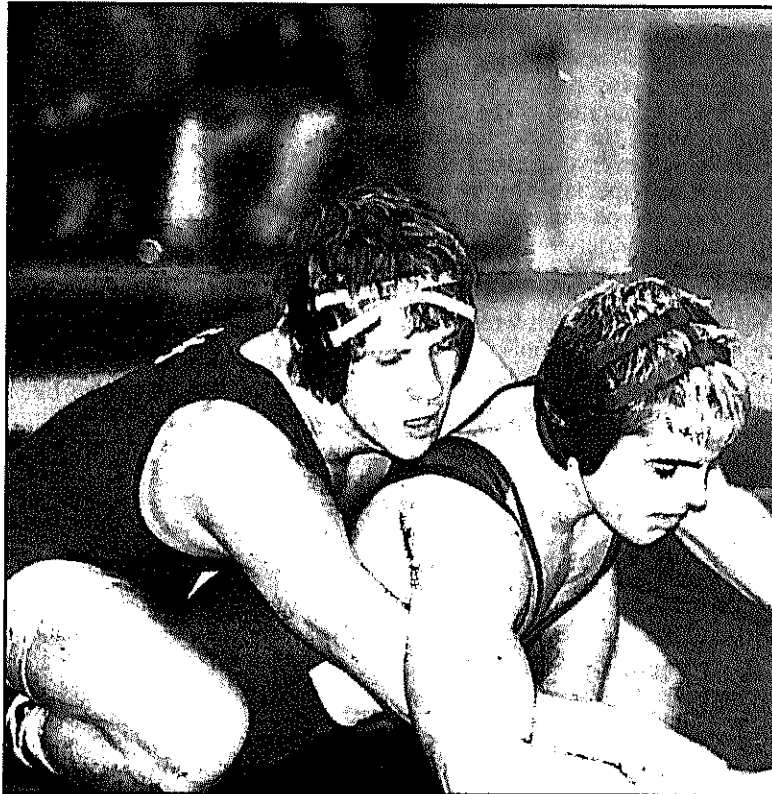


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T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH
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Continued from Page B1



By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader
Sports Writer

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See, **MAUCK**, Page B2

C. girls drill Martins Ferry

JK
Sports Writer

that enter "The Stage"
High School consider it difficult to play on.
sn't the norm Thursday rsville (11-3) as its Lady e out to stomp the Lady l aspects of the game 69-

hed games in this gym- years old and that had to embarrassing perform- Ferry team has ever put Martins Ferry coach Dave it was my fault. We were bit. We weren't prepared e. We weren't prepared ve were just not prepared tonight."

Devils came out playing ve press knocking Ferry ff the scoreboard as they 19-2 run. St. Clairsville

junior Kayla Pickano finished the first quarter with 11 points while teamate Missy Gossett tallied eight points from the inside.

In the first quarter alone Martins Ferry recorded 16 turnovers that led to most of the Lady Red Devils fast break efforts. The Lady Riders finished the game with a season high 39 turnovers.

"You aren't going to beat anyone with 39 turnovers. Our goal was 15. We thought if we committed 15 we'd win. The first four minutes of the game we killed that goal," Reasbeck said in disgust after adding up the turnovers on the stat

sheet.

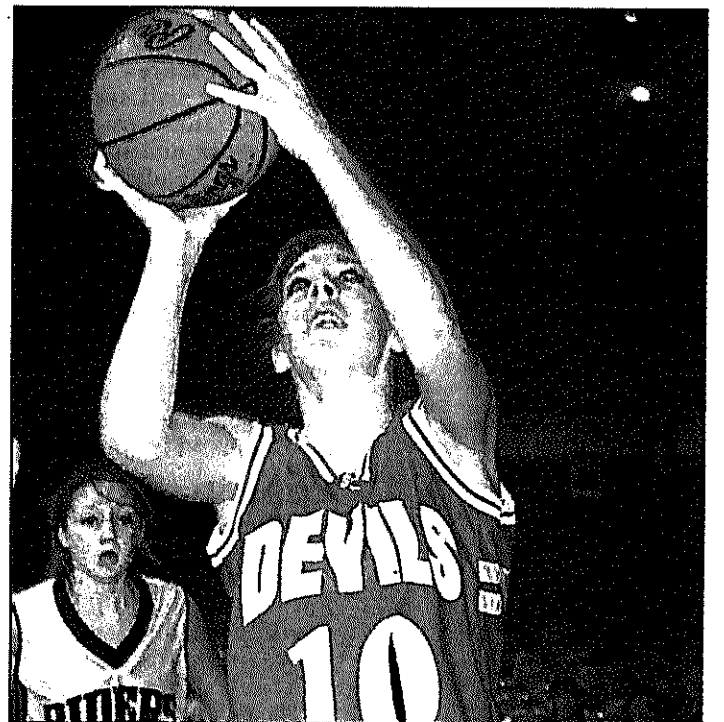
"I thought we did a tremendous job defensively," St. Clairsville coach Mickey Blatnick commented following the game. "When you can shut down a good Ferry team that we've seen several times you are doing something, and I think we took them out of their tempo, we took them out of their offense and I thought defensively we did a great job."

The second quarter wasn't looking much better for the Lady Riders as St. Clairsville's Olivia Pokas came out nailing a three-point bucket to set the tempo. The rest of the Lady Red Devils took the hint as Gossett scored the next nine points her self en route to a 16-4 Red Devil run.

Going into the intermission the Lady Red Devils had an astounding 22 point lead, 42-20.

In the third St. Clairsville kept itself on pace on a quick 8-0 run before the Lady Riders finally got some offense going for

See, **DEVILS**, Page B2



T-L Photo/MIKE HARVILLA

ST. CLAIRSVILLE senior Missy Gossett goes up for a shot during Thursday's game at Martins Ferry.



OVAC Results

TEAM SCORES: 1. Wheeling Park, 49; 2. Oak Glen, 39.5; 3. Cambridge, 34; 4. Beaver Local, 33; 5. St. John Central, 27; 6. John Marshall, 26; 7. Bellaire, 25; 8. Shadyside, 24; 9. Buckeye Local, 23.5; 9. Martins Ferry, 23.5; 11. Barnesville, 22; 12. Caldwell, 21; 13. Edison, 20; 14. Monroe Central, 18; 15. Beallsville, 15.5; 16. Tyler Consolidated, 14; 17. Conotton Valley, 12; 17. River, 12; 19. Union Local, 10.5; 20. Magnolia, 10; 20. Shenandoah, 10; 20. St. Clairsville, 10; 23. Brooke, 9; 23. Meadowbrook, 9; 25. East Liverpool, 8; 25. Indian Creek, 8; 25. Steubenville, 8; 25. Weir, 8; 25. Wheeling Central, 8; 30. Harrison Central, 7.5; 31. Cameron, 4; 31. Wellsville, 4.
103 - Justin Turnbull (BL) pinned Bryan Crozier (Shady), .33; Ed Lechay (Meadow) pinned Matt Kinney (Cam), .25; Dirk Bauer (WC) pinned Eric Beck (JM), 2:46; Zack Porter (Bell) pinned Derrick Barney (Steub), 2:36; Justin Armann (River) pinned J.T. Vrotsos (St.C.), :19; Ryan Ashbury (OG) pinned Jake Foster (SJC), 4:24; Brent Fluharty (Brooke) dec. Mitch Vincent (Beav), 7-0; Nick Taylor (WP) pinned Patrick Bartz (SCC), 1:33.
112 - Ronell Green (WP) pinned Skip Ingram (JM), .27; Daniel Felton (Brooke) pinned Michael Glover (TC), 1:05; Ethan Dray (OG) pinned Mike Kondjorsky (BL), 1:55; Jimmy Haisz (Beal) tech. fall Gagny Springer (EL), 17-2; Justin Possiter (Mead) maj. dec. Angelo Iachini (Steub), 13-2.
119 - Dustin Daugherty (Camb) pinned Josh Foose (WC), 3:09; Jeremy Howard (JM) pinned Kyle Waramsky (Cam), 3:58; Troy Eckleberry (OG) pinned Greg Chyn (SJC), 3:55; Chaz Clark (UL) tech. fall Justin McConnell (Ed), 15-0; Erik Canter (Bell) pinned Joe Coil (EL), 5:15; Julian Yost (TC) pinned Josh Blackstone (MC), .54; Jeff Trigg (Shad) pinned Cody Moore (Beall), 2:40; Ryan Stephen (Barn) pinned Brian Polesinski (IC), 2:24; Jared Border (Cald) tech. fall George Heinicks (River), 17-2; Mike Slaga (BL) dec. Nick Oberdick (St.C.), 11-4; Stephen Jewell (WP) maj. dec. Ben Giles (Brooke), 11-2; Ethan King (Mead) dec. Josh Glasura (Weir), 10-4.
125 - Abbie Rush (WP) pinned Andrew Gibbs (Wells), .25; Derrick Holt (MF) pinned Alex Morales (Steub), .55; Jon Ray (Camb) pinned Robert Smith (TC), 2:51; Kurt Peterson (EL) tech. fall Paden Potts (OG), 17-2; Larry Williams (Beav) dec. Eian Landis (JC), 3-0; Johnny Merryman (Shad) pinned Cory Farry (Cam), 2:49; Jim McFarland (Brooke) maj. dec. Josh Coil (Ed), 9-0; Zac Androsko (St. C.) pinned George Cavanaugh (SCC), 1:07; Chase Clark (UL) maj. dec. P.J. Thomas (River), 19-8; Brian Potkrajac (Ed) pinned Carl Pifer (SJC), 5:29.
130 - Wally Saxton (BL) pinned Dennis Caldwell (EL), 1:03; Derek Caudill (Beaver) pinned Zach Howarth (Steub), 1:05; Dan Ray (Camb) pinned Brandon Talbot (SCC), 1:10; Kyle Maynard (CV) pinned Caleb Price (Meadow), 4:57; Troy Wabie (Tyler) pinned Dustin Leisure (Shen), 3:06; Zack Kosky (SJC) maj. dec. Preston Andrews (OG), 11-3; Sam Yockey (St.C.) dec. Dustin Pratt (HC), 6-0; Ronnie Green (WP) pinned Darryl Ruzza (JM), 1:24; Tim Zoc (MF) dec. Blake Widman (Ed), 10-8; K.J. Furbee (Shady) pinned Jonathan Pkuyysena (Wells), .27; Zach Basich (WC) pinned Tyler Campston (Cam), 5:24.
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THE RON MAUCK OVAC Wrestling Tournament directors presented Mauck with an award honoring him for his years of services to the tournament as well as the name change. From left, are Rich McCardle, Mauck, Bill Hinegardner and Dan Doyle.

Mauck

Continued from Page B1

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"To have something named after you when there are so many people that make it happen it makes you feel so humble," Mauck said. "I was happy just the way it was because I don't like change to begin with, and I really don't feel deserving."

Though Mauck's name now dawns the OVAC Wrestling Tournament for the rest of eternity, he understands it's still about the staff he's got working with him.

"I guess they wanted to put someone's name and for some reason they picked me, but I have been blessed and honored to have such a great group of guys working with me," Mauck said.

Mauck would much rather put names like Dan Doyle, Bill Hinegardner, John Stephenson, Rich McCardle, Gene Monteleone, David Monteleone and Steve Schaffer on the tournament's banner.

"There's so many people who do so many things," Mauck admitted. "The people here at WesBanco Arena, the OVAC Executive Board, the schools and everyone else help make this (tournament) so special. This is like a homecoming week, so you can understand why I feel so humble and undeserving."

Mauck has been a loyal member of the OVAC's family since that 1967 wrestling season. He went ON to coach wrestling at Brooke before becoming the school's athletic director. He served as the game director for the Rudy Mumley All-Star Charity Football Classic and still serves on the committee for that as well as the wrestling tournament.

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"I give St. Clairsville credit they beat us every possible way they could beat us," Reasbeck said.

"I knew we wouldn't quit though. We have fighters, but you can't get down in a hole like that against a good team like that. I never thought we

OVAC

Continued from Page B1

Shaw. "He's been around for awhile, and we were hoping he'd make us look good."

Not that Shaw needs someone to do that. The Golden Bears advanced 11 wrestlers to this morning's second round.

"The critical matches start today. The goal is just to get as many wrestlers through to Saturday as you can and pick up a few bonus points along the way."

Oak

Glen's lone one-seed, Jessie Mahan, won his opening-round match at 140. Rhett Northcraft, the defending champ at 152, also opened the tournament with a victory.

Schuller, meanwhile, started his title defense with a pin of Shadyside's Luke Horvath. Schuller is the third-seeded wrestler at 145, his lone blemish on the season a 7-6 decision at the hands of second-seeded Justin Seebach of Caldwell.

St. John Central's Mick Nicola is the top seed in the class.

And speaking of the Irish, St. John Central reside in fifth place behind big-school powers Park, Oak Glen, Cambridge and Beaver Local. And all five Irish seeds -- as well as two unseeded wrestlers -- advanced to this morning's second round.

Seniors Nicola, Joe Skoff and Kayne Melko led the way for the Irish, each winning via pinfall.

Nicola's weight class (145) features one of the riveting story lines of this OVAC tournament. Three defending OVAC champions reside in the weight class, including St. Clairsville's Schuller.

Nicola, the top-seeded wrestler in class improved to 22-1 with a victory over Monroe Central's Nathan McCounaghy. The Irish senior is looking for his third OVAC title.

Skoff picked up a takedown of Martins Ferry's Eric Mellucci and turned it into a 36-second pin in the first round match at 135.

Melko, meanwhile, pinned Harrison Central's Daniel Nunner in the second period. Melko is ranked third at 140 pounds.

Seeded sophomores Zack Kosky and Bryan Skoff also advanced to the second round. Skoff -- the third seed at 152 -- pinned Wheeling Central's Adam Parsons, while Kosky -- ranked sixth at 130 -- won by major decision over Oak Glen's Preston Andrews.

Two other Irishmen -- Jeff Zawisa (189) and Wendell Habig (215) -- advanced to this morning's championship round.

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UNION LOCAL'S Carl Perkins a takedown on Barnes Messenger during the final Thursday's 145-pound match. the upset of Messenger who seed in the weight class.

The 103-lb wide open; nar returns from a

At 112 lb Daniel Felton start after Consolidated's in 1:05. For OVAC title at season.

Also with an OVAC crown Jimmy Reisz Liverpool's C setting up a match with C Seebach. Reisz seed at 112.

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Others top s are Cambric Scurlock (189) John Horn (21) Local's Jimm (275). Only four s were knocked c

Foster (SJC), 4:24; Brent Fluharty (Brooke) dec. Mitch Vincent (Beav), 7-0; Nick Taylor (WP) pinned Patrick Bortz (SJC), 1:23.

112 - Ronell Green (WP) pinned Skip Ingram (JM), 2:27; Daniel Felton (Brooke) pinned Michael Glover (TC), 1:05; Ethan Dray (OG) pinned Mike Kendzior (BL), 1:55; Jimmy Feisz (Beal) tech. fall Cagney Springer (EL), 17-2; Justin Rossiter (Mead) maj. dec. Angelo Iachini (Staub), 13-2.

119 - Dustin Dougherty (Camb) pinned Josh Foose (WC), 3:09; Jeremy Howard (JM) pinned Kyle Warsinsky (Cam), 3:58; Troy Eckleberry (OG) pinned Greg Cavin (SJC), 3:55; Chaz Clark (UL) tech. fall Justin McConnell (Ed), 15-0; Erik Carter (Beal) pinned Joe Goli (EL), 5:15; Julian Yost (TC) pinned Josh Blackstone (MC), 5:4; Jeff Tragg (Shad) pinned Cody Moore (Beal), 2:40; Ryan Stephen (Barn) pinned Brian Poline (IC), 2:24; Jared Border (Cald) tech. fall George Heinicke (River), 17-2; Mike Slaga (BL) dec. Nick Oberdick (SLC), 11-4; Stephen Jewell (WP) maj. dec. Ben Gies (Brooke), 11-2; Ethan King (Mag) dec. Josh Glasura (Weir), 10-4.

125 - Abbie Rush (WP) pinned Andrew Gibbs (Wells), 2:5; Derrick Holt (MF) pinned Alex Morales (Staub), 5:5; Jon Ray (Camb) pinned Robert Smith (TC), 2:51; Kurt Peterson (BL) tech. fall Paden Potts (OG), 17-2; Larry Williams (Beav) dec. Eian Landis (IC), 3-0; Johnny Menyman (Shad) pinned Cory Parry (Cam), 2:49; Jim McFarland (Brooke) maj. dec. Josh Coil (Ed), 9-0; Zac Androsko (St. C.) pinned George Cavanaugh (SJC), 1:07; Chase Clark (UL) maj. dec. P.J. Thomas (River), 19-8; Brian Polkrajac (Ed) pinned Carl Piper (SJC), 5:29.

130 - Willie Saxton (BL) pinned Dennis Caldwell (EL), 1:03; Derek Casidini (Beaver) pinned Zach Howarth (Staub), 1:05; Dan Ray (Camb) pinned Brendan Talbot (SJC), 1:10; Kyle Maynard (CV) pinned Caleb Price (Meadow), 4:57; Troy Wable (Tyler) pinned Dustin Leasure (Shen), 3:06; Zack Kosky (SJC) maj. dec. Preston Andrews (OG), 11-3; Sam Yockey (St. C.) dec. Dustin Pratt (HF), 5-0; Ronnie Green (WP) pinned Danny Ruza (JM), 1:24; Tim Zoc (MF) dec. Blake Widman (Ed), 10-8; K.J. Furbee (Shady) pinned Jonathan Plupjajena (Wells), 2:7; Zach Basich (WC) pinned Tyler Cumpston (Cam), 5:24.

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189 - Bobby Scurlock (Camb) pinned Ben Lahotay (Meadow), 4:9; Brad Ensell (IC) pinned Zach Hoskinson (Beal), 2:32; Brandon Rickman (JM) pinned Levi Holcomb (St. C.), 2:5; Jacob Kufin (Staub) pinned Josh Richardson (Ed), 1:46; Brian Grear (Barnes) pinned Steven Woodford (MF), 4:6; Samson Gianessi (Weir) pinned Thomas Moore (Shen), 4:43; Josh Greathouse (OG) pinned Alan Kane (Mag), 4:1; Matt Hill (WP) pinned Corey Duke (BL), 1:15; Jerry Kahl (Shady) pinned Kory VanCamp (River), 5:4; Schuyler Bondy (MC) pinned Marco Cao (WC), 1:43; Jeff Zawisa (SJC) pinned Holden Roberts (TC), 4:01; Derrick Hesson (Cald) pinned Logan Koehler (Beal), 3:42; Kyle Reeder (Beaver) pinned James Boreman (HC), 2:42.

215 - Wendell Habig (SJC) pinned Donovin Fletcher (Staub), 4:56; Shane Clark (MF) pinned Ben Dodds (HC), 2:2; Mike Matuskis (River) pinned Grey Rayburn (Wells), 2:48; John Horn (Shen) pinned Zack Clegg (Beal), 2:9; Bryan Rowland (OG) pinned Artie Talbot (EL), 4:5; Issiah Kotson (Mag) pinned Christian Wolfe (Meadow), 3:50; Tommy Kettlewell (WP) pinned Anthony Faldowski (EL), 4:15; Adam Kamzigg (Beal) won by default over John Ruszkowski; Taylor Potts (JM) pinned Martin McCallister (Ed), 1:57; Paul Jeffers (Barnes) pinned Brian Ware (IC), 3:7; Mike English (MC) pinned Chris LeMasters (TC), 5:12; Justin Britnell (Camb) dec. Mike Mankowski (Weir), 3-2; Thomas Shenkel (Cald) dec. Trent Akon (Brooke), 11-4; Thad Solick (BL) dec. Adam Macy (UL), 12-1.

275 - Jimmy Bowersock (Beaver) won by forfeit; John Nicolozakis (Shen) pinned Corey Parsons (WC), 1:10; Ralph Petralia (Staub) pinned Danny Dishman (Cam), 1:09; Eric Diagosto (EL) pinned Shane Gray (St. C.), 5:7; Jeff Cooie (MF) dec. David Collins (OG), 7-1; Dustin Bruce (Beal) pinned Drake Kowcheck (Brooke), 2:58; Jeremiah Hinerman (Ed) pinned Andreas Gad (BL), 1:21; Brett Taylor (WP) won by injury default over Brett Traylor (WP).

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Continued from Page B1

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● Devils

Continued from Page B1

them as they went on a 17-4 run.

Ferry's Darcy Rusiecki nailed the first of her two threes of the night. She also scored 12 of the 17 points on the only Ferry offensive run of the night. She finished the game with 18 points and 10 boards.

"Our pressure is our big thing and we throw a lot of different pressures at you. Tonight we had something designed that we thought would work and it did. Our kids were ready to play," Blatnick said.

Going into the fourth thing were starting to look bright for the Lady Riders, but they would go back into their earlier slump scoring only five points in the final quarter compared to St. Clairsville's 15 to end the shamble of a game.

"Offensively, in the first

half I was real satisfied; we got steals and we finished. Defensively in the second half they rose up a bit and came back, but that's Ferry athletes...they're going to battle you buzzer to buzzer," Blatnick said.

Pickana finished the game as the high scorer with 27 points and Gossett added 25. The Lady Devils found points on the board from nine different players in the victory.

"Kayla (Pickana) is out there in front of the press. She is going to get a lot of steals and fast break baskets," Blatnick commented. Gossett is our go player on our offense. We set her inside and we move her to where we think she can score. She has developed great shooting and the rest of them score off of her."

"My family has been supportive of me through everything," Mauck said.

Since all good things must come to an end eventually, the Mauck reign as the OVAC tournament director will eventually end as well, but not even Mauck is sure when.

"I have said it's until death do us part, so Tom Rataiczak has me in a tough spot," Mauck smiled. "As I get older, it takes me a little while longer to recover from it, so it's hard for me to say. I probably won't ever step all the way back from the OVAC tournament."

SETH'S SCOOPS

• **IT WASN'T** A totally good day for Mauck and his trusted staff. When they arrived at WesBanco Arena, there were platforms, but no mats. Due to the Sesame Street show that was in Wheeling on Tuesday and Wednesday mats weren't able to be put down until Thursday morning.

"We had two days work in one day plus the wrestling," Mauck said. "Big Bird was in control for two days, but it was worth it because the young kids had a great time."

• **MAUCK** knows a little bit about basketball as well seeing he used to play one-on-one with fellow 1958 Bridgeport graduate John Havlicek.

"John was a neat guy and you would have never known he was as good an athlete as he was," Mauck said.

• **AS FOR THIS YEAR'S** tournament, Mauck thinks it's a two-horse race between Wheeling Park and Oak Glen for the title.

"I think if Park's kids stay focused they got a pretty good shot," Mauck said. "But, you know Larry Shaw has his kids ready."

• **MAUCK** also likes St. Clairsville's Zach Schuller and Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush's chances for a fourth consecutive title.

"If those kids stay focused it can happen," Mauck said. "As time progresses and these kids understand what they want and are focused, they know they can do it with a little bit of luck."

• **WITH NO** snow in the forecast for the entire weekend, it's another hurdle that the tournament staff shouldn't have to deal with seeing last year's event was pushed back to Monday for the finals.

• **BEFORE** wrestling began, two special presentations were made. Buckeye Local graduate Troy Fetty was named junior high coach of the year. Cambridge's Mark Bartlett was named reserve coach of the year.

• **THE SCHOOLS** once again entered the area floor via the Olympic-like procession during the opening ceremonies.

Seth Staskey can be reached via email at staskey@timesleaderonline.com

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O a k

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Epstein returning to Red Sox

BOSTON (AP) - The Boston Red Sox still need a shortstop and a center fielder. They brought back the guy who can find them.

Theo Epstein will return to the team he built into a World Series winner, he and the team said Thursday night.

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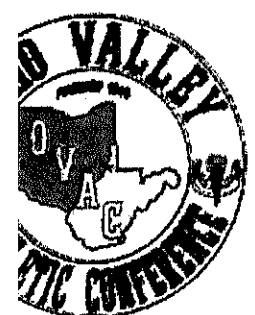
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The Ron I OVA Wrestling Tournament 200

Complete Results & Pictures

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OVAC Results

1: 1. Wheeling Park, 49; 2. Oak Glen, 34; 3. Beaver Local, 33; 5. St. Clairsville, 26; 7. Bellairs, 25; 24; 8. Buckeye Local, 23.5; 9. Martins Ferry, 22; 12. Caldwell, 21; 13. Harrison Central, 16; 15. Beallsville, 14; 17. Conotton Valley, 12; 19. Union Local, 10.5; 20. Magnolia, 10; 20. St. Clairsville, 10; 23. Meadowbrook, 9; 25. East Liverpool, 8; 26. 8; 25. Steubenville, 8; 25. Walz, 8; 30. Harrison Central, 7.5; 31. Wellsville, 4.

Turnbull (BL) pinned Bryan Crozier (OG) 1:10; Ed Lehotay (Meadow) pinned Matt Baser (WC) 2:45; Dirk Bauer (WC) pinned Eric Beck (Porter) 3:55; Justin Armann (River) pinned J.T. Asbury (OG) 1:19; Ryan Asbury (OG) pinned Jake Brent Fluharty (Brooke) dec. 1:24; Nick Taylor (WP) pinned Patrick Green (WP) 1:32.

Daugherty (Camb) pinned Josh Foose (Brooke) 1:10; Dan Ray (Camb) pinned Brendan (V) 1:10; Kyle Maynard (CV) pinned Caleb (V) 4:57; Troy Wable (Tyler) pinned (SJC) 3:06; Zack Kosky (SJC) maj. Andrews (OG), 11:3; Sam Yockey (SJC) 1:10; Ronnie Green (SJC) 1:24; Tim Zoc (MF) 1:10; Ethan King (SJC) 1:10; Zach Basich (SJC) 1:10.

Mahan (OG) pinned Terina Miller (SJC) 1:10; Chris Branner (ED) pinned Josh Little (SJC) 1:10; Mike (SJC) 1:10; Ross (SJC) 1:10; Kiefer Watson (Meadow), 1:43; (Cald) 4:53; Kevin Riggle (EL) pinned (SJC) 2:08; Kayne Melko (SJC) 1:10; Adam Weekly (SJC) 1:10; Tyler Bock (SJC) 1:10; Cody Smith (Shan), 1:55; Blake (SJC) 1:10; Andrew Ashland (Bealls), 4:5; (JM) dec. Andy Sigler (UL), 7:1; (WP) pinned Tim Oldfield (River), 18:1; (BL) pinned John Peterson (Cam), 5:24.

(SJC) pinned Eric Melkovic (MF), 3:36; Chase Bonnette (St. C.), 5:5; (Shady) pinned Donnie Webb (CV), 1:10; (Beaver) pinned Jeremy Rossiter (Becca) (BL) dec. Shane Reed (EL), 1:10; Daniel Magers (Barnes), 1:10; (SJC) pinned Damien Saracco (SJC) 1:10; Sean Mahley (Camb) pinned Justin (SJC) 1:10; Dirk Baker (OG) dec. Danny Doyle (SJC) 1:10; Brian Wright (SJC) 1:10; Brandon Coll (Meadow) dec. (Cam), 5:4.

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T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

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Continued from Page B1

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Devils

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OVAC

Continued from Page B1

Shaw. "He's been around for awhile, and we were hoping he'd make us look good."

Not that Shaw needs someone to do that. The Golden Bears advanced 11 wrestlers to this morning's second round.

"The critical matches start today. The goal is just to get as many wrestlers through to Saturday as you can and pick up a few bonus points along the way."

O a k

Glen's lone one-seed, Jessie Mahan, won his opening-round match at 140. Rhett Northcraft, the defending champ at 152, also opened the tournament with a victory.

Schuller, meanwhile, started his title defense with a pin of Shadyside's Luke Horvath. Schuller is the third-seeded wrestler at 145, his lone blemish on the season a 7-6 decision at the hands of second-seeded Justin Seebach of Caldwell.

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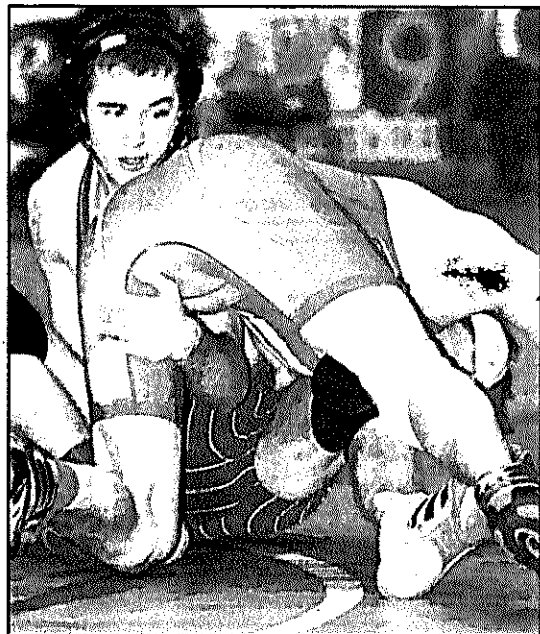
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T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

UNION LOCAL'S Carl Perkins tries to finish a takedown on Barnesville's Adam Messenger during the first period of Thursday's 145-pound match. Perkins scored the upset of Messenger who was the fifth seed in the weight class.

The 103-pound class is wide open; nary a place-winner returns from a season ago.

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Ferry's Darcy Rusiecki nailed the first of her two threes of the night. She also scored 12 of the 17 points on the only Ferry offensive run of the night. She finished the game with 18 points and 10 boards.

"Our pressure is our big thing and we throw a lot of different pressures at you. Tonight we had something designed that we thought would work and it did. Our kids were ready to play," Blatnick said.

Going into the fourth quarter they were starting to look bright for the Lady Riders, but they would go back into their earlier slump scoring only five points in the final quarter compared to St. Clairsville's 15 to end the shamble of a game.

"Offensively, in the first

Epstein returning to Red Sox

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Red Sox still need a shortstop and a center fielder. They brought back the guy who can find them.

Theo Epstein will return to the team he built into a World Series winner, he and the team said Thursday night.

"My family has been supportive of me through everything," Mauck said.

Since all good things must come to an end eventually, the Mauck reign as the OVAC tournament director will eventually end as well, but not even Mauck is sure when.

"I have said it's until death do us part, so Tom Rataiczak has me in a tough spot," Mauck smiled. "As I get older, it takes me a little while longer to recover from it, so it's hard for me to say. I probably won't ever step all the way back from the OVAC tournament."

SETH'S SCOOPS

IT WASN'T A totally good day for Mauck and his trusted staff. When they arrived at WesBanco Arena, there were platforms, but no mats. Due to the Sesame Street show that was in Wheeling on Tuesday and Wednesday mats weren't able to be put down until Thursday morning.

"We had two days work in one day plus the wrestling," Mauck said. "Big Bird was in control for two days, but it was worth it because the young kids had a great time."

MAUCK knows a little bit about basketball as well seeing he used to play one-on-one with fellow 1958 Bridgeport graduate John Havlicek.

"John was a neat guy and you would have never known he was as good an athlete as he was," Mauck said.

AS FOR THIS YEAR'S tournament, Mauck thinks it's a two-horse race between Wheeling Park and Oak Glen for the title.

"I think if Park's kids stay focused they got a pretty good shot," Mauck said. "But, you know Larry Shaw has his kids ready."

MAUCK also likes St. Clairsville's Zach Schuller and Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush's chances for a fourth consecutive title.

"If those kids stay focused it can happen," Mauck said. "As time progresses and these kids understand what they want and are focused, they know they can do it with a little bit of luck."

WITH NO snow in the forecast for the entire weekend, it's another hurdle that the tournament staff shouldn't have to deal with seeing last year's event was pushed back to Monday for the finals.

BEFORE wrestling began, two special presentations were made. Buckeye Local graduate Troy Fetty was named junior high coach of the year. Cambridge's Mark Bartlett was named reserve coach of the year.

THE SCHOOLS once again entered the area floor via the Olympic-like procession during the opening ceremonies.

Seth Staskey can be reached via email at sstaskey@timesleaderonline.com

half I was real satisfied; we got steals and we finished. Defensively in the second half they rose up a bit and came back, but that's Ferry athletes...they're going to battle you buzzer to buzzer," Blatnick said.

Pickana finished the game as the high scorer with 27 points and Gossett added 25. The Lady Devils found points on the board from nine different players in the victory.

"Kayla (Pickana) is out there in front of the press. She is going to get a lot of steals and fast break baskets," Blatnick commented. Gossett is our go player on our offense. We set her inside and we move her to where we think she can score. She has developed great shooting and the rest of them score off of her."

"I give St. Clairsville credit they beat us every possible way they could beat us," Reasbeck said.

"I knew we wouldn't quit though. We have fighters, but you can't get down in a hole like that against a good team like that. I never thought we would come back and win, but I like how we fought back."

Varsity Scoring:
ST. CLAIRSVILLE (69) -- Gossett 11, 3-5 25; Shroder 0, 1-2 1; Pickana 9, 7-10 27; Hurr 1, 0-0 2; Pokas 2, 0-0 5; Tadolini 1, 0-1 2; Plocollini 0, 1-2 1; Vivod 2, 0-0 4; Ross 1, 0-0 2; Team Totals: 27, 12-19 69. MARTINS FERRY (42) -- Ruslecki 8, 0-3 18; McIntosh 3, 1-2 8; Skavarka 1, 0-0 3; Weekly 1, 0-0 2; Burch 2, 0-0 4; Twardoski 2, 0-0 5; Zann 1, 0-0 2; Team Totals: 17, 1-5 42.

Three-Point Scoring: ST. C -- Pickana, Pokas. MF -- Ruslecki, McIntosh, Skavarka.

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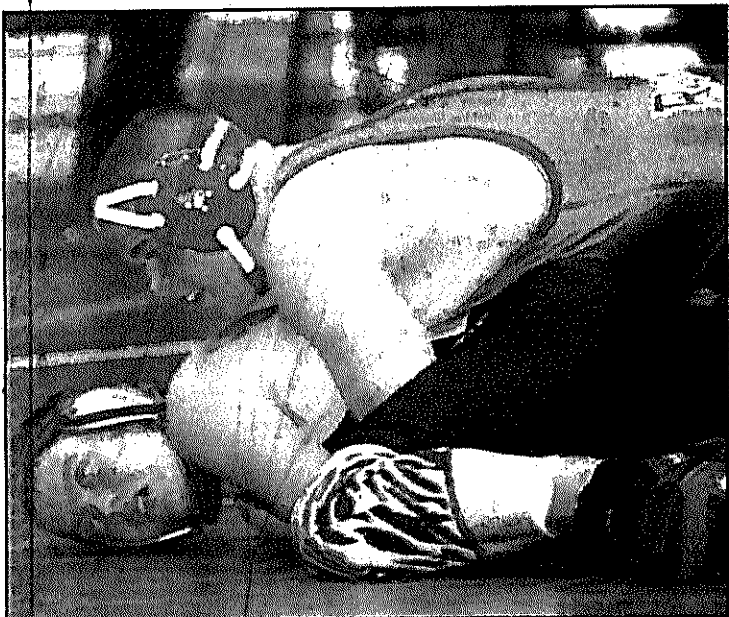
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SPORTS

Sunday
January 22, 2006



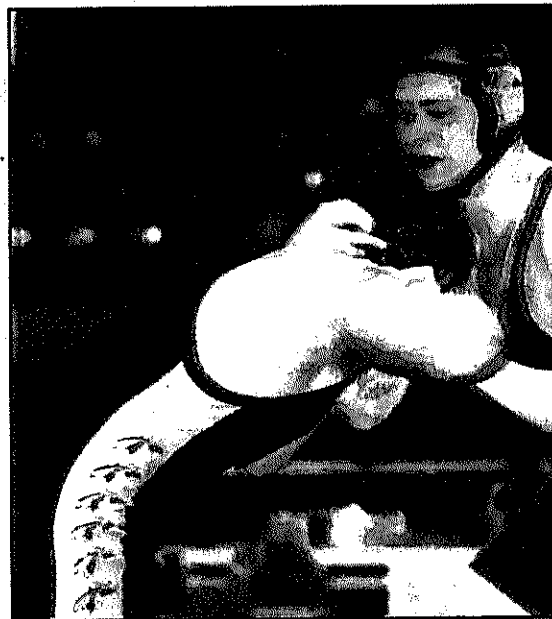
Sean Scott/The Daily Jeffersonian

Barnesville's Paul Jefferis, top, locks a hold onto Caldwell's Thomas Shenkel in 215-pound weight class action on Friday at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament, which took place at WesBanco Arena in Wheeling, W.Va. Jefferis went on to finish second after an 8-3 loss to Shenandoah's John Horn in the 215 finale.



Sean Scott/The Daily Jeffersonian

Cambridge High 119-pound wrestler Dustin Daugherty, top, the No. 1 seed in his weight class, wrestles John Marshall's Jeremy Howard during their second round bout on Friday at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament in Wheeling, W.Va. Daugherty, who is now 28-4, won the championship on Saturday with a 6-2 decision over Wheeling Park's Stephen Jewell.



Sean Scott/The

Shenandoah senior John Horn, r, battles Mike English in the 215-pound weight class during the second round of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament in Wheeling, W.Va. Horn, who went on to win the championship at 215 with a 6-2 decision over Barnesville's Paul Jefferis.

Cambridge wrestlers take third at OVAC Tour

Bobcats' Daugherty, Zeps' Horn among individual champs; Park wins overall title; Barnesville claims 2-

DARREN McCULLOCH
THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

WHEELING, W.Va. — Although Wheeling Park emerged as the overall champion of the 53rd Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Championships, it was a memorable weekend for the Cambridge High mat squad which posted its best finish ever in the event.

Sparked by nine place-winners headed by 119-pound champion Dustin Daugherty, Cambridge finished third overall and runner-up to Wheeling Park in the Class 4-A division. Park posted a 263.5-point total to win going away while Oak Glen nipped the Bobcats, 193.5-193, for the runner-up spot.

"I'm pleased considering we finished fifth here last year," Cambridge coach Tom "Tank" Moore stated. "I had a real young team last year, and I still have a young team this year.

"Of the nine kids who placed, seven will be back

next year," Moore added.

Rounding out the top 10 overall were Beaver Local (158.5), Buckeye Local (146.5), Bellaire St. John's (130), Edison (117), Martins Ferry (112.5), Barnesville (108.5) and John Marshall (107).

Behind Park and Cambridge in Class 4-A were Beaver Local, Buckeye Local, Edison, John Marshall, Brooke (78), Steubenville (67), East Liverpool (53) and Weir (37).

Class 3-A titlist Oak Glen and runner-up Ferry were followed by Bellaire (79), Indian Creek (72), Harrison Central (67), Union Local (63.5), St. Clairsville (63), Meadowbrook (49), Tyler Consolidated (24) and Magnolia (12).

Behind 2-A champion Barnesville were last year's champion Caldwell (76), Shenandoah (56), Monroe Central (49), Wheeling Central (36), River (28) and Wellsville (25).

Both Barnesville coach Luke Johnson and Caldwell mentor Daulton Summers were both satisfied with their team's performance.

"I'm extremely pleased winning the 2-A championship," Barnesville's Johnson said of the division title. "It takes a team effort to be successful.

Every point matters, whether it's a major decision, tech fall or a pin. The year is like a roller-coaster. The OVAC is a high point and now we'll set our sights on the sectional, district and state. The OVAC is a great test to compare for state competition."

"I'm extremely pleased," Caldwell's Summers said of the second-place effort by the Redskins. "If you would have told me two weeks ago that we'd be on the board, I would have told you that you were crazy. The kids really stepped up and showed a lot of character."

After 1-A titlist St. John Central were Beallsville (58.5), Shadyside (57), Cameron (45), Conotton

Valley (22), Steubenville Cathol (0).

Cambridge's Daugherty lived seeding in the 119-pound division senior (28-4) finished off his title decision over Stephen Jewell of duplicating the feat of his Daugherty, who captured an O back in 1984.

Daugherty's road to the finals: Wheeling Central's Josh Foose in second pin of John Marshall's Jeremy Howard; a technical fall against Steubenville's Mike English; and a pin of Union Local's Stephen Jewell.

"He's been working for this his dad won this same weight class last year," Cambridge's Moore said of Daugherty to stand on the podium in the same

See OV.



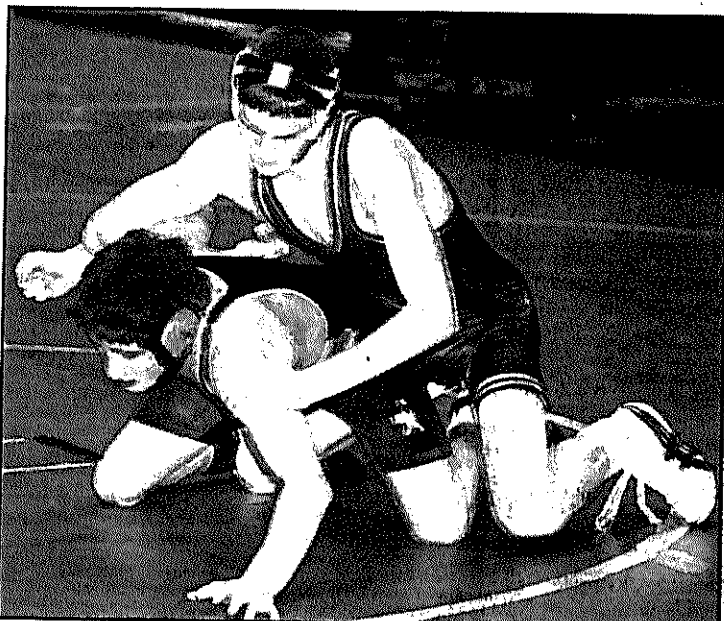
SPORTS

Sunday
January 22, 2006

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Sean Scott/The Daily Jeffersonian
is, top, locks a hold onto Caldwell's
ound weight class action on Friday at
: Conference Wrestling Tournament,
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Cambridge wrestlers take third at OVAC Tourney

Daugherty, Zeps' Horn among individual champs; Park wins overall title; Barnesville claims 2-A crown

Although Wheeling champion of the 53rd
OVAC Championships, it
ended for the Cambridge
team its best finish ever
in the 215-pound class.
The team was headed by 119-
pounder Dustin Daugherty, Cambridge
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Cambridge's Daugherty lived up to his No. 1
seeding in the 119-pound division. The Bobcat
senior (28-4) finished off his title run with a 6-2
decision over Stephen Jewell of Wheeling Park,
duplicating the feat of his father, Dennis
Daugherty, who captured an OVAC mat crown
back in 1984.
Daugherty's road to the finals included a pin of
Wheeling Central's Josh Foose in 3:09; a 56-sec-
ond pin of John Marshall's Jeremy Howard; a 16-
1 technical fall against Steubenville's Anthony
Iachini; and a pin of Union Local's Chaz Clark in
5:51.
"He's been working for this his whole life since
his dad won this same weight class back in 1984,"
Cambridge's Moore said of Daugherty. "He wanted
to stand on the podium in the same weightclass as his

See OVAC page B-3

Local wrestlers turn in solid showings at OVAC event

OVAC from page B-1

"dad."
The local area's other champion is unbeaten Shenandoah senior John Horn. The No. 1 seeded senior (29-0) notched an 8-3 decision over Barnesville junior Paul Jefferis (26-4), the No. 2 seed, in the title match.

Horn got into the finals with three pins — Zack Clegg of Bellaire in 29 seconds, Mike English of Monroe Central in 3:09 and Mike Matusick of River in 5:28 — and a 5-2 decision of Bryan Rowland of Oak Glen.

Jefferis made the title match by pinning Brian Ware of Indian Creek in 37 seconds; scoring a 15-0 technical fall over Caldwell's Thomas Shenkel; and gaining decision of 6-1 over Beaver Local's Thad Sollick and 2-1 over Martins Ferry's Shane Clark.

Cambridge had a pair of runner-up efforts from junior Sean Mahley and senior Bobby Scurlock.

Second-seeded Mahley (29-6) dropped a 5-2 decision to top-seeded Joe Skoff of St. John Central in the 135-pound title bout while Scurlock (27-5) fell by a 7-5 count to second-seeded Kyle Reeder of Beaver Local in the 171-pound finale.

Mahley made the finals with pins over Justin Mosti of Steubenville Catholic in 17 seconds, Brandon Conrad of Meadowbrook in 5:51 and Bruce Kennedy of Wheeling Park in 3:42 and a 4-2 decision over Andy Stine of Edison.

Scurlock's four wins leading up to the finals including pins over Ben Lehotay of Meadowbrook in 49 seconds, Brad Ensell of Indian Creek in 48 seconds and Samson Gjanessi of Weir in 3:22 and a 16-2 major decision against Derick Hesson of Caldwell.

Also finishing second was Barnesville senior Buddy Hines (26-2), the No. 1 seed who dropped a tough 6-5 decision to No. 2 seed and defending OVAC champion Rhett Northcraft of Oak Glen in the 160-pound championship.

Hines made his way to the finals by pinning Travis Mitchell of St. Clairsville in 3:53, Zach Burke of Monroe Central in 1:13 and Justin Rossiter of Shenandoah in 2:40 before edging Dusty Hill of Wheeling Park by a 2-1 count in the semifinals.

A total of 21 wrestlers from the five local schools placed in the event. Besides those who placed first or second in their respective weight classes, other local efforts included:

Cambridge sophomore Paul Rose (27-5) finished third, scoring an 11-0 major decision against Meadowbrook's Justin Rossiter (29-8) at 112 pounds, relegating Rossiter to a fourth place effort;

Sophomore Kirk Wetherell of Cambridge (20-7) took third at 171 pounds, posting a 5-0 decision against Dan Dunn of Beaver Local;

Caldwell senior Justin Seebach (21-3) battled his way through a rib injury to take third place at 145 pounds, pinning Cambridge sophomore Chad Teague (24-7) in the 145-pound consolation match, dropping Teague to fourth place;

Barnesville senior Ryan Stephen (27-5) claimed third place at 119 pounds, notching a 6-2 decision over Caldwell sophomore Jared Border (20-9) and dropping Border to fourth;

Junior Dan Ray (24-7) of Cambridge took fourth, dropping a 7-2 decision to Ronnie Green in the 130-pound consolation match;

Cambridge sophomore Jon Ray

(26-9) finished in fifth place at 125 pounds, topping Martins Ferry's Derrick Holt by a 4-1 score;

Barnesville junior Adam Messenger (21-7) claimed fifth place at 145, defeating Nathan Schaal of Buckeye Local by a 5-1 count;

Caldwell sophomore Derick Hesson (18-8) captured fifth place at 189, earning a 5-0 decision of Wheeling Park's Matt Hill in his consolation bout;

Meadowbrook sophomore Ed Lehotay (30-6) finished seventh in the 103-pound division, scoring an 8-1 decision over Bellaire's Zack Porter in his final match;

Shenandoah junior Jesse Brown (18-10) took seventh place at 112 pounds, gaining a 14-6 decision over Zack Delguzzi of Edison;

Senior Tyler Love of Meadowbrook (28-9) finished eighth at 171 pounds, dropping a 5-3 decision to Junior Yost of Tyler Consolidated in his final match;

Cambridge junior John Nicolozakes (18-4) placed eighth at 275, suffering an injury default before his consolation bout against Dustin Bruce of Bellaire.

In addition to the titles won by Cambridge's Daugherty and Shenandoah's Horn, championship bouts in the spotlight featured Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush and St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller joining an elite group of wrestlers who have won four OVAC titles. Rush, the No. 1 seed, defeated Chase Clark of Union Local, 7-2, in the 125-pound championship bout while Schuller, the No. 3 seed, eked out a 3-2 decision against top-seeded Mick Nicola of St. John Central, a two-time OVAC champion, in the 145-pound final.

Rush and Schuller join Bobby

Douglass of Bridgeport (1961), Mark Emmerling of East Liverpool (1989), Kelly Shields of Edison South (1993), Adam Hoppel of Beaver Local (2004) and Clay Tucker of Martins Ferry (2005) as the only four-time champions in conference history.

For his efforts, Schuller (26-1) earned the 2006 David Bierkorte Award as the outstanding wrestler of the tournament as voted by the conference coaches.

In other championship matches:

No. 1 seed Justin Turnbull of Buckeye Local decided No. 3 seed Nick Taylor of Wheeling Park, 8-4, at 103 pounds; No. 1 seed Ronnell Green of Wheeling Park claimed a 7-2 win over unseeded Zack Porter of Bellaire at 112 pounds; No. 1 seed Willie Saxton of Buckeye Local gained an 18-6 major decision against No. 3 seed Derek Caudill of Beaver Local at 130 pounds; No. 2 seed James Myers of Indian Creek beat No. 1 seed Jesse Mahan of Oak Glen, 4-2, at 140 pounds; No. 5 seed Zac Bowers of Martins Ferry topped No. 2 seed Bradley Brooks of Harrison Central, 3-1, in the 152-pound final; No. 2 seed Josh Cologie of Buckeye Local decided No. 1 seed Adam Gibson of Wheeling Park, 5-2, in the 171-pound championship; and No. 1 seed Jimmy Bowersock topped No. 6 seed Jeremiah Hinerman of Oak Glen, 5-3, in the 275-pound final.

Buckeye Local's Turnbull won the "Hercules Award" for the most pins in the least amount of time.

Several special awards were presented prior to Saturday's finals, including Nolan Van Guilder of Brook as the "Mr. Mat Award" recipient; Gary Glover of Bridgeport with the "Sid Stolz Award"; Kyle Rose of River as "Man of the Year" honoree; and Jack Regis of Martins Ferry as "Referee of the Year".

Dan Doye, Noble Local Superintendent of Schools, presented OVAC executive secretary a check for \$2,500 from the OVAC Wrestling Coaches Association toward the newly-established OVAC Museum.

All told, the three-day event featured 469 wrestlers and more than 800 matches.

NEXT—Cambridge travels to Bellaire on Wednesday while Shenandoah and Caldwell both venture to Martins Ferry the same day. Action at both sites begins at 6 p.m. Barnesville, along with Shenandoah and Caldwell, will compete in the River Invitational on Saturday starting at 10 a.m. The Colts are off until Wednesday, Feb. 1 when they host St. Clairsville and Tri-Valley at 5:30 p.m.

(Associate sports editor Jeff Harrison also contributed to this story).

Bridge off to good start at OVAC Wrestling Tourney

in third place behind Wheeling Park, Oak Glen; Bartlett named 'Assistant COY'

— The Cambridge High to a nice start in the 53rd Ohio Valley Athletic Wrestling Championships at Thursday. Cambridge is sitting in third place in the tournament behind leader Wheeling Park (39.5) and Oak Glen (39.5). The top 15 so far are 4. Beaver Creek (37.5); 5. St. Johns (27); 6. Johnstown (25); 7. Shadyside (24); 8. Martins Ferry (23.5); 9. Caldwell (21); 10. Edison (16); 11. Beallsville (16); 12. Cambridge (16); 13. Beallsville (16); 14. Cambridge (16); 15. Beallsville (16). Cambridge recently sits tied for 20th with Brook Park (16). Cambridge combined to go 9-1 on the day. Cambridge were: Dustin Leasure (125); Dan Ray (130); Chad Teague (145); Kirk Scurlock (189); Justin Ny Nicolozakes (275). Paul

Rose (112) and James Beatty (152) both received first round byes. Cambridge suffered its only defeat was Steve Hardy (140). Cambridge head coach Tank Moore was pleased with his team's performance in day one despite two of his guys not competing. "I'm pleased considering one of our top seeds — Paul Rose — along with James Beatty didn't wrestle," Moore started. "We won't get points from them until tomorrow. We are still in the hunt after day one, however, just about everyone is in the hunt. We will wrestle tomorrow and see where we are at point wise. Also, Mark Bartlett, one of my assistant coaches got OVAC Assistant Coach of the Year." Barnesville's wrestlers went 7-2 in the opening day with wins coming from Ryan Stephen (119); Josh Smith (152); Buddy Hines (160); Charles Fritter (171); Brian Grear (189); and Paul Jefferis (215). The Shamrocks also got byes from Corey Hastings (275), Jon Barker (103) and Jon

Huntsman (130). Suffering opening round defeats were Daniel Mager (135); and Adam Messenger (145). Caldwell matmen were 6-2 after Thursday's opening round. Receiving wins for Caldwell were Jared Border (119); Justin Seebach (145); Lamar Dowling (152); Dustin Crum (171); Derick Hesson (189); and Thomas Shenkel (215). Receiving first round byes were Steve Conquest (103), Levi Seebach (112) and Brian McElfresh (275). Anthony Lamp (140) and Michael Neff (160) both dropped their opening round contest. Shenandoah got off to a rocky 3-5 start on Thursday. Winning for the Zeps were Chris Crock (145); Robbie Rossiter (152); and John Horn (215). Jesse Brown (112) and Justin Rossiter (160) received bye wins. Dustin Leasure (130); Jeremy Rossiter (135); Cody Smith (140); Josh Oppenheimer (171); and Thomas Moore (189) all suffered first round losses. Like Shenandoah, Meadowbrook finished 3-5 on Thursday. Ed Lehotay (103); Justin Rossiter (112);

and Brandon Conrad (135) all picked up opening round wins. Travis Harless (119), Taylor Harless (125), Josh Rossiter (152) and Tyler Love (171) all received first round byes. Caleb Price (130), Kiefer Watson (145), Justin Pierce (160), Ben Lehotay (189) and Christian Wolfe (215) all suffered first round setbacks. Two special awards were presented Thursday night, including the Assistant Coach of the Year Award to Cambridge High's Bartlett, an 11-year coach with the Bobcats; and the Junior High Coach of the Year Award to Troy Fetty of Buckeye Local Middle School. NEXT—Action continues today with two sessions, starting at 11 a.m. with second round matches as well as two rounds of consolation bouts while this evening's session begins at 5 p.m. and includes quarterfinals and third and fourth round consolations. Saturday's early session includes championship semifinals and fifth round consolations starting at noon while the final session featuring championship finals and bouts to determine third through eighth place will begin at 6:30.



OVAC Wrestler Treated

Meningitis sends youth to hospital

By BETHENY HOLSTEIN
Health Writer

Following the weekend-long Ron Mauck Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament, one wrestler still is in the hospital being treated for a serious illness.

Dr. William Mercer, medical director of the Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department, on Monday confirmed a student at a Wheeling-area school has been diagnosed with bacterial meningitis.

Mercer said the Belmont County Health Department is the lead agency in the investigation of the illness because the individual is a Belmont County resident.

"This has not been 100 percent confirmed from a bacterial culture, but it looks like it is *Neisseria meningitidis*," Mercer said, adding that the bacterial form of meningitis is very serious, possibly resulting in major complications or in death. He said the viral form, from which most people recover quickly and with few complications, can be less serious.

"It looks like, from a public health standpoint, that this is a sporadic case and not an outbreak," Mercer said. "A sporadic case means we do not know why a person got sick, but there is the potential for this to be spread to other people."

However, Mercer said that while the disease is contagious, it can only be spread through

(Please see, TREATED, Page 5)

TREATED

(Continued from Page 1)

very close contact, or what he termed "sharing spit." He said this includes drinking or eating after a person, as well as activities such as kissing.

"You don't get it from just breathing the air around a person," Mercer said. "The patient would have to be in close contact with 250 people before one of them would contract the disease." However, Mercer said the risk of serious complications from the illness means there must be serious precautions taken to prevent anyone from getting it.

He said part of those precautions include contacting all of the individual's contacts over the past 10 days, which in this case includes the athletes he wrestled, to check them for symptoms and to treat them with preventive antibiotics if necessary.

"We felt after investigating that the public in general is not at risk," Mercer said. "We looked for the contacts, and I feel we were able to get them. We feel everybody who was at risk was able to get medication. Those who wrestled with him, we did feel it was important to give them medicine."

According to OVAC Executive Secretary Thomas Rataiczak, the OVAC and health department officials suspected a meningitis infection in one of the wrestlers on Thursday evening, and by Friday

morning at the tournament, all the coaches were informed of the situation. Rataiczak said he believes the individual was taken out of the area for treatment.

"All of the coaches were told what was going on," Rataiczak said, adding that they were given all the information they needed to take precautions with their athletes.

"Dr. Mercer faxed us the information on the disease and what the symptoms are and how you get it, and every coach was given that information," Rataiczak said. "All of that was done prior to any kid stepping out on the mat."

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, meningitis can be either a viral or bacterial infection of the fluid of a person's spinal cord and the fluid that surrounds the brain. Its symptoms can include a high fever, headache and stiff neck. Mercer indicated the disease can be fatal 10 percent of the time.

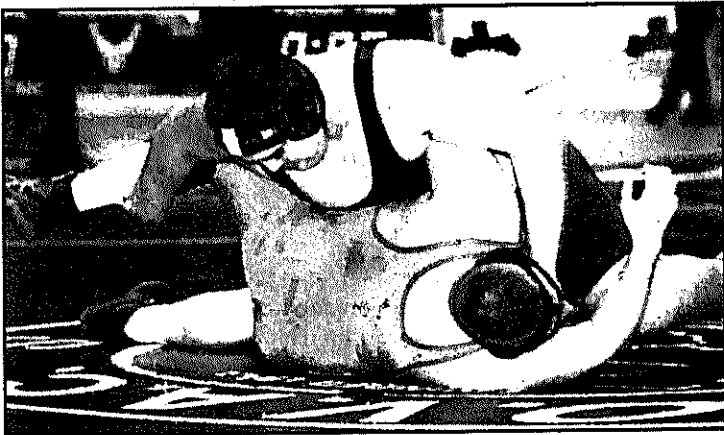
Rataiczak said that after the individual became ill, Mercer was immediately contacted with regard to not only that particular individual, but also the whole tournament.

According to Rataiczak, the organizers of the tournament, including Ron Mauck, Dan Doyle and Bill Hindgardner, did a great job of making sure all bases were covered regarding the safety of the wrestlers.

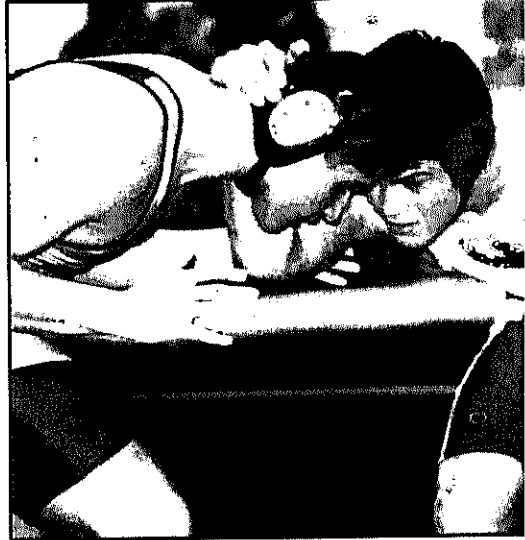
ALL OHIO VALLEY ATHLETIC CONFERENCE WRESTLING TOURNAMENT PHOTOS BY SEAN SCOTT



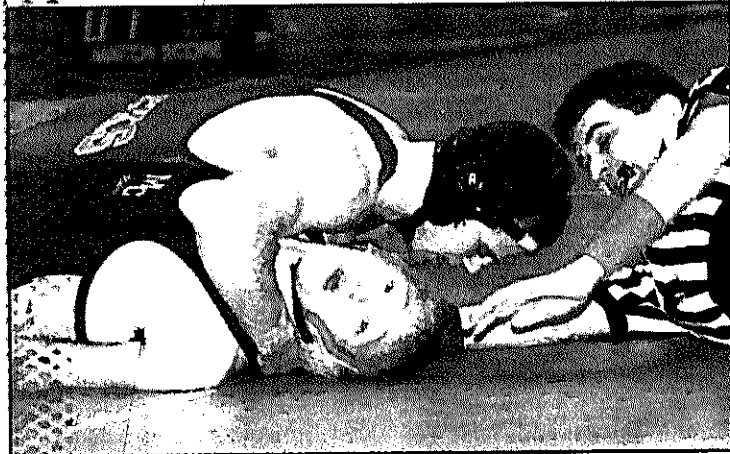
Fifth-seeded Paul Rose of Cambridge High School wrestles Belaire's Zack Knowlton in the 112-pound weight class during Friday's second round action in Wheeling, W.Va. Rose placed third at 112 in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference event.



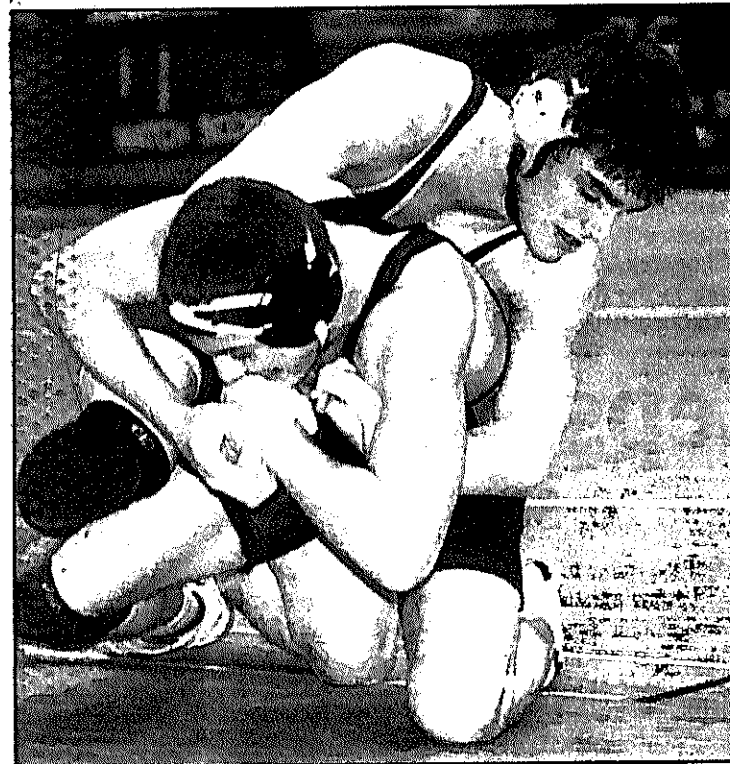
Cambridge's John Nicolozakes rolls Weir's James Colvin before making the pin for the victory in their second round heavy-weight bout on Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Nicolozakes, who pinned Colvin in 46 seconds, finished in eighth place.



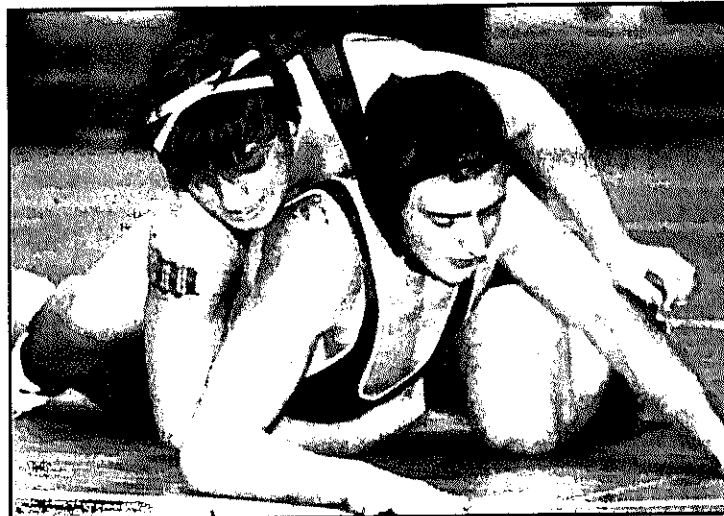
Barnesville 171-pound grappler Charlie Fritter wrestles Steubenville Central's Josh Costlow during round match of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Fritter defeated Costlow, 7-2.



Barnesville's Bud Hines, top, the No. 1 seed in the 160-pound weight class, pins Monroe Central's Zach Burke during Friday's second round action in Wheeling, W.Va. Hines dropped a 6-5 decision to Rhett Northcraft of Oak Glen to finish second at 160.



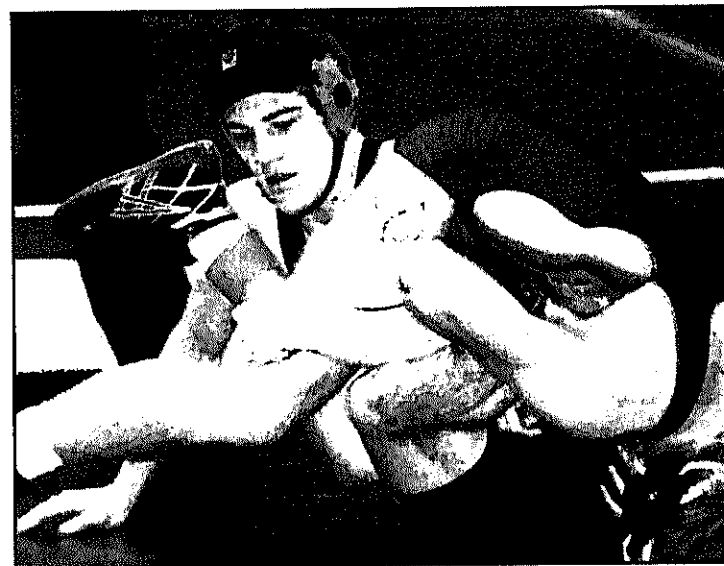
Shenandoah's Chris Crock, top, tussles with Cambridge's Chad Teague in the 145-pound weight class of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Teague finished fourth after dropping a bout to Caldwell's Justin Seebach.



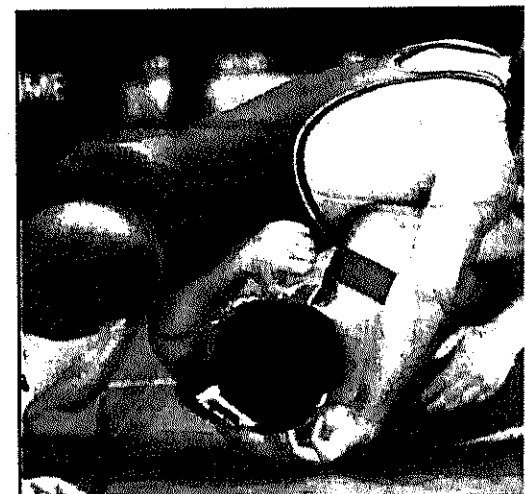
Cambridge High's Kirk Wetherell searches for a hold on John Marshall's Mark Chambers during 171-pound action on Friday at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament in Wheeling, W.Va. Wetherell placed third in his weight class.



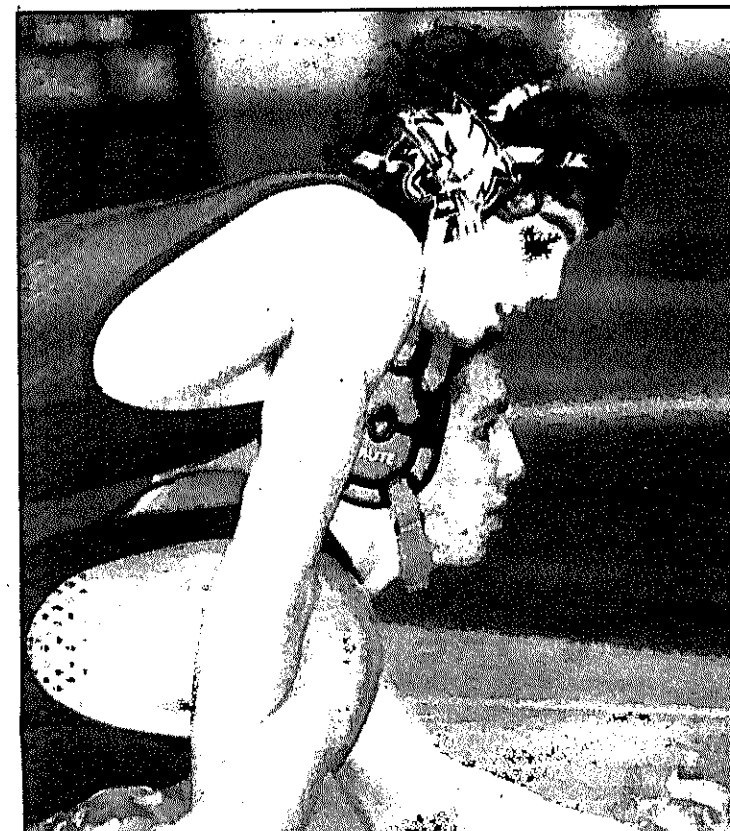
Caldwell's Derick Hesson holds the arm of Kahl during 189-pound weight class action on Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Hesson finished fifth at 189.



Caldwell High's Justin Seebach keeps a hold on the legs of Martins Ferry's Chase Tucker during their 145-pound bout Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Seebach defeated Tucker, 2-0, and went on to take third place at 145.



Cambridge senior Bobby Scurlock, top, the 189-pound weight class, pins Indian Creek's Chase Tucker during their first period of their bout on Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Scurlock dropped his championship match, 7-4, to B. Reeder, the No. 2 seed, on Saturday.

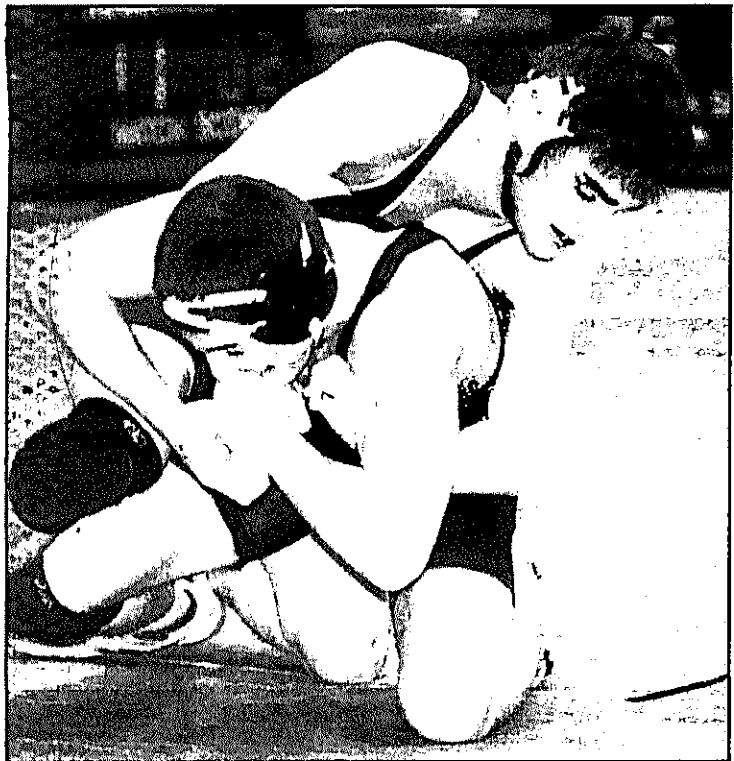


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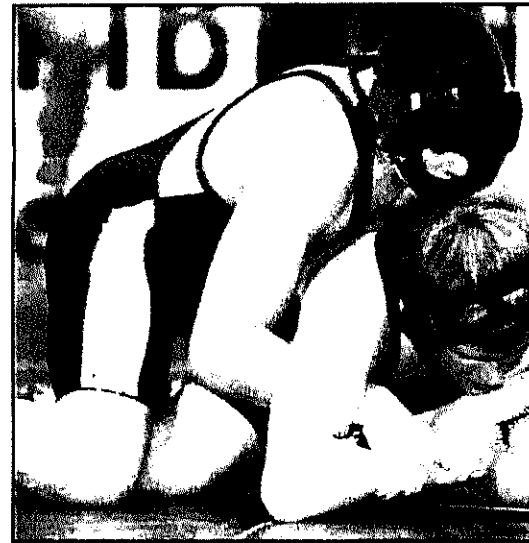


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Sean Scott/The Daily Jeffersonian
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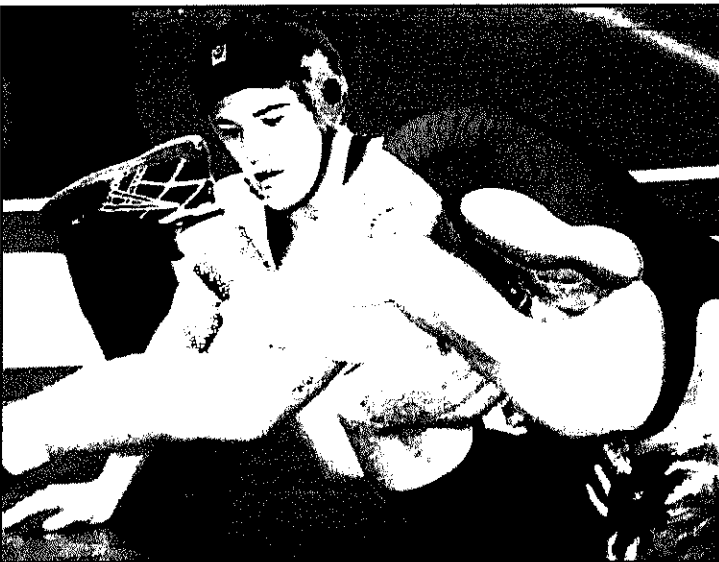
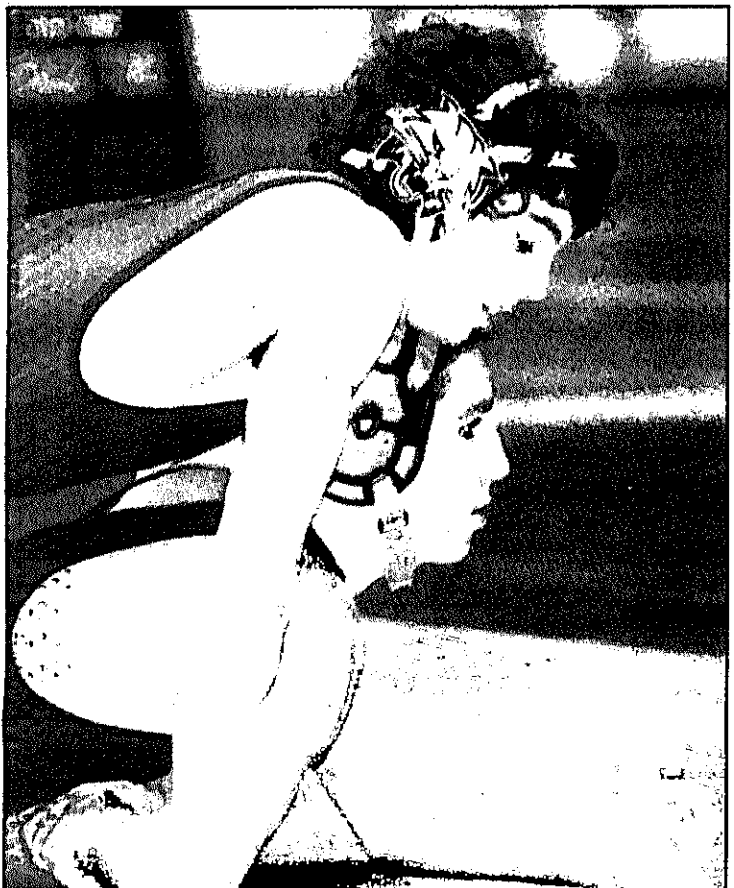


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Caldwell's Derick Hesson holds the arm of Kahl during 189-pound weight class action Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament finished fifth at 189.

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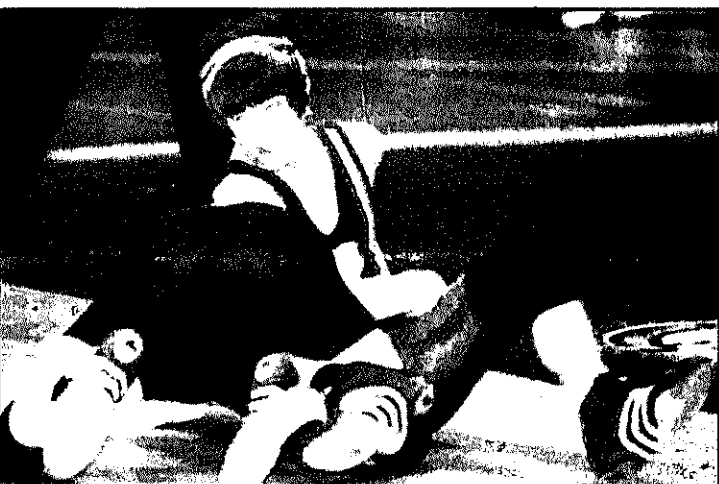


Caldwell High's Justin Seebach keeps a hold on the legs of Martins Ferry's Chase Tucker during their 145-pound bout Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Seebach defeated Tucker, 2-0, and went on to take third place at 145.



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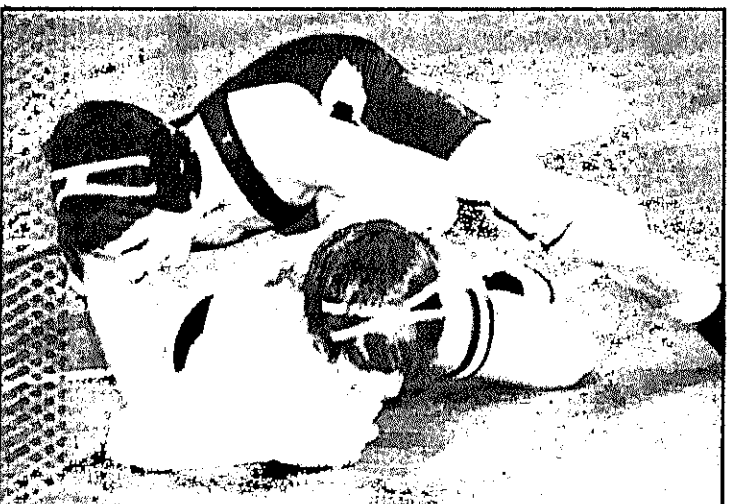
Sean Mahley, Cambridge's second seed in the 135-pound weight class, searches for a way to turn over Meadowbrook's Brad Conrad during the pair's second round bout at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday. Mahley dropped a 5-2 decision in Saturday's final to Bellaire St. John's Joe Skoff to finish second at 135.



Meadowbrook wrestler Travis Harless tries to score a reversal on Shadyside's Jeff Trigg during a 119-pound class bout Friday at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Harless finished 1-2 in the event.



Cambridge 215-pound wrestler Justin Britne Park's Tommy Kettlewell onto the mat during round of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. He lost the match to Kettlewell, 1-2 mark in the tournament.



Cambridge's Jon Ray, the No. 3 seed in the 125-pound weight class, tries to turn over his opponent — Buckeye Local's Kurt Peterson — on Friday inside the WesBanco Arena in Wheeling, W.Va. Ray ended up taking fifth in his respective weight class.

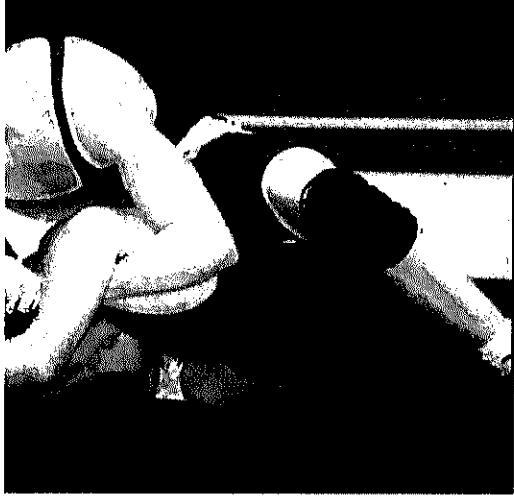


Cambridge's Dan Ray, top, works at pinning Weirton's Wesley Barnes during 130-pound weight class action at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday. Ray took fourth place in his weight class.

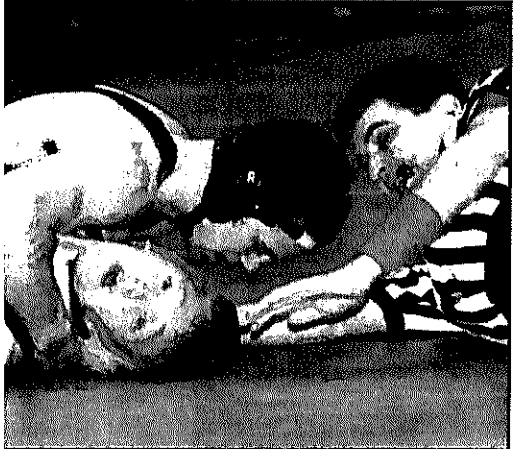


Barnesville High's Ryan Stephen stays on top of T Julian Yost on Friday during a 119-pound match Arena in Wheeling, W.Va. Stephen finished third o class at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament.

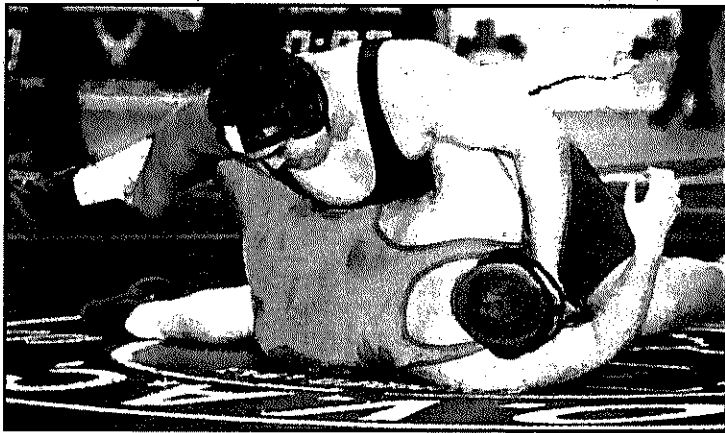
ALL OHIO VALLEY ATHLETIC CONFERENCE WRESTLING TOURNEY PHOTOS BY SEAN SCOTT



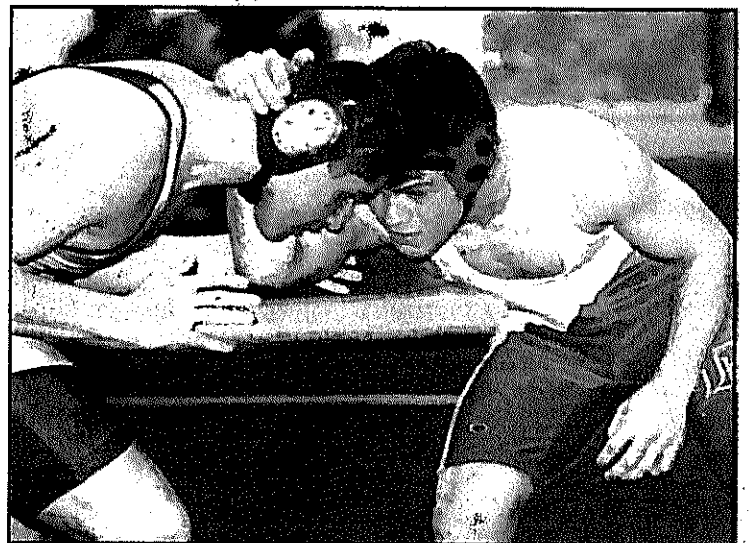
Rose of Cambridge High School wrestles owlton in the 112-pound weight class during und action in Wheeling, W.Va. Rose placed Ohio Valley Athletic Conference event.



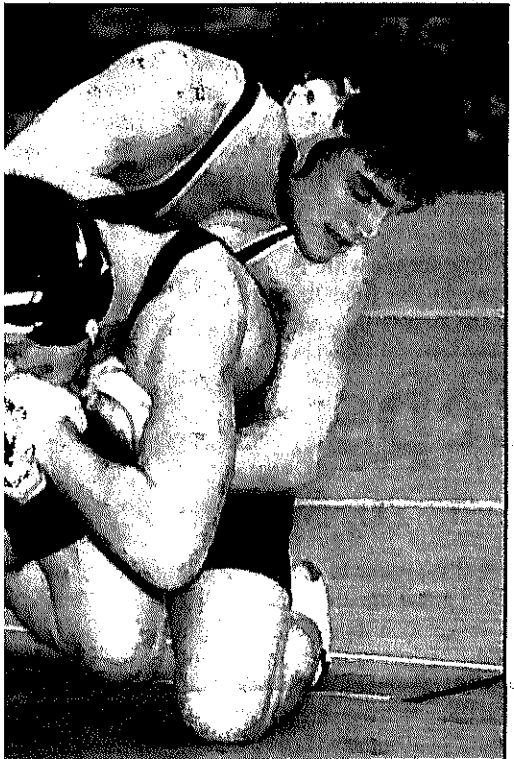
Sean Scott/The Daily Jeffersonian
Hines, top, the No. 1 seed in the 160-pound
Ionroe Central's Zach Burke during Friday's
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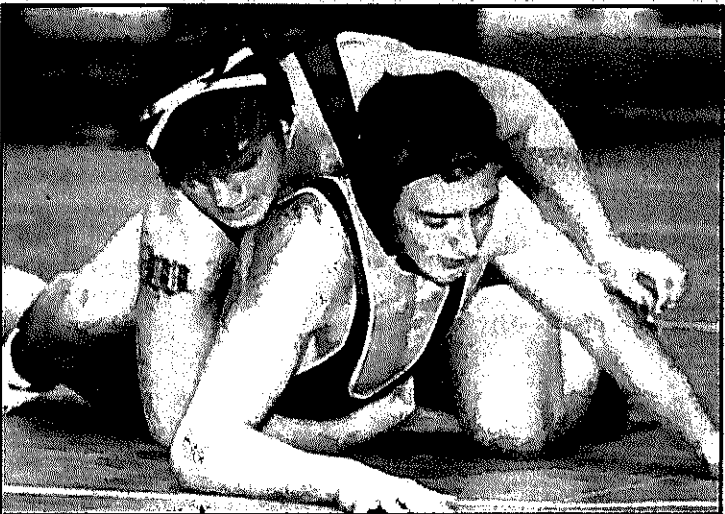
Cambridge's John Nicolozakes rolls Weir's James Colvin before making the pin for the victory in their second round heavy-weight bout on Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Nicolozakes, who pinned Colvin in 46 seconds, finished in eighth place.



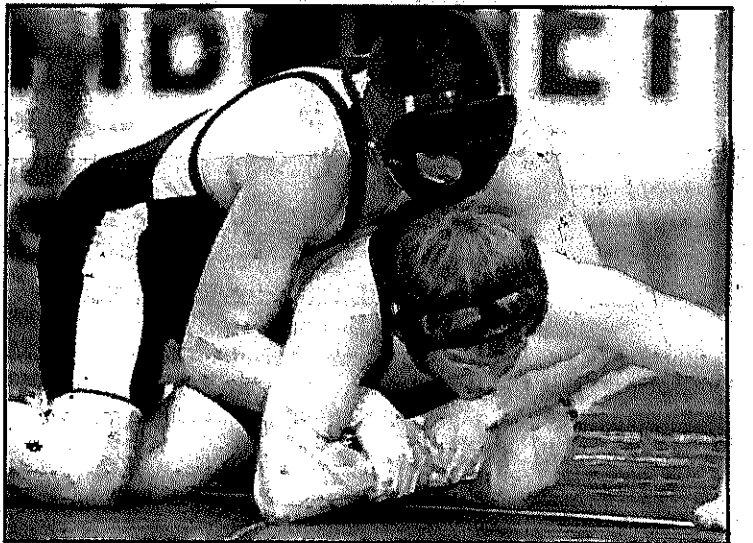
Barnesville 171-pound grappler Charlie Fritter locks horns with Steubenville Central's Josh Costlow during their second round match of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Fritter finished 2-2 in the event. Fritter defeated Costlow, 7-2.



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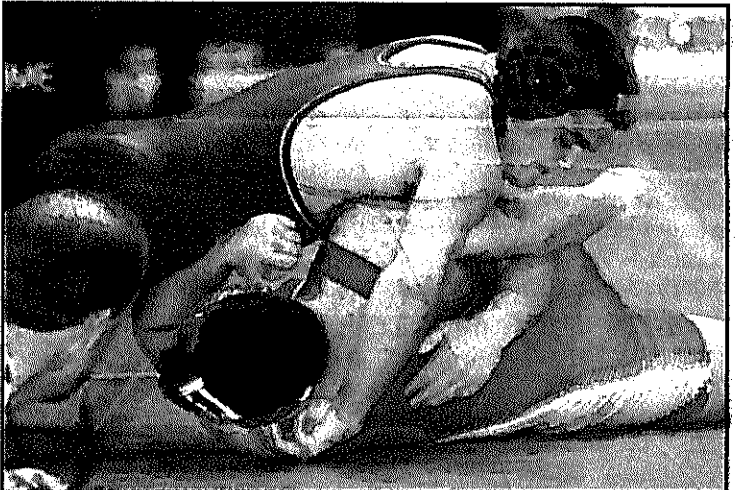
Cambridge High's Kirk Wetherell searches for a hold on John Marshall's Mark Chambers during 171-pound action on Friday at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament in Wheeling, W.Va. Wetherell placed third in his weight class.



Caldwell's Derick Hesson holds the arm of Shadyside's Jerry Kahl during 189-pound weight class action on Friday in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Hesson finished fifth at 189.



Caldwell High's Justin Seebach keeps a hold on the legs of Martins Ferry's Chase Tucker during their 145-pound bout Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Seebach defeated Tucker, 2-0, and went on to take third place at 145.



Cambridge senior Bobby Scurlock, top, the No. 1 seed in the 189-pound weight class, pins Indian Creek's Brad Ensell in the first period of their bout on Friday in Wheeling, W. Va. Scurlock dropped his championship match, 7-4, to Beaver Local's Kyle Reeder, the No. 2 seed, on Saturday.





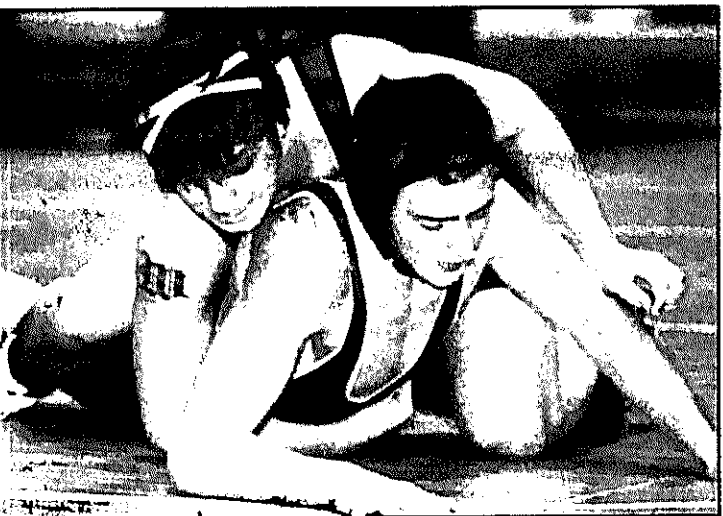
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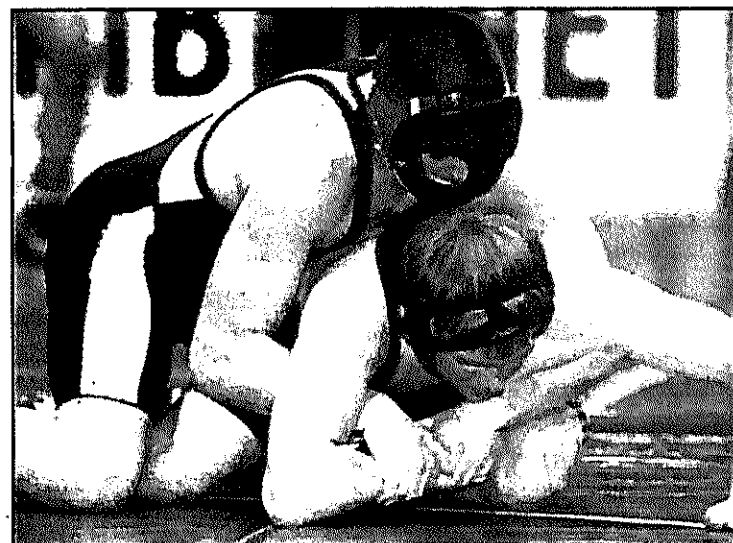
Sean Scott/The Daily Jeffersonian lines, top, the No. 1 seed in the 160-pound onroe Central's Zach Burke during Friday's 1 in Wheeling, W.Va. Hines dropped a 6-5 thrcraft of Oak Glen to finish second at 160.



Barnesville 171-pound grappler Charlie Fritter locks horns with Steubenville Central's Josh Costlow during their second round match of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday in Wheeling, W.Va. Fritter finished 2-2 in the event. Fritter defeated Costlow, 7-2.

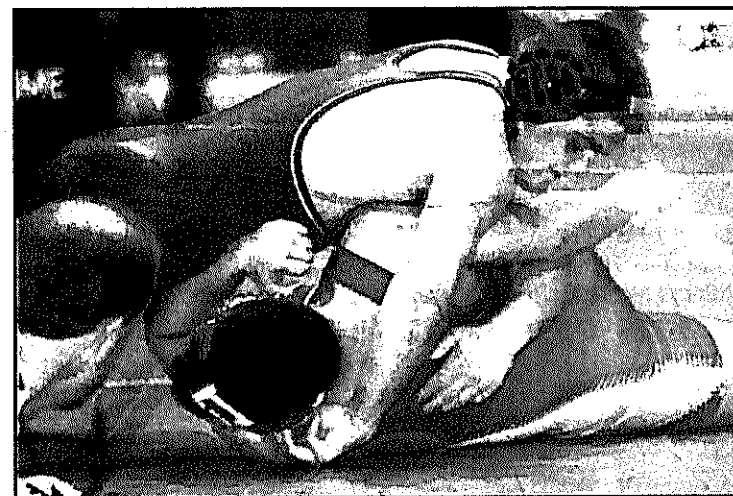
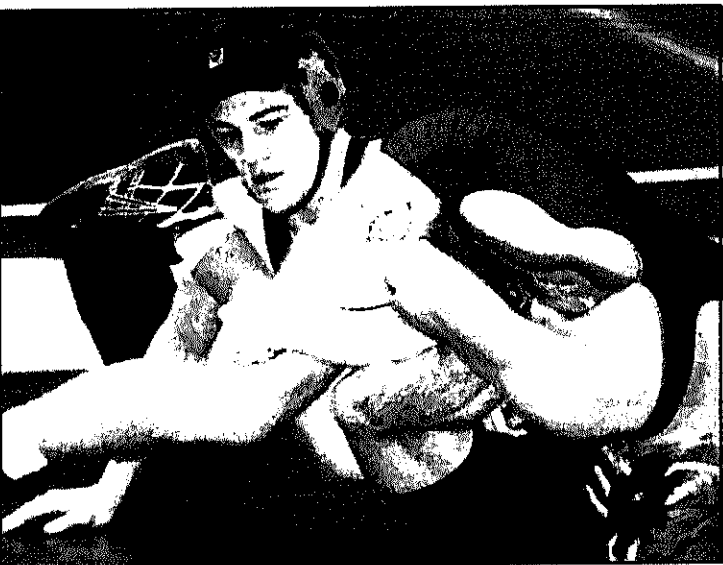


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Cambridge 215-pound wrestler Justin Britnell puts Wheeling Park's Tommy Kettlewell onto the mat during Friday's second round of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. He lost the match to Kettlewell, 10-4. He posted a 1-2 mark in the tournament.

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Meadowbrook wrestler Travis Harless tries to score a reversal on Shadyside's Jeff Trigg during a 119-pound class bout Friday at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Harless finished 1-2 in the event.



Cambridge's Dan Ray, top, works at pinning Weirton's Wesley Barnes during 130-pound weight class action at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday. Ray took fourth place in his weight class.



Barnesville High's Ryan Stephen stays on top of Tyler Consolidated's Julian Yost on Friday during a 119-pound match at the WesBanco Arena in Wheeling, W.Va. Stephen finished third overall in his weight class at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament.

ay, the No. 3 seed in the 125-pound weight over his opponent — Buckeye Local's Kurt lay inside the WesBanco Arena in Wheeling, p taking fifth in his respective weight class.

WC's Doyle realizes true passion



By
**SETH
STASKEY**
Times Leader
Sports Writer

FROM THE PRESSBOX

working like 60-70 hours a week and then coming home and working out with a couple of the kids and then it hit that this is what I wanted to do (coach wrestling)."

Doyle is currently substitute teaching and is working toward clearing obstacles to get into education.

Wrestling was in Doyle's life since the time he was probably old enough to walk, living with a father who was a coach.

Don't think for a minute that there aren't numerous qualities that the younger Doyle is using that he learned from dad.

"My father's biggest attributes were his ability to motivate and get kids to want to win," Doyle said. "I developed a lot of technical skills from going on to college and wrestling, but my father taught me about character and the ability to motivate kids so you can get the most out of them."

If you are sitting there wondering why Doyle would want his first coaching stint to be at Wheeling Central, all the further you have to look is toward his dad and uncles.

Dan Doyle and his brothers were all Central graduates,

winning several OVAC and state titles during their four-year careers.

"From listening to the stories of where the program was, I had a strong desire to try to get it back to the prominence that it once was," Doyle admitted. "I have also worked with a lot of the kids through different clubs."

Two of the wrestlers currently wearing the Maroon that Doyle worked with are fourth-seeded 130-pounder Zach Basich and second-seeded 103-pounder Dirk Bauer, who was defeated during Friday's second round.

"Our kids are holding their own quite well," Doyle said. "I am happy with how they are doing so far, and I really hope we can have a few placers."

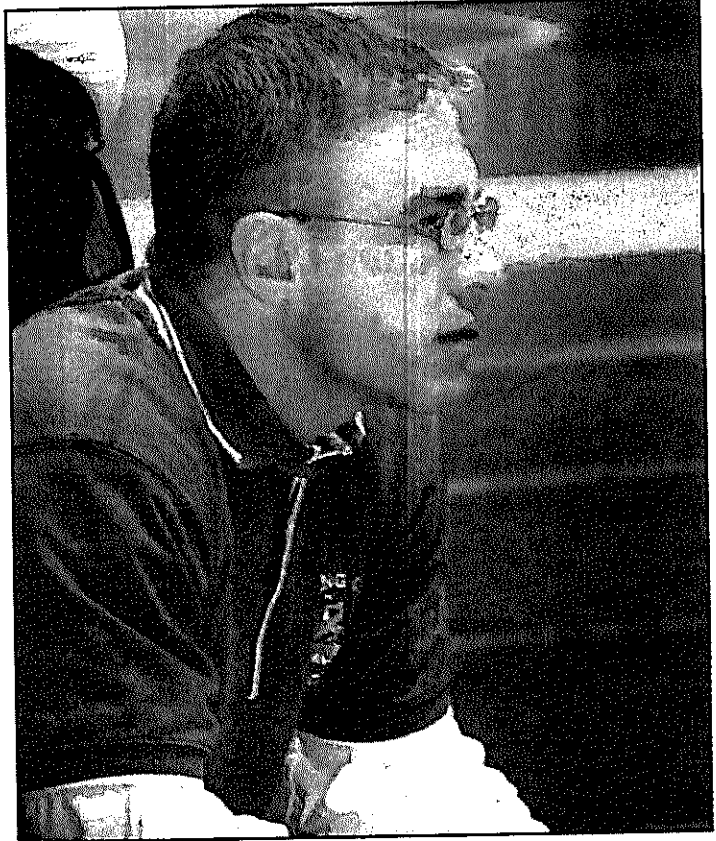
Doyle -- who wrestled for four years at Cornell University -- watched his roster grow from miniscule numbers to filling 12 weight classes at this weekend's Ron Mauck OVAC Tournament.

He's hoping that a couple of placers in this year's tournament could springboard the Knights' program even further and eventually hopes it takes the next step and joins other Knights' sports in the upper echelon of West Virginia Single A.

"Success breeds success," Doyle said. "If we can improve and continue to do well I think we'll start to get some kids come looking for us."

Doyle did a little recruiting within the Central family to find grapplers, but he was quick to point out that there have been kids in the feeder system for years, but they always had to go to another school or pick up basketball because the Central program was dormant.

"The Wheeling youth pro-



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

WHEELING CENTRAL head coach Sean Doyle looks on during a Friday morning match at the Ron Mauck OVAC Tournament. Doyle -- a former standout at Buckeye Local -- is in his first season as the Knights' head coach after returning to the Ohio Valley from Cleveland.

gram is a great program," Doyle admitted. "When the kids who go to the private school hit junior high they usually went to play basketball since Central had no program."

Now with the wrestling program at Central revived, Doyle is starting to assemble some long-term goals for the Knights.

"The goals of this program are to win (the OVAC Tournament) and win a state title," Doyle said. "A lot of people might see where we are right now and say it's pretty far down the road, but know-

ing what we have coming up, I wouldn't say it's an unrealistic goal for three to five years for this program."

Being a former all-stater and taking over a program that doesn't feature any of the 'studs' of the field might seem like a challenge, but the coaching side has taken over.

"The thing about coaching wrestling I like the most is developing a kid not just technically, but even the mental aspect of the sport," Doyle said. "If you have to learn more about it being a game plan in certain situations."

The lack of actual experience could be a positive according to Doyle.

"Yeah, people at Central even say, 'well you have kids who have never wrestled'" Doyle offered. "And that's true, but we also have kids who haven't developed bad habits, so you can mold them to the wrestler you want them to be."

Needless to say with Doyle at the helm, bright things are ahead for the Knights.

OVAC Wrestling Tourney gets under way Thursday

OVAC from page B-1

winner seeded second in that division this week.

In addition to Oak Glen, the Class 3-A winner as well as the overall champ, other defending champions are Wheeling Park (4-A), Caldwell (2-A) and Cameron (1-A).

An Olympic-style opening ceremony will launch the tournament Thursday at 6 p.m., with first round action slated to begin at 6:30. Friday's first session begins at 11 a.m. and will include second round matches as well as two rounds of consolation bouts while the Friday evening session begins at 5 p.m. and includes quarterfinals and third and fourth round consolations. Saturday early session includes championship semifinals and fifth round consolations starting at noon while the final session featuring championship finals and bouts to determine third through eighth place will begin at 6:30.

Several special awards will be presented, including the David Bierkorte Memorial Award to the outstanding wrestler of the tournament; Pear Stadler Sportsmanship Award; James "Dead Eye" Morris Sportsmanship Award; Mr. Mat Award; Junior High Coach of the Year; Assistant Coach of the Year; "Sid" Stolz Award; and the "Hercules" Award.

The conference will recognize the 1981 champions who will be observing their 25th anniversary on Saturday, and that group includes Cambridge's Brian Duff.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students per session, except the final session where tickets are \$7 for adults and \$4 for students. Ticket books for all five sessions are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. The finals will be televised live on WTOV-TV9 Saturday beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Seeded wrestlers for 53rd OVAC Wrestling Tourney

103 — 1. Justin Turnbull, Buckeye Local, Sr., 15-7; 2. Dirk Bauer, Wheeling Central, Fr., 18-8; 3. Nick Taylor, Wheeling Park, Fr., 23-7; 4. Zach Porter, Bellaire, Fr., 21-6; 5. Ryan Asbury, Oak Glen, Fr., 15-6; 6. Justin Armann, River, Sr., 13-5; 7. Ed Lehotay, Meadowbrook, So., 26-4; 8. Brent Fluharty, Brooke, So., 19-10.

112 — 1. Ronell Green, Wheeling Park, Jr., 24-3; 2. Jimmy Reisz, Beallsville, So., 27-1; 3. Ethan Dray, Oak Glen, So., 16-3; 4. Daniel Felton, Brooke, Jr., 26-5; 5. Paul Rose, Cambridge, So., 23-3; 6. Justin Rossiter, Meadowbrook, Sr., 25-5; 7. Zack Delguzzi, Edison, Jr., 8-4; 8. Jarod McIntosh, Beaver Local, Fr., 13-6.

119 — 1. Dustin Daugherty, Cambridge, Sr., 22-4; 2. Ryan Stephen, Barnesville, Sr., 20-4; 3. Jared Border, Caldwell, So., 15-7; 4. Chaz Clark, Union Local, Sr., 17-4; 5. Erik Canter, Bellaire, Fr., 23-5; 6. Stephen Jewell, Wheeling Park, Jr., 19-4; 7. Jeff Trigg, Shadyside, Sr., 12-7; 8. Troy Eckerberry, Oak Glen, Fr., 12-8.

125 — 1. Abbie Rush, Wheeling Park, Sr., 30-2; 2. Chase Clark, Union Local, So., 21-2; 3. Jon Ray, Cambridge, So., 20-7; 4. Zac Androsko, St. Clairsville, Jr., 7-1; 5. Derrick Holt, Martins Ferry, So., 15-5; 6. Jim McFarland, Brooke, So., 29-5; 7. Johnny Merryman, Shadyside, Fr., 17-5; 8. Brian Potkrajac, Edison, Jr., 19-6.

130 — 1. Willie Saxton, Buckeye Local, Sr., 22-1; 2. Ronnie Green, Wheeling Park, Sr., 30-3; 3. Derek Caudill, Beaver Local, Sr., 20-0; 4. Zach Basich, Wheeling Central, So., 14-4; 5. KJ Furbee, Shadyside, Sr., 20-2; 6. Zach Kosky, St. John Central, 18-5; 7. Dan Ray, Cambridge, 17-7; 8. Tim Zoc, Martins Ferry, Sr., 13-7.

135 — 1. Joe Skoff, St. John Central, Sr., 17-1; 2. Sean Mahley, Cambridge, Jr., 20-5; 3. Andy Stine, Edison, So., 23-3; 4. Torey Prickett, Monroe Central, Jr., 21-4; 5. Jon Bittinger, Beaver Local, So., 21-2; 6. Mike Becca, Buckeye Local, Jr., 15-8; 7. Bruce Kennedy, Wheeling Park, Sr., 23-8; 8. Chauncey Green, Bellaire, Sr., 22-5.

140 — 1. Jessie Mahan, Oak Glen, Sr., 19-1; 2. James Myers, Indian Creek, Jr., 19-3; 3. Kayne Melko, St. John Central, Sr., 20-4; 4. Chad Ware, Martins Ferry, Sr., 15-4; 5. Ronnie Nelson, Wheeling Park, Sr., 17-9; 6. Nick Pasquarella, Steubenville, Sr., 15-5; 7. Chris Brancker, Edison, So., 13-5; 8. Austin Piergallini, Buckeye Local, Jr., 11-9.

145 — 1. Mick Nicola, St. John Central, Sr., 21-1; 2. Justin Seebach, Caldwell, Sr., 17-2; 3. Zack Schuller, St. Clairsville, Sr., 21-1; 4. Chad Teague, Cambridge, So., 19-6; 5. Adam Messenger, Barnesville, Jr., 16-5; 6. Nick Stine, Edison, So., 22-5; 7. Ross Johnson, Bellaire, Jr., 20-5; 8. Heath Beecher, Wheeling Park, So., 23-9.

152 — 1. Jeff Pettit, Cameron, Jr., 20-1; 2. Bradley Brooks, Harrison Central, Sr., 17-5; 3. Bryan Skoff, St. John Central, So., 14-5; 4. Cody Miller, Oak Glen, So., 19-2; 5. Zac Bowers, Martins Ferry, Jr., 15-4; 6. Nick Perko, Bellaire, Jr., 20-4; 7. Bryan Bilyeu, Beallsville, Sr., 21-4; 8. Roger Best, John Marshall, Jr., 25-10.

160 — 1. Bud Hines, Barnesville, Sr., 22-1; 2. Rhett Northcraft, Oak Glen, Sr., 19-2; 3. Dusty Hill, Wheeling Park, Jr., 31-3; 4. Jonathan Stewart, Edison, Jr., 22-4; 5. Richard Bereschik, Wellsville, Sr., 19-3; 6. Jacob Donley, Harrison Central, Jr., 12-7; 7. Rodney Kale, Beaver Local, Sr., 12-6; 8. Seth Skrypek, John Marshall, Sr., 25-9.

171 — 1. Adam Gibson, Wheeling Park, Sr., 28-3; 2. Josh Cologie, Buckeye Local, Sr., 19-4; 3. Dan Dunn, Beaver Local, Jr., 20-2; 4. Kirk Wetherell, Cambridge, So., 13-6; 5. Tyler Kinzy, Beallsville, Sr., 16-3; 6. Charlie Fritter, Barnesville, Jr., 22-6; 7. TJ Ozbon, Oak Glen, Jr., 14-7; 8. Branko Busick, Weir, Fr., 15-3.

189 — 1. Bobby Scurlock, Cambridge, Sr., 23-4; 2. Kyle Reeder, Beaver Local, Jr., 21-2; 3. Josh Greathouse, Oak Glen, 20-2; 4. Derick Hesson, Caldwell, So., 13-7; 5. Brandon Rickman, John Marshall, Jr., 26-8; 6. Jacob Kulin, Steubenville, Sr., 16-8; 7. Brian Grear, Barnesville, Jr., 18-4; 8. Samson Gianessi, Weir, Jr., 17-1.

215 — 1. John Horn, Shenandoah, Sr., 24-0; 2. Paul Jefferies, Barnesville, Jr., 22-3; 3. Shane Clark, Martins Ferry, Sr., 19-2; 4. Bryan Rowland, Oak Glen, Sr., 17-5; 5. Taylor Potts, John Marshall, So., 26-9; 6. Justin Britnell, Cambridge, Sr., 15-8; 7. Thad Sollick, Beaver Local, Sr., 10-8; 8. Mike Matusik, River, Sr., 17-1.

275 — 1. Jimmy Bowersock, Beaver Local, Sr., 17-1; 2. John Nicolozakes, Cambridge, Jr., 15-1; 3. Eric Diagosta, East Liverpool, Jr., 21-2; 4. Ralph Petrella, Steubenville, Sr., 18-3; 5. Brett Taylor, Wheeling Park, Sr., 18-3; 6. Jeremiah Hinerman, Edison, Sr., 17-7; 7. Dustin Bruce, Bellaire, Jr., 19-4; 8. Jeff Coole, Martins Ferry, Sr., 15-3.



OVAC WRESTLING RESULTS

Team Scores

1. Wheeling Park 283.5; 2. Oak Glen 193.5; 3. Cambridge 193; 4. Beaver Local 158.5; 5. Buckeye Local 146.5; 6. St. Johns 130; 7. Edison 117; 8. Martins Ferry 112.5; 9. Barnesville 108.5; 10. John Marshall 107; 11. Bellaire 79; 12. Brooke 78; 13. Caldwell 76; 14. Indian Creek 72; 15. Harrison Central 67; (tie) Steubenville 67; 17. Union Local 63.5; 18. St. Clairsville 63; 19. Beallsville 58.5; 20. Shadyside 57; 21. Shenandoah 56; 22. East Liverpool 53; 23. Meadowbrook 49; (tie) Monroe Central 49; 25. Cameron 45; 28. Weir 37; 27. Wheeling Central 36; 28. River 28; 29. Wellsville 25; 30. Tyler Consolidated 24; 31. Conotton Valley 22; 32. Magnolia 12; 33. Steubenville Central 3; 34. Bishop Donahue 0.00 (tie) Linsly 0.00.

Championship Finals

103 - Turnbull (BuL) d. Taylor (WP), 8-4
112 - Green (WP) d. Reisz (Bea), 7-2
119 - Daugherty (Camb) d. Jewell (WP), 6-2
125 - Rush (WP) d. Clark (UL), 7-2
130 - Saxton (BuL) d. Caudill (BvL), 18-6
135 - Skoff (SJC) d. Mahley (Camb), 5-2
140 - Myers (IC) d. Mahan (OG), 4-2
145 - Schuller (StC) d. Nicola (SJC), 3-2
152 - Bowers (MF) d. Brooks (HC), 3-1
160 - Northcraft (OG) d. Hines (Bar), 8-5
171 - Cologie (BuL) d. Gibson (WP), 5-2
189 - Reeder (BvL) d. Scurlock (Camb), 7-5
215 - Horn (Shan) d. Jefferies (Barn), 8-3
275 - Bowersock (BvL) d. Hinerman (Ed), 5-3

Third Place

103 - Asbury (OG) d. Yoder (MF), 4-0; 112 - Felton (Brk) d. Dray (OG), 8-2; 119 - Stephen (Barn) d. Border (Cald), 6-2; 125 - McFarland (Brk) won by default (Androsko, StC); 130 - Green (WP) d. Ray (Camb), 7-2; 135 - Prickett (MC) d. Kennedy (WP), 11-2; 140 - Melko (SJC) d. Ware (MF), 2-1 (2OT); 145 - Seebach (Cald) p. Teague (Camb), 3-42; 152 - Pettit (Cam) d. Miller (OG), 5-0; 160 - Hill (WP) d. Donlay (HC), 5-0; 171 - Wetherell (Camb) d. Dunn (BvL), 5-0; 189 - Greathouse (OG) d. Rickman (JM), 12-2; 215 - Rowland (OG) d. Kettlewell (WP), 9-2; 275 - Petrella (Steub) d. Traylor (WP), 2-1

Fifth Place

103 - Risdon (HC) d. Bauer (WC), 4-1; 112 - Rose (Camb) d. Rossiter (Maa), 11-0; 119 - Clark (UL) d. Slaga (BuL), 13-8; 125 - Ray (Camb) d. Holt (MF), 4-1; 130 - Kosky (SJC) d. Basich (WC), 3-1; 135 - Stine (Ed) d. Bittinger (BvL), 4-0; 140 - Nelson (WP) d. Brancker, 7-0; 145 - Messenger (Barn) d. Schaal (BuL), 5-1; 152 - Skoff (SJC) p. Johnson, 1:33; 160 - Skrypek (JM) p. Stewart (Ed), 3-2; 171 - Busick (Weir) d. Chambers (JM), 10-7; 189 - Hesson (Cald) d. Hill (WP), 5-0; 215 - Potts (JM) d. Clark (MF), 4-2; 275 - Diagosta (EL) p. Coole (MF), 3:25

Seventh Place

103 - Lehotay (Maa) d. Porter (Bel), 8-1; 112 - Brown (Shan) d. Delguzzi (Ed), 14-6; 119 - Jeff Trigg (Sha) d. Eckerberry (OG), 12-7; 125 - Merryman (Sha) d. Potrajac (Ed), 4-2; 130 - Pendleton (IC) d. Widman (Ed), 9-4; 135 - Baker (OG) d. Green (Bel), 7-5; 140 - Pasquarella (Steub) d. Bock (BvL), 11-1; 145 - Johnson (Bel) d. Stina (Ed), 3-2; 152 - Gianessi (Weir) d. Bilyeu (Bea), 2-1; 160 - Booth (Bel) d. Sizemore (Brk), 9-3; 171 - Yost (TC) d. Love (Maa), 5-3; 189 - Gianessi (Weir) p. Koehler (Bea), 4:14; 215 - Sollick (BvL) d. Matusik (Riv), 8-3; 275 - Nikolozakes (Camb) won by default (Bruce, Bellaire)

Championship Semifinals

103 - Turnbull (BL) d. Risdon (HC), 4-3; Taylor (WP) d. Yoder (MF), 2-1 (2OT); 112 - Green (WP) dec. Felton (Brk), 5-2; Reisz (Bea) dec. Dray (OG), 2-1; 119 - Daugherty (Camb) p. Clark (UL), 6:57; Jewell (WP) d. Stephen (Barn), 1-0 (2OT); 125 - Rush (WP) d. McFarland (Brk), 5-0; Clark (UL) d. Holt (MF), 5-4; 130 - Saxton (BL) d. Basich (WC), 16-4; Caudill (BvL) d. Green (WP), 5-3; 135 - Skoff (SJC) d. Bittinger (Beav), 13-1; Mahley (Camb) d. Stine (Ed), 4-2; 140 - Mahan (OG) d. Ware (MF), 9-4; Myers (IC) d. Melko (SJC), 6-1; 145 - Nicola (SJC) tech. fall Teague (Camb), 20-1; Schuller (StC) d. Seebach (Cald), 13-7; 152 - Brooks (HC) d. Skoff (SJC), 3-2; Bowers (MF) d. Pettit (Cam), 8-3; 160 - Hines (Barn) d. Hill (WP), 2-1; Northcraft (OG) d. Donlay (HC), 11-7; 171 - Gibson (WP) d. Wetherell (Camb), 5-2; Cologie (BL) d. Dunn (Beav), 7-1; 189 - Scurlock (Camb) d. Hesson (Cald), 16-2; Reeder (BvL) d. Greathouse (OG), 8-4; 215 - Horn (Shan) d. Rowland (OG), 5-1; Jefferies (Barn) d. Clark (MF), 2-1 (2OT); 275 - Bowersock (BvL) p. Petrella (Steub), 5:16; Hinerman (Ed) d. Coole (MF), 5-2.



NFL PLAYOFFS: Steelers gearing up for Broncos

The Times Leader

Sports Saturday

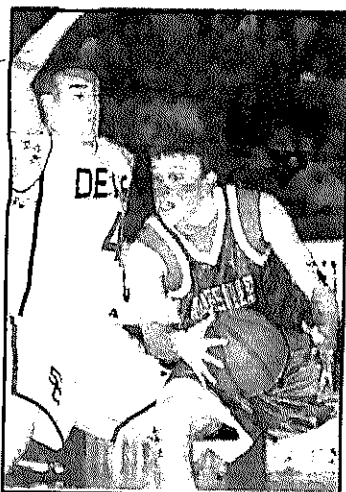
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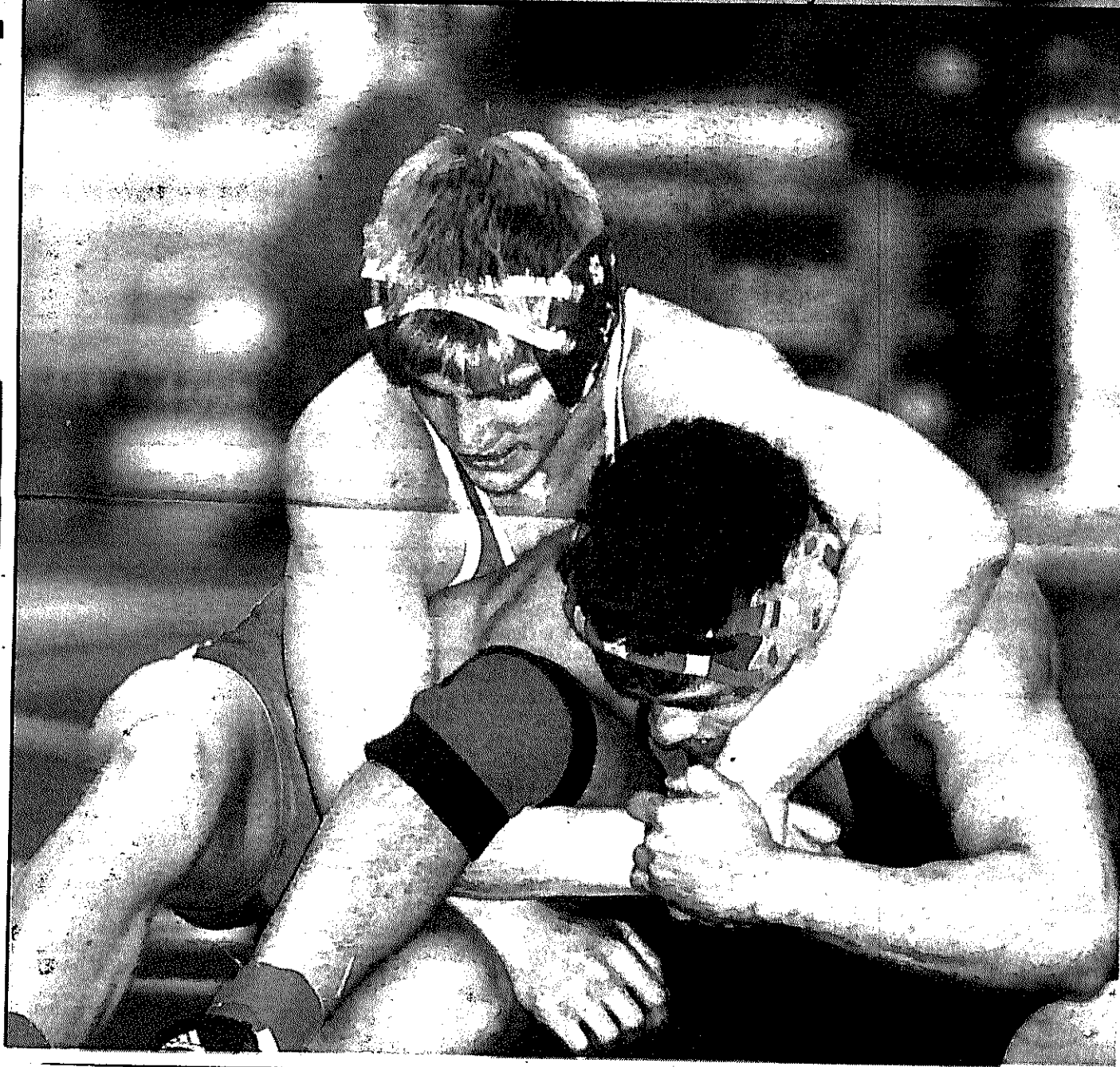
St. C. tops 'Rocks

Red Devils snap
four-game skid



Purple Riders roll

Martins Ferry
downs Tyler



'Band of Brothers' Helps Lead Patriots

By RICK THORP
Staff Writer

Wheeling Park wrestling coach Gene Monteleone likes to call his squad a "band of brothers."

And it's a term that fits perfectly, both literally and figuratively.

As the Patriots continue their march toward a possible state championship late next month in Huntington, they will do so with a roster that features five brother combinations.

It's something Monteleone has never seen on his team before.

"I don't think we've ever had this many brothers wrestle at any one time," the veteran coach said during a break in the action at the recently-completed Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament.

Brother tandems representing the Patriots include Ronnie and Ronnell Green, Matt and Dusty Hill, Tom and Tyler Kettlewell, Adam and Brenden Gibson and Abbie and Bryce Rush.

The pairs are part of one of the largest teams Park has fielded in quite some time. And Monteleone said the duos can sometimes provide some of the most spirited battles at practice.

"Some of the most heated battles we've had sometimes have been between Ronnie and Ronnell and also between

"I can't say enough about the camaraderie of the kids and it goes back to the idea that at the end of the day they are not only your teammates, but they are also your relatives."

Gene Monteleone

Bryce and Abbie and also between the two Gibson brothers," Monteleone said.

And sometimes that competitiveness even spills over into the home.

"We go to practice and workout for two hours and then after practice we workout at the gym and then it seems like we're having three practices a day when were rolling around at home," said a smiling Ronnie Green, who was seeded second in the 130-pound class at the OVAC's.

"It's fun, but it's a lot of hard work every day."

The friendly rivalry the brothers have developed as members of the team has sparked improvement, Monteleone said.

"It goes beyond winning a match," he said. "There's that pride thing where you don't want your brother to one up you."

Ronnell Green, a junior, has also enjoyed the time he has spent with his brother. After three years of wrestling and

playing football and baseball with him, he said it won't be the same when he graduates this spring.

"We play everything together, I'll miss him when he's gone," he said.

Ronnie Green will miss the competitive banter between he and his brother also. What he will miss the most is how being around him and working with him has made him a better athlete.

"It's just a pleasure to be able to watch him and have him around me every day," he said. "Without him, I didn't think I'd be where I am right now."

Monteleone said all of the brothers have certainly brought a family atmosphere to the Patriots this season.

"I can't say enough about the camaraderie of the kids and it goes back to the idea that at the end of the day they are not only your teammates, but they are also your relatives," he said.

"And that builds closeness."

ALL-OVAC WRESTLING

2006 ALL-OVAC WRESTLING

First Team

103: Justin Turnbull, sr., Buckeye Local
112: Ronell Green, jr., Wheeling Park
119: Dustin Daugherty, sr., Cambridge
125: Abbie Rush, sr., Wheeling Park
130: Willie Saxton, sr., Buckeye Local
135: Joe Skoff, sr., St. John Central
140: James Myers, jr., Indian Creek
145: Zack Schuller, sr., St. Clairsville
150: Zach Bowers, jr., Martins Ferry
160: Rhett Northcraft, sr., Oak Glen
171: Josh Cologie, sr., Buckeye Local
189: Kyle Reeder, jr., Beaver Local
215: John Horn, sr., Shenandoah
275: Jimmy Bowersock, sr., Beaver Local

Second Team

103: Nick Taylor, fr., Wheeling Park
112: Jimmy Reisz, so., Beallsville
119: Stephen Jewell, jr., Wheeling Park
125: Chase Clark, so., Union Local
130: Derik Caudill, sr., Beaver Local
135: Sean Mahley, jr., Cambridge
140: Jesse Mahan, sr., Oak Glen
145: Mick Nicole, sr., St. John Central
152: Brad Brooks, sr., Harrison Central
160: Bud Hines, sr., Barnesville
171: Adam Gibson, sr., Wheeling Park
189: Bobby Scurlock, sr., Cambridge
215: Paul Jefferis, jr., Barnesville
275: Jeremlah Hinerman, sr., Edison

Honorable Mention

Barnesville: Adam Messenger (145);
Ryan Stephen (119)
Beallsville: Bryan Bilyeu (152), Logan Koehler (189)
Beaver Local: Jon Bittinger (135);
Danny Dunn (171)
Ballalre: Jared Booth (160); Chauncey Green (135)
Buckeye Local: Nathan Schaal (145);

Mike Slaga (119)
Caldwell: Jared Border (119); Justin Seebach (145)
Cambridge: Dan Ray (130); Chad Teague (145)
Cameron: Danny Dishman (275); Jeff Pettit (152)
Conotton Valley: Anthony Nicholas (125); P.J. Vincent (171)
East Liverpool: Eric DiAgosta (275)
Edison: Jonathan Stewart (160); Andy Stine (135)
Harrison Central: Jacob Donley (160); Nick Risdon (103)
Indian Creek: Craig Johnston (145); Dylan Pendleton (130)
John Marshall: Brandon Rickman (189); Seth Skrypek (152)
Linsly: John Ruskowski (215)
Magnolia: Travis Helmick (145); Ethan King (119)
Meadowbrook: Tyler Love (171); Justin Rossiter (119)
Monroe Central: Mike English (215); Toray Prickett (135)
Oak Glen: Josh Greathouse (189); Bryan Rowland (215)
River: Justin Armann (103); Mike Matusik (215)
Shadyside: K.J. Furbee (130); Jeff Trigg (119)
Steubenville: Nick Pasquarella (140); Ralph Petrella (275)
Union Local: Chaz Clark (119); Allen Gray (152)
Weir: David Gianessal (152); Samson Gianessal (189)
Wellsville: Richard Bereschik (160)
Wheeling Central: Zach Besich (130); Dirk Bauer (103)
Wheeling Park: Ron Green (130); Dusty Hill (160)

Mr. Mat Award

By DR. BILL WELKER
For The Times Leader

Nolan Van Gilder of Brooke High School was honored Saturday night as the 31st recipient of the OVAC's "Mr. Mat" Award.

The ceremony was held at WesBanco Arena in conjunction with the finals of the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament.

Van Gilder got his start in the mat sport as Mauck's assistant in 1967, which was the beginning of four decades devoted to the sport of wrestling.

He was later the head wrestling coach at Brooke High School (1989-1997), where he produced five state champions, including Steve Camilletti and Brian Zimmerman (1989), Jeremy Lowe (1994) and two-time state champ Dewitt Stanley (1996 & 1997) and Danny Stanley in 1998.

Van Gilder also had 14 state placewinners and coached numerous Top 10 teams at the state wrestling championships.

Van Gilder's Bruins also enjoyed their share of success in the prestigious tournament now named for the man who gave him his start in the sport.

During his tenure at the Brooke County consolidation, Van Gilder mentored three OVAC Tournament champions - two-time OVAC champ Dewitt Stanley (1996-97) and cousin Danny Stanley (1998) - along with 28 OVAC placewinners.

Throughout the years, Coach Van Gilder wore many wrestling hats.

Van Gilder was tournament director with Ron Mauck at the Brooke Classic since its inception, which he still serves in that capacity today.

In fact, he devised a pool system for the event that allowed all the wrestlers in the competition to wrestle more matches during the two-day event. Since his involvement in the Classic, the tournament has

been ranked as one of the top 25 wrestling tournaments in the nation.

Van Gilder also directed numerous West Virginia Class AAA Regional championships and OVAC Freshman and JV tournaments at the school.

He has also been an instrumental force behind the scenes at the OVAC Wrestling Championships for many years in his position as head scorekeeper.

As the mechanical drawing instructor at Brooke High School, Van Gilder also created the various name and pass tags, forms and bout sheets at the OVAC tournament. He also designed the wrestling wall of fame in the Brooke High School wrestling room.

Coach Van Gilder is not only a master of the mat sport but also a master teacher and coach in various sports. His expertise in athletics also involved coaching tennis for 25 years, and as assistant golf coach for 15 years at Brooke.

He is not only totally dedicated to developing students into competitive athletes, but also boys and girls into young men and women who will be successful in the adult world.

A retired teacher with 32 years of experience, Van Gilder always enjoyed education because of his love for the students he taught from 1967 until 1999.

Nolan Van Gilder and his wife Shirley of nearly 39 years are the parents of two sons and three grandchildren.

The Van Gilders' oldest son, Donald Nolan, is a practicing lawyer with a CPA in Cleveland where he also teaches at a local college. He and his wife Sherry have one son, Donald Nolan, II, who is 15 months.

Nolan and Shirley's other son, Doug, is an aerospace engineer in California. He and his wife Jennifer have two children - Jillian, 4 and Dillon, 2.



Photo by Art Limann

Former Brooke High School wrestling coach Nolan Van Gilder, right, was named "Mr. Mat" Saturday night. Presenting him with the honor is Ron Mauck.

Van Gilder Receives 'Mr. Mat' Award

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For The News-Register

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Coach Van Gilder's love of the mat sport was unprecedented.

He was later the head wrestling coach at Brooke High School (1989-1997), where he produced five state champions, including Steve Camilletti and Brian Zimmerman (1989), Jeremy Lowe (1994) and two-time state champ Dewitt Stanley (1996 & 1997) and Danny Stanley in 1998.

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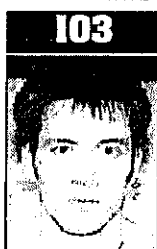













Nolan and Shirley's other son, Doug, is an aerospace engineer in California. He and his wife Jennifer have two children - Jillian, 4 and Dillon, 2.

Van Gilder was presented with a commemorative plaque and the traditional light blue "Mr. Mat" sports jacket at Saturday night's ceremonies.

B2



OVAC Champions

 103 Justin Turnbull	 112 Ronnell Green		
 119 Dustin Daugherty	 125 Abbie Rush	 130 Willie Saxton	 135 Joe Skoff
 140 James Myers	 145 Zack Schuller	 152 Zach Bowers	 160 Rhett Northcraft
 171 Josh Cologe	 189 Kyle Reeder	 215 John Horn	 275 Jimmy Bowersock

RON MAUCK OVAC WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

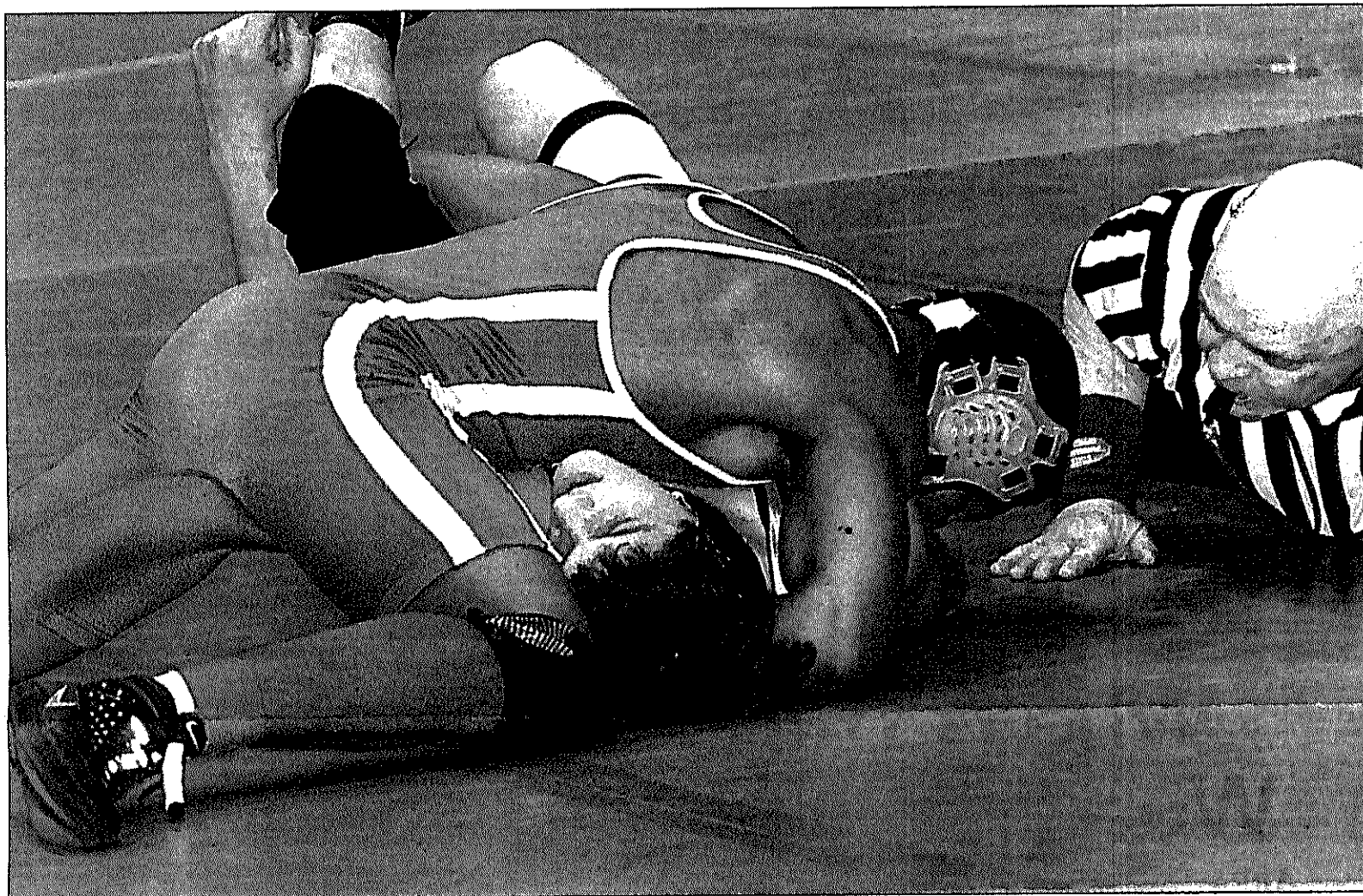


Photo by Alex Kozlowski

Wheeling Park's Ronnie Green takes control of John Marshall's Danny Ruza during action in their 130-pound bout Thursday at the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament at WesBanco Arena.

Baker's Dozen

Wheeling Park advances 13 wrestlers in tournament's opening round

By JIM ELLIOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

The Wheeling Park Patriots had a fairly easy time with the rest of the field Thursday during first-round action of the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament.

The Patriots, considered the favorites by some to win this year's tournament based on the quality and the high number of seeded wrestlers they had going in, pushed 13 of 14 wrestlers through to the championship second round, which begins today at 11 a.m. at WesBanco Arena.

Two-time defending champion Oak Glen pushed 11 wrestlers through and is in second place with 39.5 points, 9.5 behind the Patriots (49). Cambridge is third with 34, followed by Beaver Local (33) and Bellaire St. John (27).

In the individual classes, Park leads 4-A, Oak Glen heads up the Class AAA field, Barnesville,



"We're pleased. Nobody's hurt, and we got 13 guys still in the championship. There was nothing unusual, very little surprise."

Gene Monteleone

which is 11th overall with 22 points, is the Class AA leader, while St. John is in front in the smallest class.

Thursday, for the most part, was all about the Patriots.

Ten Wheeling Park wrestlers recorded falls, including top seeds Abbie Rush, with a 25-second pin against Wellsville's Andrew Gibbs at 1:25, and Adam Gibson, with a pin of Shenandoah's Josh Oppenheimer at 2:57 in their 171-pound

bout.

"We're pleased," Patriot coach Gene Monteleone said. "Nobody's hurt, and we got 13 guys still in the championship. There was nothing unusual, very little surprise. Things went 'according to Hoyle,' as they say."

Monteleone wasn't the only one who was impressed.

Asked if he knew where the Bears stood immediately after the first-round matches had come to a

close, and before the official results had been handed out, Oak Glen coach Larry Shaw said, "I saw we were four or five points ahead of Cambridge and a whole bunch behind Wheeling Park."

"What a round they had."

He says that despite the fact that he helped cause the lone Patriot blemish.

Unseeded Joel Timmons of Oak Glen was able to record a 6-2 decision against Wheeling Park's Heath Beecher, the eighth seed at 145.

It was a win that made Shaw look smart, as he chose that line during Sunday's seeding meeting, hoping something like this might happen. Timmons might have been unseeded, probably because he's filling in for an injured wrestler, but he's also a two-time W.Va. state place-winner.

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DOZEN

Continued from page 17

"We knew in the seeding meeting that coach Shaw chose to put his kid right there on that line, that wasn't by accident," Monteleone said. "Our 45 pounder lost, but he's a light 45-pounder. He probably could make 35 if he really wanted, but he's wrestling there because obviously we have a pretty good lineup at the bottom."

Said Shaw: "Well I don't know that I knew what I was doing, but I was hoping that my guy would make me look good..."

While the Golden Bears will be looking for points in the consolation rounds from their 125-pounder, their 130-pounder, and their heavy-weight, seven other Bears, including top-seeded Jessie Mahan at 140, recorded falls.

"The real wrestling's (today) when you get into the place rounds and Saturday morning when you get those huge points," Shaw said. "The key is to get as many guys as possible to Saturday morning."

"Teams are going to cut each other up, I know that. We're going to be victims, as are Beaver Local, Wheeling Park, and Cambridge. Eventually guys are going to start losing matches. It's up to us obviously to get as many through to Saturday."

Cambridge had nine grapplers get through

unscathed, eight via pin. Included in that were top seeds Dustin Daugherty (119) and Bobby Scurlock (189) both picking up pins.

In their quests for OVAC history, both Wheeling Park's Rush and St. Clairsville's Zack Shuler were able to record pins.

Every top seed won via fall with the exception of heavyweight Jimmy Bowersock of Beaver Local. He won by forfeit.

With three champions in the field at 145, it was expected to be the toughest division in the tournament. The fact that two unseeded wrestlers - Timmons and Carl Perkins of Union Local - were able to gain wins against seeded wrestlers only adds to that debate.

Other unseeded wrestlers gaining wins Friday were East Liverpool's Kevin Riggle, who recorded a fall over sixth-seeded Nick Pasquarella of Steubenville, and Barnesville's Josh Smith, who won a decision over eighth-seeded Roger Best of John Marshall.

Notes

Mark Bartlett of Cambridge and Troy Fetty was honored as the Middle School Coach of the Year. Also honored for his years of dedicated service was wrestling official Shawn Crosier, who is retiring.

OVAC WRESTLING RESULTS

Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament (at WestBanco Arena) Team Scores

1. Wheeling Park 49, 2. Oak Glen 39.5, 3. Cambridge 34, 4. Beaver Local 33, 5. Belleaire St. John 27, 6. John Marshall 28, 7. Belleaire 25, 8. Shadyside 24, 9. (tie) Buckeye Local, Martins Ferry 23.5, 11. Barnesville 22, 12. Caldwell 21, 13. Edison 20, 14. Monroe Central 18, 15. Beallsville 15.5, 16. Tyler Consolidated 14, 17. (tie) Conotton Valley, River 12, 19. Union Local 10.5, 20. (tie) Magnolia, Shenandoah, St. Clairsville 10, 23. (tie) Brooke, Meadowbrook 9, 25. (tie) East Liverpool, Indian Creek, Steubenville, Weir, Wheeling Central 8, 30. Harrison Central 7.5, 31. (tie) Cameron, Wellsville, 33. (tie) Bishop Donahue, Linsly, Steubenville Central 0

Individual Results Championship Bracket

103 Pounds
First Round
Turnbull (BuL) p. Crozier (Shad) 1:26; Lehotay (Mead) p. Kinney (Cam) :25; Bauer (WC) p. Beck (JM) 2:46; Fortar (Bell) p. Birney (Staub) 2:36; Armann (Riv) p. Vrotos (StC) :19; Ashbury (OG) p. Foster (BSJ) 4:24; Fluharty (Brk) d. Vincent 7-0; Taylor (WP) p. Bortz (SCe) 1:33.

112 Pounds
Green (WP) p. Ingram (JM) :27; Felton (Brk) p. Glover (TC) 1:05; Dray (OG) p. Kandrjorsky (BuL) 1:55; Reisz (Beal) d. Springer 17-6; Rossiter (Mead) d. Iachini (Staub) 13-2.

119 Pounds
Howard (JM) p. Warsinsky (Cam) 3:58; Eckleberry (OG) p. Clavin (BSJ) 3:55; Clark (UL) d. McConnell (Ed) 15-0; Carter (Bell) p. Coil (EL) 5:15; Daugherty (Camb) p. Foose (WC) 1:09; Yost (TC) p. Blackstone (MC) :54; Trigg (Shad) p. Moore (Beal) 2:40; Stephen (Barn) p. Poinsett (IC) 2:24; Border (Cald) d. Heinicke (Riv) 18-2; Slaga (BuL) d. Oberdick (StC) 11-4; Jewell (WP) d. Gilles (Brk) 11-2; King (Mag) d. Glasz (Weir) 10-4.

125 Pounds
Holt (MF) p. Morales (Staub) :35; Ray (Camb) p. Smith (TC) 2:51; Peterson (BuL) d. Potts (OG) 18-2; Williams (BvL) d. Landis 3-0; Merryman (Shad) p. Parry (Cam) 2:49; McFarland (Brk) d. Coil (EL) 9-0; Androako (StC) p. Cavanaugh (SCe) 1:07; Clark (UL) d. Thomas (Riv) 19-8; Rush (WP) p. Gibbs

(Weir) :24; Potkrajac (Ed) p. Piper (BSJ) 5:29.

130 Pounds
Caudill (BvL) p. Howarth (Staub) 1:05; Ray (Camb) p. Talbot (SCe) 1:10; Maynard (CV) p. Price (Mead) 4:57; Saxton (BuL) p. Caldwell (EL) 1:13; Wable (TC) p. Leasure (Shen) 3:06; Kosky (BSJ) d. Andrews (OG) 11-3; Yockey (StC) d. Pratt (HC) 5-0; Green (WP) p. Ruza (JM) 1:24; Zac (MF) d. Wickman (Ed) 10-8; Basich (WC) p. Cumpston (Cam) 5:24; Furbee (Shad) p. Pflupjerna (Weir) :27.

135 Pounds
Stine (Ed) p. Bornette (StC) :55; Skoff (BSJ) p. Mellucci (MF) :36; Clendenin (Shad) p. Webb (CV) 3:58; Bittinger (BvL) p. Rossiter (Mead) 1:44; Prickett (MC) d. Magers (Barn) 10-6; Becca (BuL) d. Reed (EL) 7-6; Mahley (Camb) p. Mostl (SCe) :17; Bakar (OG) d. Doyle (JM) 5-3; Kennedy (WP) p. Wright 2:49; Green (Bell) d. Parson (WC) 13-3; Conrad (Mead) d. Chambers (Cam) 5-4.

140 Pounds
Brackner (Ed) p. Little (Weir) :56; Ware (MF) won by forfeit; Russell (MC) won by forfeit; Saracco (Weir) p. Myers (IC) 1:16; Mahan (OG) p. Miller (Brk) 1:07; Riggle (EL) p. Pasquarella (Staub) 2:08; Iachini (Staub) p. Lamp (Cald) 4:53; Nunner (HC) p. Melko (BSJ) 2:34; Weekley (TC) p. Hardy (Camb) 3:17; Bock (BvL) p. Smith (Shen) 1:55; Heslop (Shad) p. Ashland (Beal) :45; Melchiori (JM) d. Sigler (UL) 7-1; Nelson (WP) p. Oldfield (Riv) :18; Piergallini (BuL) p. Paterson (Cam) 5:51.

145 Pounds
Perkins (UL) p. Messenger (Barn) 2:45; Helmick (Mag) p. Richardson (CV) 1:48; Johnson (Bell) p. Watson (Mead) 1:43; Seebach (Cald) p. Hanelman (Weir) 1:05; Schuller (StC) p. Horvath (Shad) 3:02; Teague (Camb) p. Briggs (Cam) 2:33; Timmons (OG) d. Beecher (WP) 8-2; Richey (JM) p. Wayne (Staub) 5:06; Crock (Shen) d. Campbell (BvL) 4-2; Tucker (MF) d. Pell (WC) 18-1; Nicola (BSJ) p. McCaughy (MC) :44; Stine (Ed) d. Woods (EL) 5-3.

152 Pounds
Petit (Cam) p. Hutton (BuL) 1:42; Miller (OG) p. Markakis (Staub) 1:24; Bilyeu (Beal) p. Klug (Shad) 2:37; Rossiter (Shen) p. Leasure (TC) 1:41; Smith (Barn) d. Best (JM) 14-12; Skoff (BSJ) p. Parsons (WC) 2:40; Dowling (Cald) d. Richter (MC) 15-0; Kantis (WP) d. Hirt (Weir) 9-3; Brooks (HC) d. Osborne (BvL) 19-4; Perko (Bell) d. Prokopakis (Ed) 4-2.

160 Pounds
Bereschik (Weir) p. Bass (Staub) :25; Bowers (MF) p. Dray (EL) 1:28; Skrypek (JM) p. Pierce (Mead) :26; Starr (Riv) won by forfeit; Hill (WP) p. Myers (Cam) :32; Kale (BvL) p. Neff (Cald) :19; Hines (Barn) p. Mitchell (StC) 3:53; Booth (Bell) p. Sotter (IC) :32; Donley (HC) p. Pine (Weir) :23; Northcraft (OG) d. Hillard (BuL) 16-1; Stewart (Ed) d. Sizemore (Brk) 5-1.

171 Pounds
Gibson (WP) p. Oppenheimer :57; Kinzy (Beal) p. Dunn (UL) 2:41; Fritter (Barn) p. Clegg (Riv) 1:32; Chambers (JM) won by forfeit; Dunn (BvL) p. Witzberger (WC) 1:47; Yost (TC) d. Ingram (Ed) 11-4; Busick (Weir) p. Miller (IC) 3:04; Cologis (BuL) p. Minor (EL) :47; Vincent (CV) p. Dunn (Staub) :38; Crum (Cald) p. Whiteman (Mag) :34; Osbon (OG) p. Howell (HC) 1:47; Wetherell (Camb) p. Duke (Brk) :41.

189 Pounds
Scurlock (Camb) p. Lehotay (Mead) :49; Ensell (IC) p. Hoskinson (Bell) 2:32; Rickman (JM) p. Holcomb (StC) :25; Graer (Barn) p. Woodford (MF) :48; Gianesi (Weir) p. Moore (Shen) 4:43; Kulin (Staub) p. Richardson (Ed) 1:46; Greathouse (OG) p. Kane (Mag) :41; Hill (WP) p. Duke (BuL) 1:15; Bondy (MC) p. Cao (WC) 1:43; Kahl (Shad) p. VanCamp (Riv) :54; Zawisa (BSJ) p. Roberts (TC) 4:01; Hesson (Cald) p. Koehler (Beal) 3:42; Reeder (BvL) p. Boreman (HC) 2:42.

215 Pounds
Habig (BSJ) p. Fletcher (Staub) 4:58; Clark (MF) p. Dodds (HC) :22; Matusik (Riv) p. Rayburn (Weir) 2:48; Horn (Shen) p. Clegg (Bell) :29; Rowland (OG) p. Talbot (EL) :45; Kotsen (Mag) p. Wolfe (Mead) 3:50; Kettlewell (WP) p. Faldowski (BuL) 4:15; Kanzyg (Beal) won by forfeit; Potts (JM) p. McCallister (Ed) 1:37; Jefferies (Barn) p. Ware (IC) :37; English (MC) p. LeMasters (IC) 5:12; Britnell (Camb) d. Mankowski (Weir) 3-2; Shenkel (Cald) d. Altken (Brk) 11-4; Sollick (BvL) d. Macy (UL) 12-1.

275 Pounds
Nicolozakes (Camb) p. Parsons (WC) 1:10; Patrella (Staub) p. Dishman (Cam) 1:09; Diagosta (EL) p. Gray (StC) :57; Bowersock (BvL) won by forfeit; Coole (MF) d. Collins (OG) 7-1; Traylor (WP) d. Davis (JM), default; Hinerman (Ed) p. Gad (BuL) 1:21; Bruca (Bell) p. Kowcheck (Brk) 2:58.

Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament First Round Pairings

103 - (1) Justin Turnbull (BL) v. Bryan Crozier (Shad); Joe Lawrence (IC), bye; Tommy Myers (TC), bye; Mitch Thompson (Beav) v. (8) Brent Fluharty (Brooke); (6) Justin Armann (Riv) v. J.T. Vrotos (StC); Nick Risdon (HC), bye; Jon Barker (Barn), bye; Derek Birney (Staub) v. (4) Zack Porter (Bell); (3) Nick Taylor (WP) v. Paulick Bortz (SCC); Steve Conquest (Cald), bye; Greg Walker (Weir), bye; Jake Foster (SJC) v. (5) Ryan Ashbury; (7) Ed Lehotay (Mead) v. Matt Kinney (Cam); Wyatt Duffield (EL), bye; Taylor Yoder (MF), bye; Eric Beck (JM) v. (2) Dirk Bauer (WC).

112 - (1) Ronnell Green (WP) v. Skip Ingram (JM); Justin Linstford (Shad), bye; Pat Neis (WC), bye; (6) Jared McIntosh (Beav), bye; (6) Justin Rossiter (Mead) v. Angelo Iachini (Staub); Pat Marshall (IC), bye; Ron Reed (Weir), bye; Michael Glover (TC) v. (4) Daniel Felton (Brooke); (3) Ethan Dray v. Mike Kandrjorsky (BL); Kevin Snyder (HC), bye; Zack Knowlton (Bell), bye; Brad Mackey (MF) v. (5) Paul Rose (Camb); Zack Delguzzi (Ed) v. John Schumacher (MC); Jesse Brown (Shen), bye; Lovi Seebach (Cald), bye; (2) Jimmy Reisz (Beal) v. Cagney Springer (EL).

119 - (1) Dustin Daugherty (Camb) v. John Foose (WC); Kyle Warsinsky (Cam) v. Jeremy Howard (JM); Anthony Iachini (Staub), bye; Greg Clavin (SJC) v. (8) Troy Eckleberry (OG); (5) Erik Carter (Bell) v. Joe Coil (EL); Mike Sachs (Beav), bye; Ethan King (Mag) v. Josh Glasz (Weir); Justin McConnell (Ed) v. (4) Chaz Clark (UL); (3) Jared Border (Cald) v. George Heinicke (Riv); Nick Oberdick (StC) v. Mike Slaga (BL); Vinnie Doem (Weir) v. Julian Yost (TC); Ben Giles (Brooke) v. (6) Stephen Jewell (WP); (7) Jeff Trigg (Shad) v. Cody Moore (Beal); Travis Harless (Mead), bye; Sean Phillips (HC) v. Josh Blackstone (MC); Dan Poinsett (IC) v. (2) Ryan Stephen (Barn).

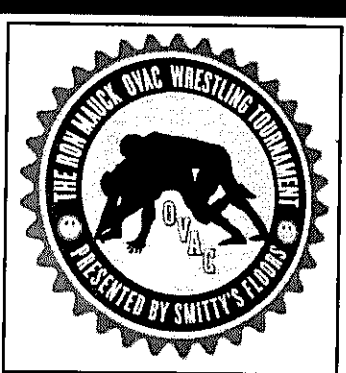
125 - (1) Abbie Rush (WP) v. Andrew Gibbs (Weir); Lany Williams (Beav) v. Taylor Harless (Mead); Ashley Blackstone (MC), bye; Carl Piper (SJC) v. (8) Bryan Potkrajac (Ed); (6) Jim McFarland (Brooke) v. Josh Coil (EL); Shawn Huntsman (Barn), bye; Joey Hoover (Shen) v. Eian Landis (IC); George Cavanaugh (SCC) v. (4) Zac Androsko (StC); (3) Jon Ray (Camb) v. Robert Smith (TC); Kurt Peterson (BL) v. Paden Potts (OG); Anthony Nicholas (CV), bye; Alex Morales (Staub) v. (5) Demick Holt (MF); (7) Johnny Merryman (Shad) v. Cory Parry (Cam); Kyle Faykus (Bell), bye; Ben Rock (JM) v. P.J. Thomas (Riv); Skyler North (Weir) v. (2) Chase Clark (UL).

130 - (1) Willie Saxton (BL) v. Dennis Caldwell (EL); Chad Kilburn (MC) v. Davy Wilson (UL); Dylan Perdoton (IC), bye; Blake Widmann (Ed) v. (8) Tim Zoc (MF); (6) Zack Kosky (SJC) v. Preston Andrews (OG); Robbie Chilson (Bell), bye; Kyle Maynard (CV) v. Caleb Price (Mead); Tyler Cumpston (Cam) v. (4) Zach Basich (WC); (3) Derek Caudill (Beav) v. Zach Horvath (Staub); Sam Yockey (StC) v. Dustin Pratt (HC); Jon Huntsman (Barn), bye; Jonathan Pflupjerna (Weir) v. (5) K.J. Furbee (Shad); (7) Dan Ray (Camb) v. Brendan Talbot (SCC); Wesley Barnes (Weir), bye; Troy Wable (TC) v. Justin Leasure (Shen); Danny Ruza (JM) v. (2) Ronnie Green (WP).

135 - (1) Joe Skoff (SJC) v. Eric Mellucci (MF); Dirk Baker (OG) v. Sean McKirick (Staub); Timmy Jones (Beal), bye; Scott Droginska (WC) v. (8) Chauncey Green (Bell); (5) Jon Bittenger (Beav) v. Jeremy Rossiter (Shen); Brandon Snider (IC), bye; Marc Slenger (UL) v. Danny Doyle (JM); Daniel Magers (Barn) v. (4) Torey Prickett (MC); (3) Andy Stine (Ed) v. Chase Bonnetta (StC); Donnie Webb (CV) v. Justin Clendenin (Shad); Rob Eddy (HC), bye; Shane Reed (EL) v. (6) Mike Becca (BL); (7) Bruce Kennedy (WP) v. Brian Wright (TC); Cory Uta (Brooke), bye; Charles Chambers (Cam) v. Brandon Conrad (Mead); Justin Mostl (SCC) v. (2) Sean Mahley (Camb).

140 - (1) Jessie Mahan (OG) v. Terina Miller (Brooke); A.J. Tiziani (CV) v. Anthony Lamp (CV); Remington Marcos (WC), bye; Josh Little (Weir) v. (7) Chris Brackner (Ed); (6) Nick Pasquarella (Staub) v. Kevin Riggle (EL); Cody Smith (Shen) v. Tyler Bock (Beav); Adam Weekley (TC) v. Steve Hardy (Camb); Josh Perko (SCC) v. (4) Chad Ware (MF); (3) Kayne Melko (SJC) v. Danny Nunner (HC); Andy Sigler (UL) v. Kason Melchiori (JM); Blake Heslop (Shad) v. Andrew Ashland (Beal); Tim Oxfield (Riv) v. (5) Ronnie Nelson (WP); (8) Austin Piergallini (BL) v. John Peterson (Cam); Aaron Porter (Bell), bye; Mike Russell (MC) v. Tyler Lane (Barn); Damian Saracco (Weir) v. (2) James Myers (IC).

145 - (1) Mick Nicola (SJC) v. Nathan McCaughy (MC); Phil Pederson (Brooke) v. P.J. Ware (Staub); Jacob Bishop (Weir), bye; Kiefer Watson (Mead) v. (7) Ross Johnson (Bell); (5) Adam Messenger (Barn) v. Carl Perkins (UL); Bradon Richey (JM) v. Nathan Schaal (BL); Bob Campbell (Beav) v. Chris Crock (Shen); Michael Briggs (Cam) v. (4) Chad Teague



(Camb); (3) Zack Schuller (StC) v. Luke Horvath (Shad); Travis Helmick (Mag) v. Brandon Richardson (CV); Isaiah Riche (TC) v. Taylor Banks (HC); Nick Woods (EL) v. (6) Nick Stine (Ed); (8) Heath Becher (WP) v. Joel Timmons (OG); Matt Emery (IC), bye; Chase Tucker (MF) v. Doug Pell (WC); Jeff Hanelman (Weir) v. (2) Justin Seebach (Cald).

152 - (1) Jeff Pettit (Cam) v. Joe Hutton (BL); Adam Parsons (WC) v. Josh Rossiter (Mead); David Gianesi (Weir), bye; Casey Klug (Shad) v. (7) Bryan Bilyeu (Beal); (5) Zac Bowers (MF) v. Bryant Dray (EL); James Beatty (Camb), bye; Robbie Rossiter (Shen) v. Zac Leasure (TC); Mark Markakis (Staub) v. (4) Cody Miller (OG); (3) Bryan Skoff (SJC) v. Emily Dilts (Mag); Andrew Hirt (Weir) v. Shane Kantis (WP); Craig Johnston (IC), bye; Tyler Prokopakis (Ed) v. (6) Nick Perko (Bell); (8) Roger Best (JM) v. Josh Smith (Barn); Alan Gray (UL), bye; Lamar Dowling (Cald) v. Chris Richter (MC); Jared Osborne (Beav) v. (2) Brad Brooks (HC).

160 - (1) Bud Hines (Barn) v. Travis Mitchell (StC); Tyler Bass (Staub) v. Zach Burke (MC); Justin Rossiter (Shen), bye; Sean Neff (TC) v. (7) Rodney Kale (Beav); (5) Richard Bereschik (Weir) v. Ethan Warren (OG); Brett Blevins (UL), bye; Troy Starr (Riv) v. Jammaal Lowery (Camb); Jake Myers (Cam) v. (3) Dusty Hill (WP); (4) Jonathan Stewart (Ed) v. Josh Sizemore (Brooke); Robert Sotter (IC) v. Jared Booth (Bell); Ron Scott (EL), bye; Jamie Pine (Weir) v. (5) Jacob Donley (HC); (8) Seth Skrypek (JM) v. Tom

Proudfit (Mead); George Ruckman (Beal), bye; Jon Boggs (MF) v. Michael Neff (Cald); Rick Renforth (BL) v. (2) Rhett Northcraft (OG).

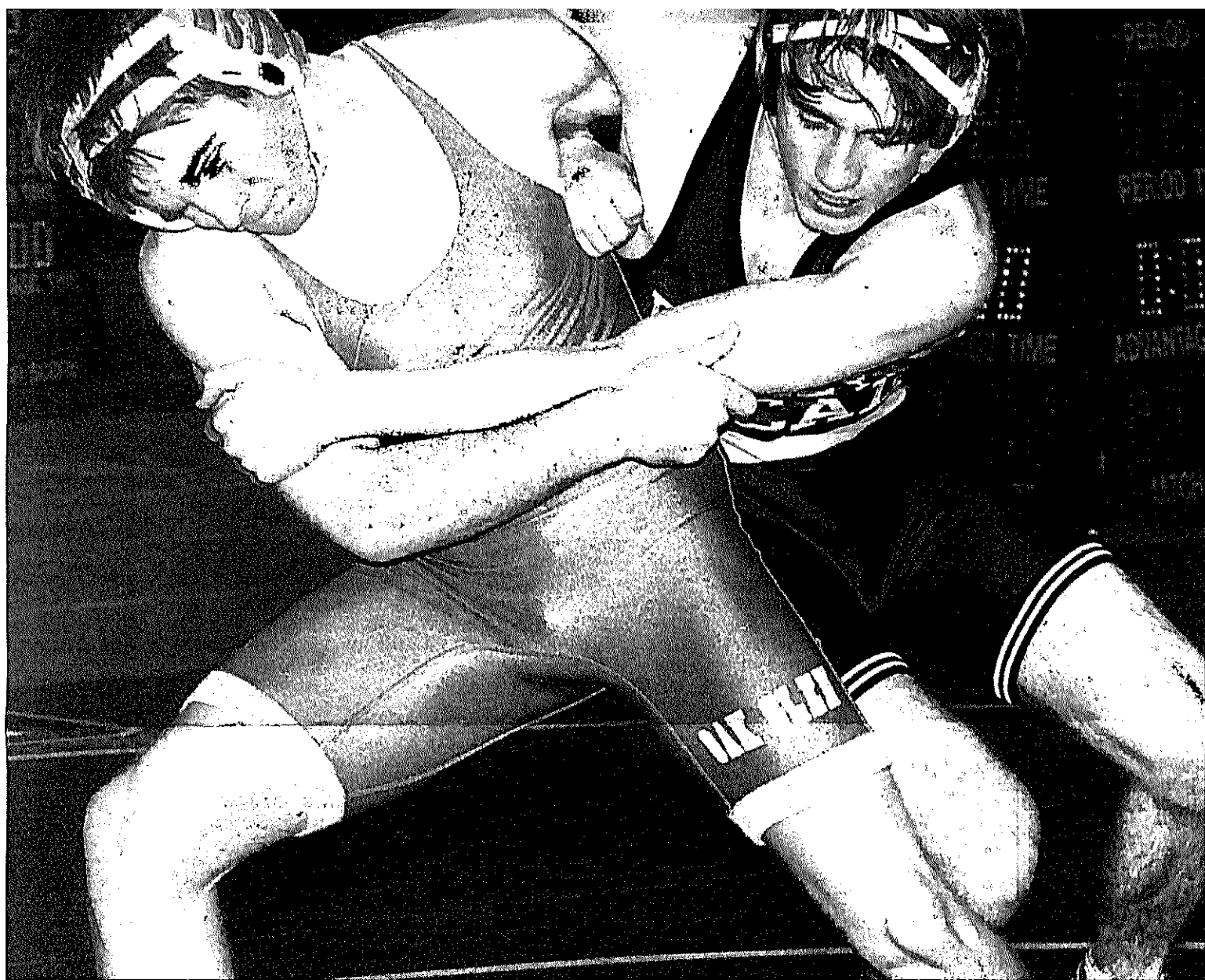
171 - (1) Adam Gibson (WP) v. Josh Oppenheimer (Shen); P.J. Vincent (CV) v. Josh McShan (Staub); Tyler Love (Mead), bye; Tod Miller (IC) v. (8) Branko Busick (Weir); (5) Tyler Kinzy (Beal) v. Lewis Dunn (UL); Matt Shreve (MF), bye; Aaron Crow (Bell) v. Mark Chambers (JM); Andy Duke (Brooke) v. (4) Kirk Wetherell (Camb); (3) Dan Dunn (Beav) v. Larry Witzberger (WC); Junior Yost (TC) v. Kevin Ingram (Ed); Josh Costlow (SCC) v. Mardis Stevens (MC); Jordan Clegg (Riv) v. (6) Charlie Fritter (Barn); (7) T.J. Osbon (OG) v. Ty Howell (HC); Ryan Crabtree (Weir), bye; Duzin Crum (Cald) v. Martin Whiteman (Mag); Tim Minor (EL) v. (2) Josh Cologis (BL).

189 - (1) Bobby Scurlock (Camb) v. Ben Lehotay (Mead); Brad Ensell (IC) v. Zach Hoskinson (Bell); Jared Mostl (SCC), bye; Thomas More (Shen) v. (8) Samson Gianesi (Weir); (6) Jacob Kulin (Staub) v. Josh Richardson (Ed); Jake Davis (UL), bye; Kory VanCamp (Riv) v. Jery Kahl (Shad); Logan Koehler (Beal) v. (4) Derrick Hesson (Cald); (3) Josh Greathouse (OG) v. Alan Kane (Mag); Matt Hill (WP) v. Corey Duke (BL); Jeff Zawisa (SJC) v. Holden Roberts (TC); Levi Holcomb (StC) v. (5) Brandon Rickman (MC); (7) Brian Graer (Barn) v. Steven Woodford (MF); Zach Scott (CV), bye; Schlyar Bondy

(MC) v. Marco Cao (WC); James Boreman (HC) v. (2) Kyle Reeder (Beav).

215 - (1) John Horn (Shen) v. Zack Clegg (Bell); Chris Lemasters (TC) v. Mike English (MC); Pat Reasbeck (WC), bye; Greg Rayburn (Weir) v. (6) Mike Matusik (Riv); (6) Justin Britnell (Camb) v. Mike Manowski (Weir); Anthony Faldowski (BL) v. Tommy Kettlewell (WP); Wendell Habig (SJC) v. Donavon Fletcher (Staub); Artis Talbert (EL) v. (4) Bryan Rowland (OG); (3) Shane Clark (MF) v. Ben Dodds (HC); Christian Wolfe (Mead) v. Issiah Kotsen (Mag); John Ruskowski (Linsly) v. Adam Kanzyg (Beal); Marlin McCallister (Ed) v. (5) Taylor Potts (JM); (7) Thead Sollick (Beav) v. Adam Mazy (UL); Zach Costlow (SCC), bye; Thomas Shenkel (Cald) v. Brent Arken (Brooke); Cain Ware (IC) v. (2) Paul Jeffers (Barn).

275 - (1) Jimmy Bowersock (Beav) v. Rudy Sanchez (Mead); Steve Suka (CV), bye; James Malone (Weir), bye; Drake Kowcheck (Brooke) v. (7) Dustin Bruce (Bell); (5) Brett Taylor (WP) v. Mike Davis (JM); Corey Hasings (Barn), bye; Andrew Kile (TC) v. Brant Sawyers (Riv); Danny Dishman (Cam) v. (4) Ralph Patrella (Staub); (3) Eric Diagosta (EL) v. Shane Gray (StC); Brian McElfresh (Cald), bye; Ryan Sork (UL), bye; Andreas Gad (BL) v. (8) Jeremiah Hinerman (Ed); (8) Jeff Coole (MF) v. David Collins (OG); Nathan Oz (IC), bye; James Colvin (Weir), bye; Corey Parsons (WC) v. (2) John Nicolozakes (Camb).

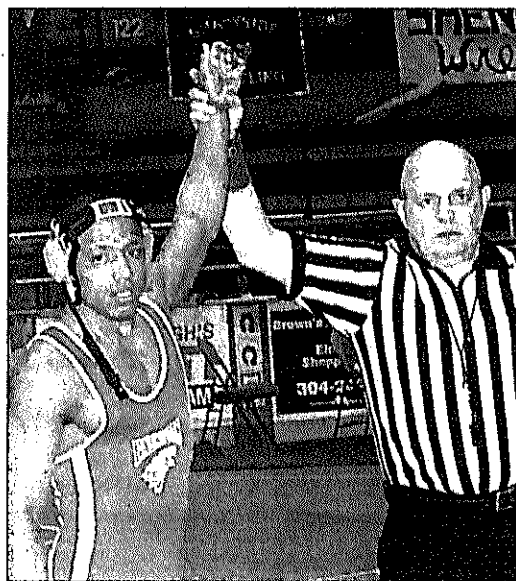


Photos by Alex Kozlowski

Top: Oak Glen's Paden Potts tries to hip toss Buckeye Local's Kurt Peterson during action of their 125-pound bout Thursday in the first round of the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament. Peterson won by technical fall, 18-2. Below, official Barry Dassel raises the hand of Wheeling Park's Ronnie Green after Green won his 130-pound match by a pin over John Marshall's Danny Ruza. Action of the tourney resumes at 11 a.m. today.

Quick Start

Wheeling Park advances 13 wrestlers in first round of OVAC Tourney



By JIM ELLIOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

The Wheeling Park Patriots had a fairly easy time with the rest of the field Thursday during first-round action of the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament.

The Patriots, considered the favorites by some to win this year's tournament based on the quality and the high number of seeded wrestlers they had going in, pushed 13 of 14 wrestlers through to the championship second round, which begins today at 11 a.m. at WesBanco Arena.

Two-time defending champion Oak Glen pushed 11 wrestlers through and is in second place with 39.5 points, 9.5 behind the Patriots (49). Cambridge is third with 34, followed by Beaver Local (33) and Bellaire St. John (27).

In the individual classes, Park leads 4-A, Oak Glen heads up the Class AAA field, Barnesville, which is 11th overall with 22 points, is the Class AA leader, while St. John

is in front in the smallest class.

Thursday, for the most part, was all about the Patriots.

Ten Wheeling Park wrestlers recorded falls, including top seeds Abbie Rush, with a 25-second pin against Wellsville's Andrew Gibbs at 125, and Adam Gibson, with a pin of Shenandoah's Josh Oppenheimer at 2:57 in their 171-pound bout.

"We're pleased," Patriot coach Gene Monteleone said. "Nobody's hurt, and we got 13 guys still in the championship. There was nothing unusual, very little surprise. Things went 'according to Hoyle,' as they say."

Monteleone wasn't the only one who was impressed.

Asked if he knew where the Bears stood immediately after the first-round matches had come to a close, and before the official results had been handed out, Oak Glen coach Larry Shaw said, "I saw we were four or five

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Quick

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points ahead of Cambridge and a whole bunch behind Wheeling Park.

"What a round they had,"

He says that despite the fact that he helped cause the lone Patriot blemish.

Unseeded Joel Timmons of Oak Glen was able to record a 6-2 decision against Wheeling Park's Heath Beecher, the eighth seed at 145. It was a win that made Shaw look smart, as he chose that line during Sunday's seeding meeting, hoping something like this might happen. Timmons might have been unseeded, probably because he's filling in for an injured wrestler, but he's also a two-time W.Va. state place-winner.

"We knew in the seeding meeting that coach Shaw chose to put his kid right there on that line, that wasn't by accident," Monteleone said. "Our 45 pounder lost, but he's a

light 45-pounder. He probably could make 35 if he really wanted, but he's wrestling there because obviously we have a pretty good lineup at the bottom."

Said Shaw: "Well I don't know that I knew what I was doing, but I was hoping that my guy would make me look good..."

While the Golden Bears will be looking for points in the consolation rounds from their 125-pounder, their 130-pounder, and their heavy-weight, seven other Bears, including top-seeded Jessie Mahan at 140, recorded falls.

"The real wrestling's (today) when you get into the place rounds and Saturday morning when you get those huge points," Shaw said. "The key is to get as many guys as possible to Saturday morning."

"Teams are going to cut each other up, I know that. We're going to be victims, as are

Beaver Local, Wheeling Park, and Cambridge. Eventually guys are going to start losing matches. It's up to us obviously to get as many through to Saturday."

Cambridge had nine grapplers get through unscathed, eight via pin. Included in that were top seeds Dustin Daugherty (119) and Bobby Scurlock (189) both picking up pins.

In their quests for OVAC history, both Wheeling Park's Rush and St. Clairsville's Zack Shuler were able to record pins.

Every top seed won via fall with the exception of heavy-weight Jimmy Bowersock of Beaver Local. He won by forfeit.

With three champions in the field at 145, it was expected to be the toughest division in the tourney. The fact that two unseeded wrestlers — Timmons and Carl Perkins of

Union Local — were able to gain wins against seeded wrestlers only adds to that debate.

Other unseeded wrestlers gaining wins Friday were East Liverpool's Kevin Riggle, who recorded a fall over sixth-seeded Nick Pasquarella of Steubenville, and Barnesville's Josh Smith, who won a decision over eighth-seeded Roger Best of John Marshall.

Notes

Not only was Mauck honored before things began as officials renamed the tourney after him, but they gave out the annual Middle School and Junior Varsity Coach of the Year awards.

This year's selected jayvee coach was Mark Bartlett of Cambridge and Troy Fetty was honored as the Middle School Coach of the Year.

Also honored for his years of dedicated service was wrestling official Shawn Crosier, who is retiring.

OVAC Wrestling Pairings

103 - (1) Justin Turnbull (BL) v. Bryan Crozier (Shad); Joe Lawrence (IC), bye; Tommy Myers (TC), bye; Mitch Thompson (Beav) v. (8) Brent Fluharty (Brooke); (6) Justin Armann (River) v. J.T. Vrotos (St.C); Nick Flisdon (HC), bye; Jon Barker (Barn), bye; Derreck Birney (Staub) v. (4) Zack Porter (Beal); (3) Nick Taylor (WP) v. Patrick Bortz (SCC); Steve Conquest (Cald), bye; Greg Walker (Weir), bye; Jake Foster (SJC) v. (5) Ryan Asbury; (7) Ed Lehotay (Mead) v. Matt Kinney (Cam); Wyatt Duffield (EL), bye; Taylor Yoder (MF), bye; Eric Beck (JM) v. (2) Dirk Bauer (WC).

112 - (1) Ronnell Green (WP) v. Skip Ingram (JM); Justin Lunsford (Shad), bye; Pat Neis (WC), bye; (6) Jared McIntosh (Beav), bye; (6) Justin Rossiter (Mead) v. Angelo Iachini (Staub); Pat Marshall (IC), bye; Ron Reed (Weir), bye; Michael Glover (TC) v. (4) Dankel Felton (Brooke); (3) Ethan Dray v. Mike Kendjorsky (BL); Kevin Snyder (HC), bye; Zack Knowlton (Beal), bye; Brad Mackay (MF) v. (5) Paul Rose (Camb); Zack Delguzzi (Ed) v. John Schumacher (MC); Jesse Brown (Shen), bye; Levi Seebach (Cald), bye; (2) Jimmy Raisz (Beal) v. Cagney Springer (EL).

115 - (1) Dustin Daugherty (Camb) v. John Foose (WC); Kyle Warsinsky (Cam) v. Jeremy Howard (JM); Anthony Iachini (Staub), bye; Greg Cavin (SJC) v. (6) Troy Eckleberry (OG); (5) Erik Canter (Beal) v. Joe Coil (EL); Mike Sachs (Beav), bye; Ethan King (Mag) v. Josh Glasura (Weir); Justin McConnell (Ed) v. (4) Chaz Clark (UL); (3) Jared Border (Cald) v. George Heinicke (River); Nick Oberdick (St.C) v. Mike Slaga (BL); Winnie Deem (Well) v. Julian Yost (TC); Ben Giles (Brooke) v. (6) Stephen Jewell (WP); (7) Jeff Trigg (Shad) v. Cody Moore (Beal); Travis Harless (Mead), bye; Sean Phillips (HC) v. Josh Blackstone (MC); Dan Poinsett (IC) v. (2) Ryan Stephen (Barn).

125 - (1) Abbie Rush (WP) v. Andrew Gibbs (Well); Larry Williams (Beav) v. Taylor Harless (Mead); Ashley Blackstone (MC), bye; Carl Piper (SJC) v. (8) Bryan Potkrajac (Ed); (6) Jim McFarland (Brooke) v. Josh Coil (EL); Shawn Huntsman (Barn), bye; Joey Hoover (Shen) v. Eian Landis (IC); George Cavanaugh (SCC) v. (4) Zach Androsko (St.C); (3) Jon Ray (Camb) v. Robert Smith (TC); Kurt Peterson (BL) v. Paden Potts (OG); Anthony Nicholas (CV), bye; Alex Morales (Staub) v. (5) Derrick Holt (MF); (7) Johnny Merryman (Shad) v. Cory Parry (Cam); Kyle Faykus (Beal), bye; Ben Rock (JM) v. P.J. Thomas (River); Skyler North (Weir) v. (2) Chase Clark (UL).

130 - (1) Willie Saxton (BL) v. Dennis Caldwell (EL); Chad Kilburn (MC) v. Davy Wilson (UL); Dylan Pendleton (IC), bye; Blake Widmann (Ed) v. (8) Tim Zoc (MF); (6) Zack Kosky (SJC) v. Preston Andrews (OG); Robbie Chilson (Beal), bye; Kyle Maynard (CV) v. Caleb Price (Mead); Tyler Cumpston (Cam) v. (4) Zach Basich (WC); (3) Derek Caudill (Beav) v. Zach Horvath (Staub); Sam Yockey (St.C) v. Dustin Pratt (HC); Jon Huntsman (Barn), bye; Jonathan Pfluyena (Well) v. (5) K.J. Furbee (Shad); (7) Dan Ray (Camb) v. Brendan Talbot (SCC); Wesley Barnes (Weir), bye; Troy Wable (TC) v. Justin Leasure (Shen); Danny Ruza (JM) v. (2) Ronnie Green (WP).

135 - (1) Joe Skoff (SJC) v. Eric Melluci (MF); Dirk Baker (OG) v. Sean McKittrick (Staub); Timmy Jones (Beal), bye; Scott Droginska (WC) v. (8) Chauncey Green (Beal); (5) Jon Bittenger (Beav) v. Jeremy Rossiter (Shen); Brandon Snider (IC), bye; Marc Stenger (UL) v. Danny Doyle (JM); Daniel Magers (Barn) v. (4) Torey Prickett (MC); (3) Andy Stine (Ed) v. Chase Bonnette (St.C); Donnie Webb (CV) v. Justin Clendenin (Shad); Rob Eddy (HC), bye; Shane Reed (EL) v. (6) Mike Becca (BL); (7) Bruce Kennedy (WP) v. Brian Wright (TC); Cory Utz (Brooke), bye; Charles Chambers (Cam) v. Brandon Conrad (Mead); Justin Mostl (SCC) v. (2) Sean Mahley (Camb).

140 - (1) Jessie Mahan (OG) v. Terina Miller (Brooke); A.J. Tiziani (CV) v. Anthony Lamp (CV); Remington Marcos (WC), bye; Josh Little (Weir) v. (7) Chris Brancker (Ed); (6) Nick Pasquarella (Staub) v. Kevin Riggie (EL); Cody Smith (Shen) v. Tyler Bock (Beav); Adam Weekley (TC) v. Steve Hardy (Camb); Josh Parko (SCC) v. (4) Chad Ware (MF); (3) Kayne Melko (SJC) v. Danny Nunner (HC); Andy Sigler (UL) v. Kason Melchiori (JM); Blake Heslop (Shad) v. Andrew Ashland (Beal); Tim Oldfield (River) v. (5) Ronnie Nelson (WP); (8) Austin Piargallini (BL) v. John Peterson (Cam); Aaron Porter (Beal), bye; Mike Russell (MC) v. Tyler Lane (Barn); Damian Saracco (Well) v. (2) James Myers (IC).

145 - (1) Mick Nicola (SJC) v. Nathan McConaughy (MC); Phil Pederson (Brooke) v. P.J. Ware (Staub); Jacob Bishop (Weir), bye; Kieler Watson (Mead) v. (7) Ross Johnson (Beal); (5) Adam Messenger (Barn) v. Carl Perkins (UL); Bradon Richey (JM) v. Nathan Schaal (BL); Bob Campbell (Beav) v. Chris Crock (Shen); Michael Briggs (Cam) v. (4) Chad Teague (Camb); (3) Zack Schuller (St.C) v. Luke Horvath (Shad); Travis Helmick (Mag) v. Brandon Richardson (CV); Isaiah Richey (TC) v. Taylor Banks (HC); Nick Woods (EL) v. (6) Nick Stine (Ed); (8) Heath Beecher (WP) v. Joel Timmons (OG); Matt Emery (IC), bye; Chase Tucker (MF) v. Doug Pell (WC); Jeff Hanselman (Well) v. (2) Justin Seebach (Cald).

152 - (1) Jeff Pettit (Cam) v. Joe Hutton (BL); Adam Parsons (WC) v. Josh Rossiter (Mead); David Gianessi (Weir), bye; Casey Klug (Shad) v. (7) Bryan Bilyeu (Beal); (5) Zac Bowers (MF) v. Bryant Dray (EL); James Beatty (Camb), bye; Robbie Rossiter (Shen) v. Zac Leasure (TC); Mark Markakis (Staub) v. (4) Cody Miller (OG); (3) Bryan Skoff (SJC) v. Emily Dilis (Mag); Andrew Hirt (Well) v. Shane Kandis (WP); Craig Johnston (IC), bye; Tyler Prokopakis (Ed) v. (6) Nick Perko (Beal); (8) Roger Best (JM) v. Josh Smith (Barn); Allan Gray (UL), bye; Lamar Dowling (Cald) v. Chris Richter (MC); Jared Osborne (Beav) v. (2) Brad Brooks (HC).

160 - (1) Bud Hines (Barn) v. Travis Mitchell (St.C); Tyler Bass (Staub) v. Zach Burke (MC); Justin Rossiter (Shen), bye; Sean Neff (TC) v. (7) Rodney Kale (Beav); (5) Richard Bereschik (Well) v. Ethan Warren (OG); Brett Blewins (UL), bye; Troy Starr (River) v. Jamar Lowery (Camb); Jake Myers (Cam) v. (3) Dusty Hill (WP); (4) Jonathan Stewart (Ed) v. Josh Sizemore (Brooke); Robert Solter (IC) v. Jared Booth (Beal); Ron Scott (EL), bye; Jame Pine (Weir) v. (5) Jacob Donley (HC); (8) Seth Skrypek (JM) v. Tom Proudfit (Mead); George Ruckman (Beal), bye; Jon Boggs (MF) v. Michael Neff (Cald); Rick Renforth (BL) v. (2) Rhett Northcraft (OG).

171 - (1) Adam Gibson (WP) v. Josh Oppenheimer (Shen); P.J. Vincent (CV) v. Josh McShan (Staub); Tyler Love (Mead), bye; Tod Miller (IC) v. (8) Branko Busick (Weir); (5) Tyler Kinzy (Beal) v. Lewis Dunn (UL); Matt Shreve (MF), bye; Aaron Crow (Beal) v. Mark Chambers (JM); Andy Duke (Brooke) v. (4) Kirk Wetherell (Camb); (3) Dan Dunn (Beav) v. Larry Witzberger (WC); Junior Yost (TC) v. Kevin Ingram (Ed); Josh Costlow (SCC) v. Mardis Stevens (MC); Jordan Clegg (River) v. (6) Charlie Fritter (Barn); (7) T.J. Osbon (OG) v. Ty Howell (HC); Ryan Crabtree (Well), bye; Dustin Crum (Cald) v. Marlin Whiteman (Mag); Tim Minor (EL) v. (2) Josh Cologie (BL).

189 - (1) Bobby Scurlock (Camb) v. Ben Lehotay (Mead); Brad Ensell (IC) v. Zach Hoskinson (Beal); Jared Mostl (SCC), bye; Thomas More (Shen) v. (8) Samson Gianessi (Weir); (6) Jacob Kulin (Staub) v. Josh Richardson (Ed); Jake Davis (UL), bye; Kory

OVAC WRESTLING SEEDS

103: (1) Justin Turnbull, BL; (2) Dirk Bauer, WCEN; (3) Nick Taylor, WP; (4) Zack Porter, BELL; (5) Ryan Asbury, OG; (6) Justin Armann, RIV; (7) Ed Lehotay, MEAD; (8) Brent Fluharty, BRK.

112: (1) Ronnell Green, WP; (2) Jimmy Rajaz, BEAL; (3) Ethan Dray, OG; (4) Daniel Felton, BRK; (5) Paul Rose, CAMB; (6) Justin Rossiter, MEAD; (7) Zack Delguzzi, ED; (8) Jared McIntosh, BEAV.

115: (1) Dustin Daugherty, CAMB; (2) Ryan Stephen, BARN; (3) Jared Border, CALD; (4) Chaz Clark, UL; (5) Erik Canter, BELL; (6) Stephen Jewell, WP; (7) Jeff Trigg, SHAD; (8) Troy Eckleberry, OG.

125: (1) Abbie Rush, WP; (2) Chase Clark, UL; (3) Jon Ray, CAMB; (4) Zach Androsko, STC; (5) Derrick Holt, MF; (6) Jim McFarland, BRK; (7) Johnny Merryman, SHAD; (8) Brian Potkrajac, ED.

130: (1) Willie Saxton, BL; (2) Ronnie Green, WP; (3) Derek Caudill, BEAV; (4) Zach Basich, WCEN; (5) K.J. Furbee, SHAD; (6) Zach Kosky, STJ; (7) Dan Ray, CAMB; (8) Tim Zac, MF.

135: (1) Joe Skoff, STJ; (2) Sean Mahley, CAMB; (3) Andy Stine, ED; (4) Torey Prickett, MC; (5) Jon Bittenger, BEAV; (6) Mike Becca, BL; (7) Bruce Kennedy, WP; (8) Chauncey Green, BELL.

140: (1) Jessie Mahan, OG; (2) James Myers, IC; (3) Kayne Melko, STJ; (4) Chad Ware, MF; (5) Ronnie Nelson, WP; (6) Nick Pasquarella, STEU; (7) Chris Brancker, ED; (8) Austin Piargallini, BL.

145: (1) Mick Nicola, STJ; (2) Justin Seebach, CALD; (3) Zack Schuller, STC; (4) Chad Teague, CAMB; (5) Adam Messenger, BARN; (6) Nick Stine, ED; (7) Ross Johnson, BELL; (8) Heath Beecher, WP.

152: (1) Jeff Pettit, CAM; (2) Bradley Brooks, HC; (3) Bryan Skoff, STJ; (4) Cody Miller, OG; (5) Zac Bowers, MF; (6) Nick Perko, BELL; (7) Bryan Bilyeu, BEAL; (8) Roger Best, JM.

160: (1) Bud Hines, BARN; (2) Rhett Northcraft, OG; (3) Dusty Hill, WP; (4) Jonathan Stewart, ED; (5) Richard Bereschik, WELL; (6) Jacob Donley, HC; (7) Rodney Kale, BEAV; (8) Seth Skrypek, JM.

171: (1) Adam Gibson, WP; (2) Josh Cologie, BL; (3) Dan Dunn, BEAV; (4) Kirk Wetherell, CAMB; (5) Tyler Kinzy, BEAL; (6) Charlie Fritter, BARN; (7) T.J. Osbon, OG; (8) Branko Busick, WEIR.

189: (1) Bobby Scurlock, CAMB; (2) Kyle Reeder, BEAV; (3) Josh Greathouse, OG; (4) Darick Hesson, CALD; (5) Brandon Rickman, JM; (6) Jacob Kulin, STEU; (7) Brian Grear, BARN; (8) Samson Gianessi, WEIR.

215: (1) John Horn, SHEN; (2) Paul Jefferies, BARN; (3) Shane Clark, MF; (4) Bryan Rowland, OG; (5) Taylor Potts, JM; (6) Justin Britnell, CAMB; (7) Thad Sollick, BEAV; (8) Mike Matusik, RIV.

275: (1) Jimmy Bowersock, BEAV; (2) John Nicolozakes, CAMB; (3) Eric Diagosta, EL; (4) Ralph Petrella, STEU; (5) Brett Taylor, WP; (6) Jeremiah Hinerman, ED; (7) Dustin Bruce, BELL; (8) Jeff Coole, MF.

OVAC WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament (at WestBanco Arena)

Team Scores

1. Wheeling Park 49, 2. Oak Glen 39.5, 3. Cambridge 34, 4. Beaver Local 33, 5. Belleair St. John 27, 6. John Marshall 26, 7. Belleair 25, 8. Shady Side 24, 9. (tie) Buckeye Local, Martins Ferry 23.5, 11. Barnesville 22, 12. Caldwell 21, 13. Edison 20, 14. Monroe Central 16, 15. Beallsville 15.5, 16. Tyler Consolidated 14, 17. (tie) Conotton Valley, River 12, 19. Union Local 10.5, 20. (tie) Magnolia, Shenandoah, St. Clairsville 10, 23. (tie) Brooke, Meadowbrook 9, 25. (tie) East Liverpool, Indian Creek, Staubenville, Weir, Wheeling Central 8, 30. Harrison Central 7.5, 31. (tie) Cameron, Wellsville, 33. (tie) Bishop Donahue, Linsly, Staubenville Central 0

Individual Results Championship Bracket

First Round

103 Pounds

Turnbull (BuL) p. Crozier (Shad) 1:26; Lehotay (Mead) p. Kinney (Cam) :25; Bauer (WC) p. Beck (JM) 2:46; Porter (Beal) p. Birney (Staub) 2:36; Armann (Riv) p. Vrotos (St.C) :19; Asbury (OG) p. Foster (BSJ) 4:24; Fluharty (Brk) d. Vincent 7-0; Taylor (WP) p. Bortz (SCC) 1:33.

112 Pounds

Green (WP) p. Ingram (JM) :27; Felton (Brk) p. Glover (TC) 1:05; Dray (OG) p. Kendjorsky (BuL) 1:55; Raisz (Beal) d. Springer 17-5; Rossiter (Mead) d. Iachini (Staub) 13-2.

115 Pounds

Howard (JM) p. Warsinsky (Cam) 3:58; Eckleberry (OG) p. Cavin (BSJ) 3:55; Clark (UL) d. McConnell (Ed) 15-0; Canter (Beal) p. Coil (EL) 5:15; Daugherty (Camb) p. Foose (WC) 1:09; Yost (TC) p. Blackstone (MC) :54; Trigg (Shad) p. Moore (Beal) 2:40; Stephen (Barn) p. Poinsett (IC) 2:24; Border (Cald) d. Heinicke (Riv) 18-2; Slaga (BuL) d. Oberdick (St.C) 11-4; Jewell (WP) d. Giles (Brk) 11-2; King (Mag) d. Glasura (Weir) 10-4.

125 Pounds

Holt (MF) p. Morales (Staub) :35; Ray (Camb) p. Smith (TC) 2:51; Peterson (BuL) d. Potts (OG) 18-2; Williams (BvL) d. Landis 3-0; Merryman (Shad) p. Parry (Cam) 2:49; McFarland (Brk) d. Coil (EL) 9-0; Androsko (St.C) p. Cavanaugh (SCC) 1:07; Clark (UL) d. Thomas (Riv) 19-8; Rush (WP) p. Gibbs (Well) :24; Potkrajac (Ed) p. Piper (BSJ) 5:29.

130 Pounds

Caudill (BvL) p. Howarth (Staub) 1:05; Ray (Camb) p. Talbot (SCC) 1:10; Maynard (CV) p. Price (Mead) 4:57; Saxton (BuL) p. Caldwell (EL) 1:13; Wable (TC) p. Leasure (Shen) 3:06; Kosky (BSJ) d. Andrews (OG) 11-3; Yockey (St.C) d. Pratt (HC) 5-0; Green (WP) p. Ruza (JM) 1:24; Zac (MF) d. Widman (Ed) 10-8; Basich (WC) p. Cumpston (Cam) 5:24; Furbee (Shad) p. Pfluyena (Well) 2:7.

135 Pounds

Stine (Ed) p. Bonnette (St.C) :55; Skoff (BSJ) p. Mellucci (MF) :36; Clendenin (Shad) p. Webb (CV) 3:58; Bittenger (BvL) p. Rossiter (Mead) 1:44; Prickett (MC) d. Magers (Barn) 10-6; Becca (BuL) d. Reed (EL) 7-6; Mahley (Camb) p. Mostl (SCC) :17; Baker (OG) d. Doyle (JM) 5-3; Kennedy (WP) p. Wright 2:49; Green (Beal) d. Parson (WC) 13-3; Conrad (Mead) d. Chambers (Cam) 5-4.

140 Pounds

Brancker (Ed) p. Little (Weir) :56; Ware (MF) won by forfeit; Russell (MC) won by forfeit; Saracco (Well) p. Myers (IC) 1:16; Mahan (OG) p. Miller (Brk) 1:07; Riggie (EL) p. Pasquarella (Staub) 2:08; Iachini (Staub) p. Lamp (Cald) 4:53; Nunner (HC) p. Melko (BSJ) 2:34; Weekley (TC) p. Hardy (Camb) 3:17; Bock (BvL) p. Smith (Shen) 1:55; Heslop (Shad) p. Ashland (Beal) :45; Melchiori (JM) d. Sigler (UL) 7-1; Nelson (WP) p. Oldfield (Riv) :18; Piargallini (BuL) p. Peterson (Cam) 5:51.

145 Pounds

Perkins (UL) p. Messenger (Barn) 2:45; Helmick (Mag) p. Richardson (CV) 1:48; Johnson (Beal) p. Watson (Mead) 1:43; Seebach (Cald) p. Hanselman (Well) 1:05; Schuller (St.C) p. Horvath (Shad) 3:02; Teague (Camb) p. Briggs (Cam) 2:33; Timmons (OG) d. Beecher (WP) 8-2; Richey (JM) p. Wayne (Staub) 5:06; Crock (Shen) d. Campbell (BvL) 4-2; Tucker (MF) d. Pell (WC) 16-1; Nicola (BSJ) p. McConaughy (MC) :44; Stine (Ed) d. Woods (EL) 5-3.

152 Pounds

Pettit (Cam) p. Hutton (BuL) 1:42; Miller (OG) p. Markakis (Staub) 1:24; Bilyeu (Beal) p. Klug (Shad) 2:37; Rossiter (Shen) p. Leasure (TC) 1:41; Smith (Barn) d. Best (JM) 14-12; Skoff (BSJ) p. Parsons (WC) 2:40; Dowling (Cald) d. Richter (MC) 15-0; Kandis (WP) d. Hirt (Well) 6-3; Brooks (HC) d. Osborne (BvL) 19-4; Perko (Beal) d. Prokopakis (Ed) 4-2.

160 Pounds

Bereschik (Well) p. Bass (Staub) :25; Bowers (MF) p. Dray (EL) 1:28; Skrypek (JM) p. Pierce (Mead) :26; Starr (Riv) won by forfeit; Hill (WP) p. Myers (Cam) :32; Kale (BvL) p. Neff (Cald) :19; Hines (Barn) p. Mitchell (St.C) 3:53; Booth (Beal) p. Solter (IC) :32;

Donley (HC) p. Pine (Weir) :23; Northcraft (OG) d. Hillard (BuL) 16-1; Stewart (Ed) d. Sizemore (Brk) 5-1.

171 Pounds

Gibson (WP) p. Oppenheimer :57; Kinzy (Beal) p. Dunn (UL) 2:41; Fritter (Barn) p. Clegg (Riv) 1:32; Chambers (JM) won by forfeit; Dunn (BvL) p. Witzberger (WC) 1:47; Yost (TC) d. Ingram (Ed) 11-4; Busick (Weir) p. Miller (IC) 3:04; Cologie (BuL) p. Minor (EL) :47; Vincent (CV) p. Dunn (Staub) :38; Crum (Cald) p. Whiteman (Mag) :34; Osbon (OG) p. Howell (HC) 1:47; Wetherell (Camb) p. Duke (Brk) :41.

189 Pounds

Scurlock (Camb) p. Lehotay (Mead) :49; Ensell (IC) p. Hoskinson (Beal) 2:32; Rickman (JM) p. Hokomb (St.C) :25; Grear (Barn) p. Woodford (MF) :46; Gianessi (Weir) p. Moore (Shen) 4:43; Kulin (Staub) p. Richardson (Ed) 1:46; Greathouse (OG) p. Kane (Mag) :41; Hill (WP) p. Duke (BuL) 1:16; Bondy (MC) p. Cao (WC) 1:43; Kahl (Shad) p. VanCamp (Riv) :54; Zawisa (BSJ) p. Roberts (TC) 4:01; Hesson (Cald) p. Koshler (Beal) 3:42; Reeder (BvL) p. Boreman (HC) 2:42.

215 Pounds

Habig (BSJ) p. Fletcher (Staub) 4:56; Clark (MF) p. Dodds (HC) :22; Matusik (Riv) p. Rayburn (Well) 2:48; Horn (Shen) p. Clegg (Beal) :29; Rowland (OG) p. Talbert (EL) :45; Kotson (Mag) p. Wolfe (Mead) 3:50; Kettlewell (WP) p. Faldowski (BuL) 4:15; Kanzyg (Beal) won by forfeit; Potts (JM) p. McCallister (Ed) 1:37; Jefferies (Barn) p. Ware (IC) :37; English (MC) p. LaMasters (IC) 5:12; Britnell (Camb) d. Menkowski (Weir) 3-2; Shenkel (Cald) d. Aitken (Brk) 11-4; Sollick (BvL) d. Macy (UL) 12-1.

275 Pounds

Nicolozakes (Camb) p. Parsons (WC) 1:10; Petrella (Staub) p. Dishman (Cam) 1:09; Diagosta (EL) p. Gray (St.C) :57; Bowersock (BvL) won by forfeit; Coole (MF) d. Collins (OG) 7-1; Traylor (WP) d. Davls (JM), default; Hinerman (Ed) p. Gad (BuL) 1:21; Bruce (Beal) p. Kowcheck (Brk) 2:58.

(1) Chris Branner (LC); (2) Nick Pasquarola (Staub) v. Kevin Riggie (EL); Cody Smith (Shen) v. Tyler Bock (Beav); Adam Weekley (TC) v. Steve Hardy (Camb); Josh Perko (SCC) v. (4) Chad Ware (MF); (3) Kayne Melko (SJC) v. Danny Nunner (HC); Andy Sigler (UL) v. Kason Melchert (JM); Blake Heslop (Shad) v. Andrew Ashland (Beall); Tim Oldfield (River) v. (5) Ronnie Nelson (WP); (8) Austin Piargallini (BL) v. John Peterson (Cam); Aaron Porter (Be), bye; Mike Russel (MC) v. Tyler Lane (Barn); Damian Saracco (Well) v. (2) James Myers (IC).

145 - (1) Mick Nicola (SJC) v. Nathan McCaughy (MC); Phil Pederson (Brooke) v. P.J. Ware (Staub); Jacob Bishop (Weir), bye; Kiefer Watson (Mead) v. (7) Rosa Johnson (Bell); (5) Adam Messenger (Barn) v. Carl Perkins (UL); Bradon Richey (JM) v. Nathan Schaal (BL); Bob Campbell (Beav) v. Chris Crock (Shen); Michael Briggs (Cam) v. (4) Chad Teague (Camb); (3) Zack Schuller (St.C) v. Luke Horvath (Shad); Travis Helmick (Mag) v. Brandon Richardson (CV); Isalah Richia (TC) v. Taylor Banks (HC); Nick Woods (EL) v. (6) Nick Siano (Ed); (8) Heath Beacher (WP) v. Joel Timmons (OG); Matt Emery (IC), bye; Chase Tucker (MF) v. Doug Pell (WC); Jeff Hanseiman (Well) v. (2) Justin Seebach (Cald).

152 - (1) Jeff Pottit (Cam) v. Joe Hutton (BL); Adam Parsons (WC) v. Josh Rossiter (Mead); David Gianessi (Weir), bye; Casey Klug (Shad) v. (7) Bryan Blyau (Beal); (5) Zac Bowers (MF) v. Bryant Dray (EL); James Beatty (Camb), bye; Robbie Rossiter (Shen) v. Zac Leasure (TC); Mark Markakis (Staub) v. (4) Cody Miller (OG); (3) Bryan Skoff (SJC) v. Emily Dilks (Mag); Andrew Hart (Well) v. Shane Kandis (WP); Craig Johnston (IC), bye; Tyler Prokopakis (Ed) v. (6) Nick Perko (Beal); (8) Roger Best (JM) v. Josh Smith (Barn); Allen Gray (UL), bye; Lamar Dowling (Cald) v. Chris Richter (MC); Jared Osborne (Beav) v. (2) Brad Brooks (HC).

160 - (1) Bud Hines (Barn) v. Travis Mitchell (St.C); Tyler Bass (Staub) v. Zach Burke (MC); Justin Rossiter (Shen), bye; Sean Neff (TC) v. (7) Rodney Kale (Beav); (5) Richard Bareschik (Well) v. Ethan Warren (OG); Brett Blevins (UL), bye; Troy Starr (River) v. Jamaal Lowery (Camb); Jake Myers (Cam) v. (3) Dusty Hill (WP); (4) Jonathan Stewart (Ed) v. Josh Sizemore (Brooke); Robert Sotter (IC) v. Jared Booth (Bell); Ron Scott (EL), bye; Jame Pine (Weir) v. (5) Jacob Dantley (HC); (8) Seth Skrypek (JM) v. Tom Proud'it (Mead); George Ruckman (Beal), bye; Jon Boggs (MF) v. Michael Neff (Cald); Rick Renforth (BL) v. (2) Rhett Northcraft (OG).

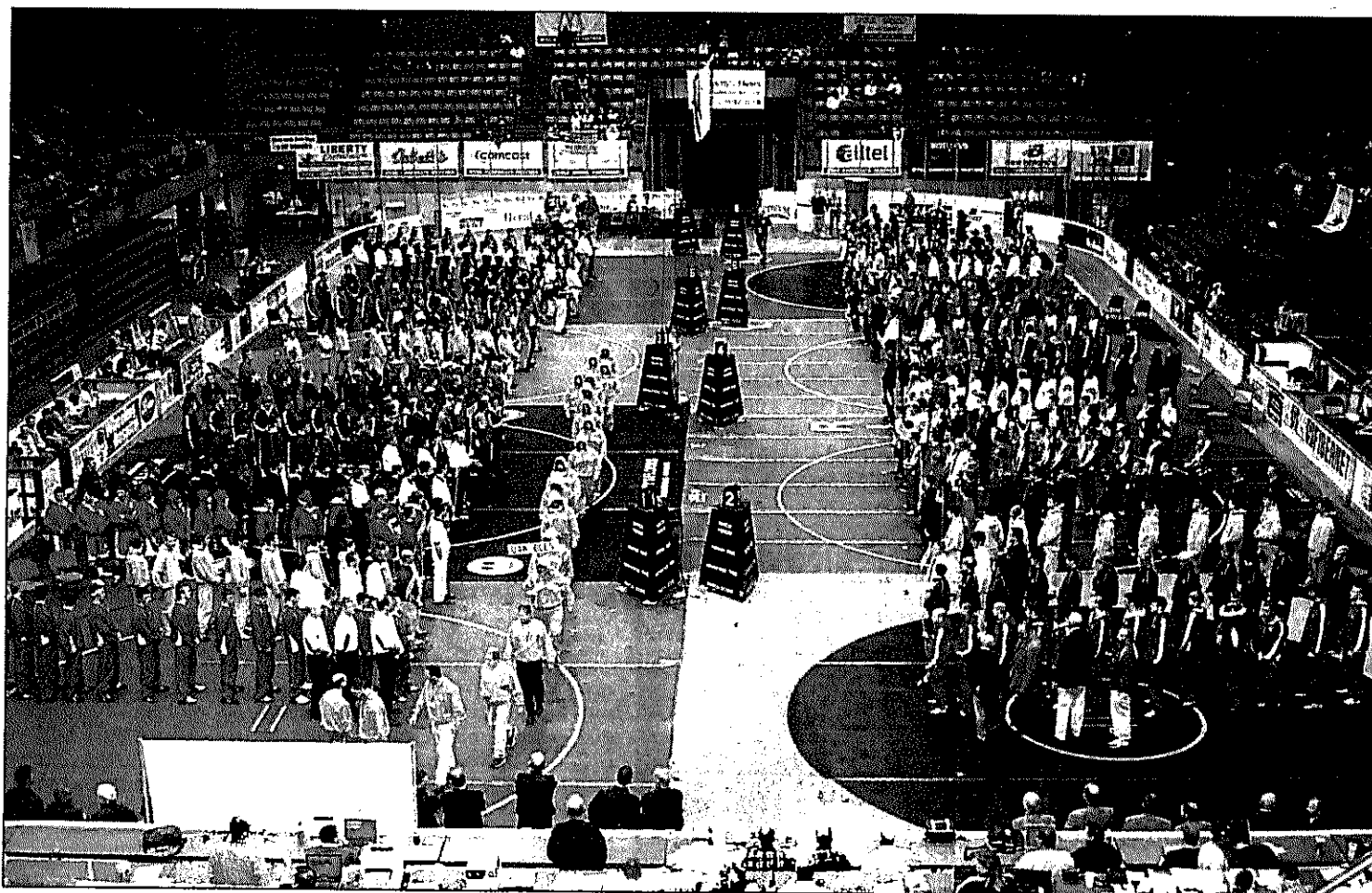
171 - (1) Adam Gibson (WP) v. Josh Oppenheimer (Shen); P.J. Vincent (CV) v. Josh McShan (Staub); Tyler Love (Mead), bye; Tod Miller (IC) v. (8) Branko Busick (Weir); (5) Tyler Kinzy (Beal) v. Lewis Dunn (UL); Matt Shreve (MF), bye; Aaron Crow (Beal) v. Mark Chambers (JM); Andy Duke (Brooke) v. (4) Kirk Wetherell (Camb); (3) Dan Dunn (Beav) v. Larry Witzberger (WC); Junior Yost (TC) v. Kevin Ingram (Ed); Josh Costlow (SCC) v. Mardis Stevens (MC); Jordan Clegg (River) v. (6) Charie Fritter (Barn); (7) T.J. Osborn (OG) v. Ty Howell (HC); Ryan Crabtree (Well), bye; Dustin Crum (Cald) v. Martin Whiteman (Mag); Tim Minor (EL) v. (2) Josh Cologie (BL).

189 - (1) Bobby Scurlock (Camb) v. Ben Lehotay (Mead); Brad Ensell (IC) v. Zach Hoskinson (Bell); Jared Mosil (SCC), bye; Thomas More (Shen) v. (8) Samson Gianessi (Weir); (6) Jacob Kulin (Staub) v. Josh Richardson (Ed); Jake Davis (UL), bye; Kory VanCamp (River) v. Jerry Kahl (Shad); Logan Koehler (Beal) v. (4) Derick Hesson (Cald); (3) Josh Greathouse (OG) v. Alan Kane (Mag); Matt Hill (WP) v. Corey Duke (BL); Jeff Zawisa (SJC) v. Holden Roberts (TC); Levi Holcomb (St.C) v. (5) Brandon Rickman (JM); (7) Brian Gear (Barn) v. Steven Woodford (MF); Zach Scott (CV), bye; Schylar Bondy (MC) v. Marco Cao (WC); James Boreman (HC) v. (2) Kyle Reeder (Beav).

215 - (1) John Horn (Shen) v. Zack Clegg (Bell); Chris Lemasters (TC) v. Mike English (MC); Pat Reasbeck (WC), bye; Greg Rayburn (Well) v. (8) Mike Matusik (River); (6) Justin Britnell (Camb) v. Mike Mamowski (Weir); Anthony Faldowski (BL) v. Tommy Kettlowell (WP); Wendell Habig (SJC) v. Donovan Fletcher (Staub); Artis Tabert (EL) v. (4) Bryan Rowland (OG); (3) Shane Clark (MF) v. Ben Dodds (HC); Christian Wolfe (Mead) v. Issiah Kotson (Mag); John Ruskowski (Linsly) v. Adam Kanzig (Beal); Martin McCallister (Ed) v. (5) Taylor Potts (JM); (7) Thad Sollick (Beav) v. Adam Macy (UL); Zach Costlow (SCC), bye; Thomas Shenkel (Cald) v. Brent Atken (Brooke); Cain Ware (IC) v. (2) Paul Jafferis (Barn).

275 - (1) Jimmy Bowersock (Beav) v. Rudy Sanchez (Mead); Steve Suka (CV), bye; James Malone (Well), bye; Drake Kowcheck (Brooke) v. (7) Dustin Bruce (Bell); (5) Brett Taylor (WP) v. Mike Davis (JM); Corey Hastings (Barn), bye; Andrew Kila (TC) v. Brant Sewyers (River); Danny Dishman (Cam) v. (4) Ralph Petrella (Staub); (3) Eric Diagosta (EL) v. Shane Gray (St.C); Brian McElfresh (Cald), bye; Ryan Sonk (UL), bye; Andreas Gad (BL) v. (6) Jeremiah Hinerman (Ed); (8) Jeff Cooke (MF) v. David Collins (OG); Nathan Osz (IC), bye; James Colvin (Weir), bye; Corey Parsons (WC) v. (2) John Niokozakes (Camb).

OVAC mat extravaganza opens



MORE THAN 400 wrestlers enter the floor of WesBanco Arena during the opening ceremonies for the annual Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament Thursday night. The tournament resumed at 11 a.m. today and continues with a 5 p.m. session for the quarterfinals rounds. The semifinals are slated for Saturday at 11 a.m. and the championship finals are at 6:30 p.m.

T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

WRESTLING PREVIEW

THE TIMES LEADER • Wednesday, January 18, 2006 • Page 6

OVAC tourney features 469 wrestlers

• Three-day event gets under way Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

The 53rd annual OVAC Wrestling Tournament will be launched at 6 p.m. Thursday with approximately 850 bouts being contested before the buzzer on Saturday night sounds.

The tournament will bring to the Wesbanco Arena some 469 matmen from 35 high schools. Only 14 of these will be crowned as Champions at Saturday evening's final session.

Thursday night's opening ceremony is at 6 p.m., followed by wrestling at 6:30 p.m. Friday morning sessions begin

at 11 a.m. and highlights second round matches. Quarterfinals and consolation matches are on tap for Friday night starting at 5 p.m. Semifinals and consolations get underway at 12 noon on Saturday, Jan. 21.

All pre-tournament festivities will begin at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21. The championship matches along with bouts to determine third, fifth seventh places will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Championship finals are at 6:30 p.m. Four mats will be used Saturday evening, but

eight mats will be utilized at the various earlier sessions to keep the tournament moving at a rapid pace. An added feature to the standout competition has been a program initiated by the Ohio Valley Coaches Association to honor past conference champions observing their 25th anniversary will be the 1981 tournament champions.

The 1981 champions and the coach of the 1981 team champion will be presented before Saturday's finals and will be seated in a special arena on the main floor. Special presentation of the



Mr. Mat Award, annually awarded to a person who has made valuable contributions to the sport in the Ohio valley will be presented Saturday, before the championship finals; Assistant and Junior high

Coaches award will be presented on Thursday and Coaches Service Awards will be presented on Friday evening.

After the championship finals, the annual presentation of the Bierekorte Award will be given to the tournament's Most Valuable Wrestler.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. Advanced ticket books, which include tickets to all five sessions, are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. Single tickets for the championship finals are \$7 for adults and \$4 for students. Saturday evenings Championship Finals will be televised.



Brooke's Terina Miller is the first female wrestler in the history of the Bruin program, competing in the 140-pound weight class.

Miller Is Breaking The Mold

By JIM ELLIOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

Terina Miller swears she was just looking for a way to stay in shape for the spring track season when she signed up for the Brooke High wrestling team last year.

A friend told her wrestling would be perfect, a way to improve both her strength and endurance, two things essential for field events.

Her friend said nothing about a life-changing experience.

In its history, Brooke High School had never had a girl on the wrestling team. Not only was Miller going to have to figure out how to break down opponents, she was going to have to break down stereotypes.

"It was extremely hard," Miller said Friday at the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament, where she'd competed in the 140-pound weight class. "The guys didn't want me on the team. I was getting put down physically and emotionally."

But she wasn't ready to give up.

"No, I'm a very forward, strong person," she said. "I am very forward with everything I do. I like to finish everything I start. Toward the end of the season, I gained a lot of respect."

Brooke coach Joe Erlewine certainly found himself in a new position.

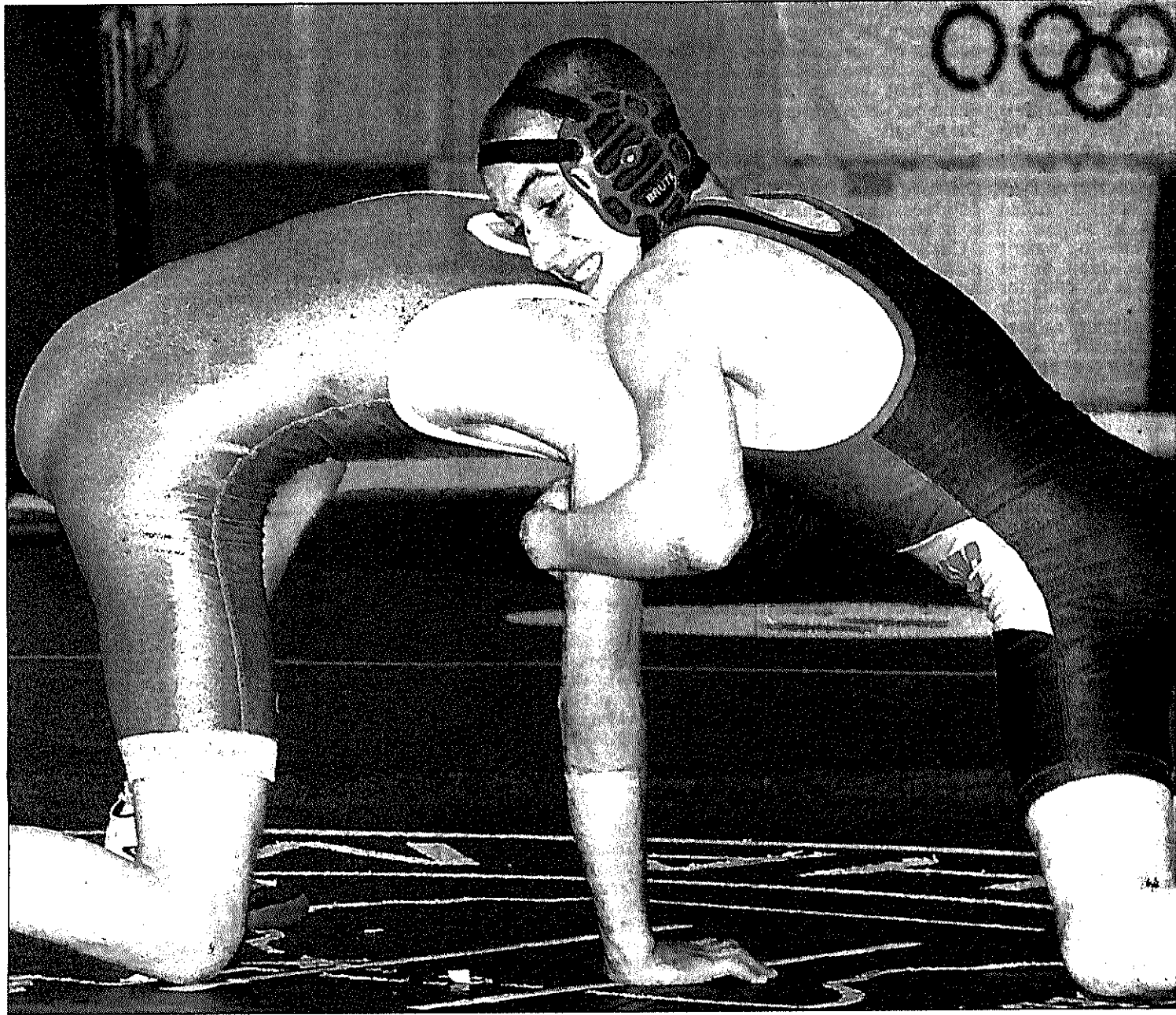
"We'd never had a girl on the team at Brooke," he said. "I said, 'if she can make it through our practices and our first two weeks, which are the toughest, she's welcome to stay.'"

That was hardly a problem for Miller.

"She has a real good attitude about wrestling," Erlewine said.

Actually, she has a good attitude about everything, even waiting around for all the boys to be weighed in before her in a given tournament.

Please See MILLER, Page 21



Photos by Alex Ko

Wheeling Park's Nick Taylor, right, wrestles with Oak Glen's Ryan Asbury, left, in their 103-pound bout Friday at WesBanco Arena. Taylor prevailed, 4-3. Bottom: Wheeling Park's Stephen Jewell, right, tries to get the upperhand on Caldwell's Jared Borde in their 119-pound match. Jewell won, 8-6.

Driver's Seat

Park in control heading into final day of OVAC action

By JIM ELLIOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

Positioning is everything in wrestling, and the Wheeling Park Patriots are in a very good position as the 53rd Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament reaches its third and final day.

They're comfortably at the top.

The Patriots, who are guaranteed to have an almost unheard of 12 place-winners, hold a commanding lead over second-place and two-time defending champion Oak Glen heading into today's noon championship semifinals inside WesBanco Arena.

Park has 150.5 points, well ahead of Oak Glen's 124.5. In third place is Cambridge with 118, followed by Beaver Local at 109.5 and Edison with 97.

"We are wrestling well," Wheeling Park

coach Gene Monteleone confirmed. "When we started the tournament, a lot of people looked at us as being the favorite, and I think we're wrestling up to our expectations."

So does Oak Glen coach Larry Shaw, who all but predicted things have already been decided at the top.

"We don't have enough unless they absolutely fall on their face," he said. "They just have the numbers going now. There's just no way in the world we can overcome those numbers."

The best part of Wheeling Park's numbers is how they break down.

The Patriots have a tournament-leading seven wrestlers alive in championship competition, meaning they can still rack up some major points.



Please See PARK, Page 21

Miller

(Continued from Page 17)

Just try to peel Miller off the mat in the practice room.

"If I could go on a weekend to a practice and conditioning, I would go in the drop of a hat," Miller said, "because I love the sport and I've gotten so attached to it."

And she came to realize the mat sport is one that gives back as much as you put it into it.

"I've learned so much from wrestling about the sport itself and about life," she said. "I've learned so much about discipline and about other people."

During Thursday's first-round of the tournament, she received another wrestling les-

son, this one a little more obvious. That's when she was paired up against Oak Glen's Jessie Mahan, the division's top seed.

"Oh, and don't get your face in the mat, you'll get yourself wiped out," she said.

So what was her mindset going into that match?

"You have to give it your best. If you're going out there scared, there's no reason to go out there at all," she said.

Her teammates and coaches simply told her to give it her best shot.

"She scored a point," Erlewine pointed out.

"Most of the boys that wrestle her are intimidated because she's a girl.

"And then they figure out if I don't do something, she's going to beat me."

It's happened before.

Miller has even recorded a pin during her career, which

made the sometimes difficult task of picking a Wrestler of the Week on the team a no-brainer.

"Overall," she said, "it's been a great experience."

Park

(Continued from Page 17)

But Monteleone says it won't be easy.

"Now that we're down to the best guys in the tournament, every point is a dogfight," he said. "It's hard to keep your kids focused on their match. The little schools like Bellaire St. John have two or three good wrestlers that we normally don't see during the year. These guys are good. They're capable of beating you on a good day."

Through two rounds of championship action Friday, the Patriots looked as if they'd barely broken a sweat.

Advancing unscathed into today's semifinals were: third-seeded Nick Taylor at 103; top-seeded Ronnell Green at 112; sixth-seeded Stephen Jewell at 119; top-seeded Abbie Rush at 125; second-seeded Ronnie Green at 130; third-seeded Dusty Hill at 160; and top-seeded Adam Gibson at 171.

Oak Glen still has five wrestlers alive in championship action: second-seeded Ethan Dray at 112; top-seeded Jessie Mahan at 140; second-seeded Rhett Northcraft at 160; third-seeded Josh Greathouse at 189; and fourth-seeded Bryan Rowland at 215.

"We'll come back and do the best we can," Shaw said. "Right now, our concern is to win our division."

Cambridge still has top-seeded Dustin Dougherty at 119; second-seeded Sean Mahley at 135; fourth-seeded Chad Teague at 145; fourth-seeded Kirk Wetherell at 171; and top-seeded Bobby Scurlock at 189.

Martins Ferry, which sat in seventh place overall with 87.5 points, just behind sixth-place Buckeye Local (92.5), is still in line to bring home more than one individual championship.

That group begins with unseeded Taylor Yoder at 103 and continues with fifth-seeded Derrick Holt at 125; fourth-seeded Chad Ware at 140; fifth-seeded Zac Bowers at 152; third-seeded Shane Clark at 215; and eighth-seeded Jeff Coole at 275.

Clearly, the Purple Riders are exceeding expectations.

Beaver Local has five wrestlers still in contention for titles: still-unbeaten Derek Caudill, the No. 3 seed at 130; fifth-seeded Jon Bittinger (135); third-seeded Dan Dunn (171); second-seeded Kyle Reeder (189) and top-seeded heavyweight Jimmy Bowersock.

Monteleone was right about Bellaire St. John, which was strong in talent, but not strong in numbers, which is why it's eighth overall with 84 points.

Still alive in the championship bracket for the Irish are top-seeded Joe Skoff at 135; third-seeded Kayne Melko at 140; top-seeded Mick Nicola at 145; and third-seeded Bryan Skoff at 152.

Buckeye Local still has three wrestlers who have yet to lose

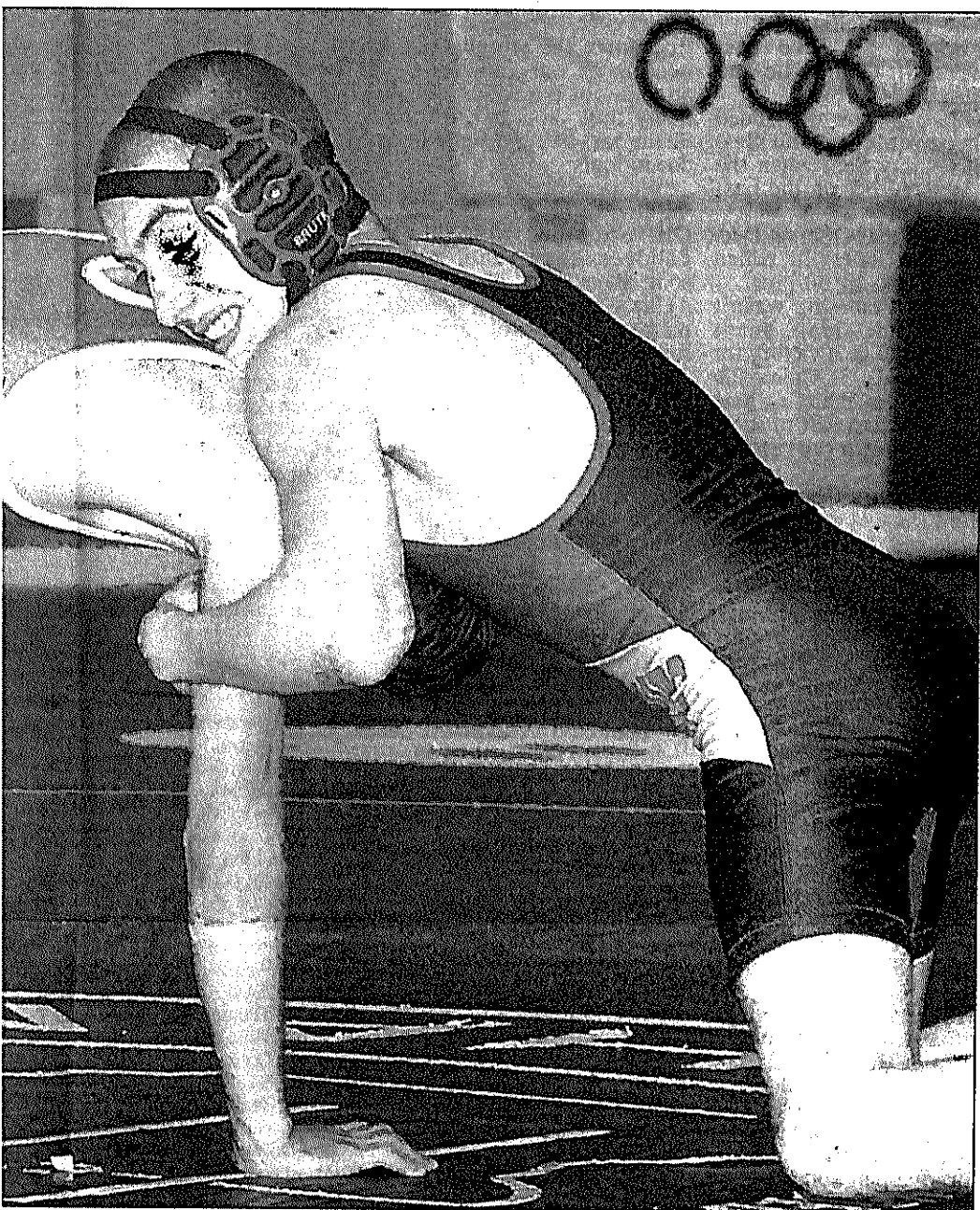


a match in the tourney — 103's top seed Justin Turnbull; top-seeded Willie Saxton at 130; and second-seeded Josh Cologie at 171.

The remainder of the semifinalists are: Harrison Central's Nick Risdon (103); Brooke's Daniel Felton (112) and Beallsville's Jimmy Reisz (112); Union Local's Chaz Clark and Barnesville's Ryan Stephen (119); Brooke's Jim McFarland and Union Local's Chase Clark (125); Wheeling Central's Zach Basich (130); Edison's Andy Stine (135); Indian Creek's James Myers — the 2004 OVAC tournament's Hercules Award winner, given to the wrestler with the most and quickest pins (140); St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller and Caldwell's Justin Seebach (145); Cameron's Jeff Pettit and Harrison Central's Brad Brooks (152); Barnesville's Bud Hines and Harrison Central's Jacob Donley (160); Caldwell's Derrick Hesson (189); Shenandoah's John Horn — the tourney's only other undefeated wrestler — and Barnesville's Paul Jefferis (215); and Steubenville's Ralph Petrella and Edison's Jeremiah Hinerman (275).

Only two unseeded wrestlers — Harrison Central's Risdon and Martins Ferry's Yoder, both at 103 — advanced to the semifinals.

The leaders of the individual OVAC classes are Wheeling Park in AAAA; Oak Glen in AAA; Barnesville in AA with 73.5 points; and St. John in A.



Photos by Alex Kozlowski

s with Oak Glen's Ryan Asbury, left, in their 103-pound bout Friday at WesBanco Arena. ark's Stephen Jewell, right, tries to get the upperhand on Caldwell's Jared Border in a

er's Seat

final day of OVAC action

coach Gene Monteleone confirmed. "When we started the tournament, a lot of people looked at us as being the favorite, and I think we're wrestling up to our expectations."

So does Oak Glen coach Larry Shaw, who all but predicted things have already been decided at the top.

"We don't have enough unless they absolutely fall on their face," he said. "They just have the numbers going now. There's just no way in the world we can overcome those numbers."

The best part of Wheeling Park's numbers is how they break down.

The Patriots have a tournament-leading seven wrestlers alive in championship competition, meaning they can still rack up some major points.

Please See **PARK**, Page 21



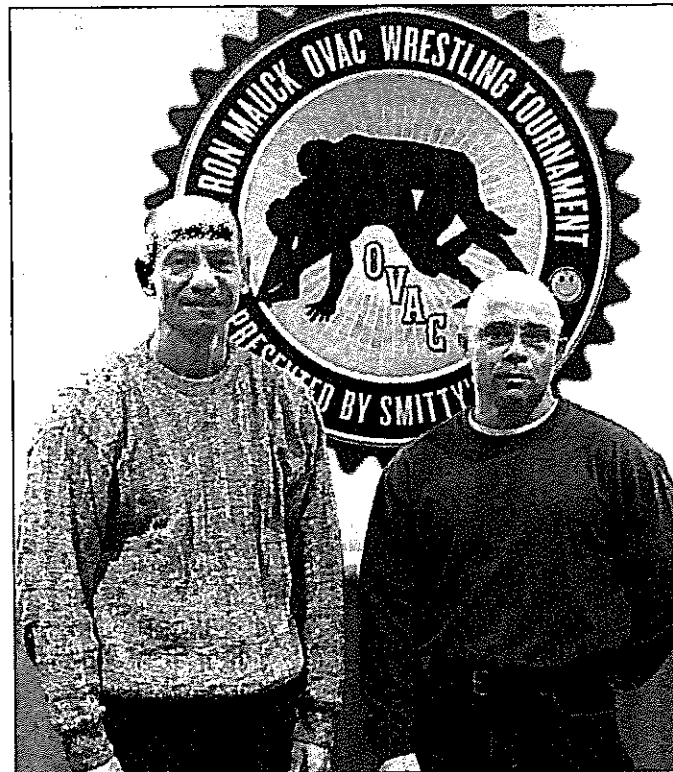
The Intelligencer
SPORTS

NAILERS STAY CONSISTENT

Despite losing its top scorer and a talented goaltender to call-ups, Wheeling has kept the adjustments — and wins — coming/15

Oak Glen wrestling coach Larry Shaw, left, stands with Wheeling Park coach Gene Monteleone during the OVAC Wrestling Tournament Press Conference Monday. Shaw is the leader of the tourney's defending champs and Monteleone will be overseeing the club with the most seeded wrestlers in this year's tourney.

Photo by Jim Elliott



Patriots Rich With Seeds

Park enters OVAC tourney with 11 seeded wrestlers; Cambridge has 10

By JIM ELLIOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

Being that Oak Glen has won the mammoth Ron Mauk OVAC Wrestling Tournament three of the last four years, it would seem silly to suggest the Golden Bears *wouldn't* enter this year's tourney as the favorite.

But that's exactly what Oak Glen coach Larry Shaw did Monday night at the annual press conference inside WesBanco Arena.

"Wheeling Park has proved to this point that it's the best team in the conference," Shaw said. "I would think Wheeling Park has to be the favorite." Shaw says the fact that his team has been so successful in the past at the Wheeling-based arena's longest-standing continuous event means little.

"I think it helps," he said. "But the bottom line is we're not the same team we were last year."

And when Shaw talks about Wheeling Park, it's with respect that goes beyond the fact that it beat his Golden Bears in a dual match earlier this season.



Inside

■ Complete seeds listing

Page 14

For starters, Wheeling Park emerged with the most seeded wrestlers after the rigorous seeding meeting Sunday with 11 — a sign the rest of the coaches in the conference think a lot of the Patriots.

Cambridge is second with 10, followed by Oak Glen with nine, and 2003 champion Beaver Local with eight. Edison has seven and Bellaire, Martins Ferry, and Barnesville each have six.

If the past is any indicator, having

the most seeds is a big help.

Over the last few years at the tourney, seeded wrestlers have pulled through and placed roughly 85 percent of the time.

"I like our chances," Wheeling Park coach Gene Monteleone said. "Our seniors have worked hard to get themselves into this position."

Wheeling Park, the top-ranked team in the latest West Virginia Coaches Association/wvmat.com poll, has been on a steady incline the past few years at the OVAC Tourney — seventh in 2003, fifth in 2004, and third in 2005.

The Patriots are led by 125-pounder Abbie Rush, who is a three-time champion in this tournament. He's got a chance to join Bridgeport's Bobby Douglas (1961), East Liverpool's Mark Emmerling

Please See OVAC, Page 18

OVAC

(Continued from Page 13)

(1989), Edison South's Kelly Shields (1993), Beaver Local's Adam Hoppel (2004), and Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker (2005) as the only as the only four-time winners in the 53-year history of the event.

One other wrestler in this year's tourney — St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller — also has that opportunity.

"When you look back, that's the best of the best," Monteleone said. "That's exclusive company."

Other seeded wrestlers for the Patriots are: Nick Taylor, third at 103; Ronnell Green, a runner-up at 103 last year who is seeded first at 112 this year; Stephen Jewell, sixth at 119; Ronnie Green, the defending champ at 119 who is seeded second at 130 this year; Bruce Kennedy, seventh at 135; Ronnie Nelson, fifth at 140; Heath Beecher, eighth at 145; Dusty

Hill, third at 160; Adam Gibson, first at 171; and Brett Taylor, fifth at 275.

"We try as coaches to put the kids in the best positions possible to succeed," Monteleone said. "It can be difficult because as a big school, we've been traveling to a lot of big tournaments and haven't seen some of these smaller schools. At the same time, they haven't seen us either."

Cambridge's seeded wrestlers are: Paul Rose, fifth at 112; Dustin Daugherty, first at 119; Jon Ray, third at 125; Dan Ray, seventh at 130; Sean Mahley, second at 135; Chad Teague, fourth at 145; Kirk Wetherell, fourth at 171; Bobby Scurlock, first at 189; Justin Britnell, sixth at 215; and John Nicolozakes, second at 275.

Shaw, who brings just one returning champion back — Rhet Northcraft — says this

season has been a bit different at Oak Glen.

"We've had a lot of changes in the lineup because of (weight) class and injury problems," Shaw reports.

He says he hopes the Bears can be competitive, and he pointed to a couple of guys in particular who just might hold the key to Oak Glen's success.

"To be in the hunt, we need

Joel Timmons (a two-time state place-winner, who will be wrestling in place of injured OVAC place-winner Zack Six) and Dirk Baker (at 135) to step up, and we'll need help from the other guys. And we need the veterans to do what they're capable of. If we do that, we'll be competitive."

Oak Glen's seeded wrestlers are: Ryan Asbury, fifth at 103;

Ethan Dray, third at 112; Troy Eckleberry, eighth at 119; Jessie Mahan, first at 140; Cody Miller, fourth at 152; Northcraft, second at 160; T.J. Osbon, seventh at 171; Josh Greathouse, third at 189; and Bryan Rowland, fourth at 215.

What a class

■ The 145-pound weight class is loaded. There are three defending OVAC champions

in the division, led by top seed Mick Nicola of Bellaire St. John. Nicola is a two-time OVAC champion. Second-seed Justin Seebach of Caldwell is a returning champ and a member of the 100-win club. And Schuller is a three-time defending champion who transferred to St. Clairsville after three years at Buckeye Local.

AROUND THE MAT

Two shooting for fourth OVAC titles this week



By **RICK DELUCA**
Times Leader
Sports Writer

It should come as no surprise that a wrestler going after a record-tying fourth OVAC title would be seeded only third for the upcoming 53rd Annual Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Championship.

After all, we are talking about the

OVAC and one of the toughest conference wrestling tournaments in the country. There are no guarantees other than the fact that there are some pretty darn good wrestlers on the mats at WesBanco Arena those three days.

As a matter of fact, this year's mat extravaganza will actually feature TWO wrestlers going for a fourth straight OVAC title.

At 125, Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush will bring a 30-2 season record into the tournament looking to become the sixth wrestler to win OVAC crowns all four years. Rush's first bout will put the Patriot senior up against Wellsville's Andrew Gibbs on Thursday night.

At 145, St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller will be gunning for his fourth straight OVAC title. Schuller, a winner of 21 of his 22 matches this season, captured OVAC crowns in his three previous years while wrestling at Buckeye Local. He transferred to St. C. in the off-season.

Schuller opens his trip to a possible fourth championship on Thursday taking the mat with Shadyside's Luke Horvath, a junior.

While Rush comes in as a top-seed at 125, Schuller is surprisingly a third-seed at 145.

Who could possibly be seeded higher than the Red Devil wrestler?

Well, the 145-pound weight class features THREE 2005 champions. Top-seeded among the group is St. John Central senior Mick Nicola who brings in a 21-1 record and seeded second is Caldwell senior Justin Seebach, who not only owns a 17-2 season mark, but the lone win over Schuller.

As the years go on and wrestling in the OVAC gets tougher and tougher and more competitive in all weight classes, wrestlers coming in to the tournament with perfect records are become more and more scarce.

Just two wrestlers are coming in with legitimate no-loss season records. Beaver Local's Derek Caudill brings a 20-0 record into the OVAC tournament at 130 points. But his perfect mark is only good enough for a third seed behind top-seeded Willie Saxton of Buckeye Local and second-seeded Ronnie Green of Park. Saxton is one of just 14 seeded wrestlers with one loss while Green, a champ in 2005 at 119, stands at 30-3.

Shenandoah's John Horn is the only other seeded wrestler with a perfect mark bringing a 24-0 record into the tourney. Horn, a senior, is the top-seed at 215.

Two other wrestlers who have yet to lose this season enter the weekend with 2-0 and 3-0 marks.

Aside from Nicola, Schuller and Saxton, the list of wrestlers with only one blemish on their record heading into the OVAC tournament includes some pretty big names and top seeds.

St. John Central's Joe Skoff is the top seed at 135 bringing with him a near-perfect 17-1 season record. The senior grappler beat out Cambridge's Sean Mahley and Edison's Andy Stine for the top seed.

At 112, Beallsville's Jimmy Reisz is the second-seed with a sparkling 27-1 record. The top seed is Ronell Green of Wheeling Park at 24-3. Green was a runnerup at 103 last year.

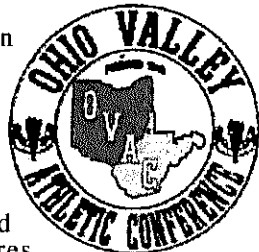
At 125, St. Clairsville's Zac Andrisko sports a 7-1 mark which is good enough for a fourth seed, three spots below Rush.

Oak Glen's Jessie Mahan brings a 19-1 mark into his 140-pound bout. The mark earned him the top seed with Indian Creek's James Myers second. Mahan finished third last season at 140 behind four-time OVAC champion Clay Tucker of Martins Ferry.

Cameron junior Jeff Pettit sports a 20-1 mark and edged Harrison Central's Bradley Brooks for the top seed at 152. At 145 a year ago, Brooks placed second and Pettit was fourth.

It will be tough going for wrestlers at 160 with top-seeded Bud Hines of Barnesville bringing in a 22-1 mark and Oak Glen's Rhett Northcraft coming in with the second seed at 19-1. In 2005, Hines placed third at 152 and Northcraft edged Brooke's Dana Davis in the 160-pound championship finals.

In the 189 and 215 weight classes Weir's



WRESTLING PREVIEW

2005 OVAC Results

AAAA	140
Wheeling Park 189; Brooke 134.5; Cambridge 124.5; John Marshall 121.5; Beaver Local 112; Edison 110; East Liverpool 72; Buckeye Local 71; Steubenville 49; Weir 17	1st (1) Clay Tucker 12 Martins Ferry 25-1 2nd (3) Shawn Dunn 12 Beaver Local 22-5 3rd (2) Jesse Mahan 11 Oak Glen 24-4 4th (6) Justin Smithberger 12 Monroe Central 19-9 5th Seth Skrypek 11 John Marshall 20-15 6th Matt Conklin 11 Wheeling Park 18-10 7th (8) Nick Perko 10 Bellaire 20-10 8th Brett Stephens 12 Barnesville 13-11
AAA	145
Oak Glen 220.5; Martins Ferry 198; Bellaire 99; Meadowbrook 70; Union Local 68.5; Harrison Central 60; St. Clairsville 35; Magnolia 16; Tyler Consolidated 11	1st (1) Zach Schuller 11 Buckeye Local 26-2 2nd (5) Brad Brooks 11 Harrison Central 21-4 3rd (4) Brandon McCort 12 Bellaire 31-5 4th (3) Jeff Pettit 9 Cameron 29-4 5th (2) Zac Pendleton Indian Creek 14-6 6th Zach Bowers 10 Martins Ferry 15-17 7th Kris Bayne 11 Steubenville Central 13-4 8th Richard Bereschik 11 Wellsville 10-12
AA	152
Caldwell 105.5; Barnesville 90; Shenandoah 81; River 76.5; Monroe Central 45; Steubenville Central 37; Wheeling Central 30.5; Wellsville 26.5	1st (1) Dustin Richey 12 John Marshall 35-0 2nd (2) Jeff Cumpston 12 Cameron 18-1 3rd (4) Bud Hines 11 Barnesville 20-4 4th (6) Luke Warren 12 Martins Ferry 19-5 5th (3) Billy Frolins 12 Shadyside 29-4 6th Cody Miller 9 Oak Glen 17-9 7th (7) Jonathan Stewart 10 Edison 25-10 8th Kirk Wetherell 9 Cambridge 4-3
A	160
Cameron 110.5; St. John 55; Shadyside 48; Beallsville 44.5; Linsly 6; Bishop Donahue 1; Conotton Valley 0; Weirton Madonna 0	1st (2) Rhett Northcraft 11 Oak Glen 24-2 2nd (1) Dana Davis 12 Brooke 29-1 3rd (3) Kyle Smith 12 Barnesville 26-3 4th (5) Adam Cooper 12 Cameron 22-7 5th Dusty Hill 10 Wheeling Park 18-11 6th Jesse Jones Martins Ferry 5-3 7th (6) Luke Sulek 12 Bellaire 28-8 8th (7) Donald Gianessi 12 Weir 13-4
PLACE FINISHES	171
(Seed in parenthesis)	1st (1) Mitch Costa 12 Edison 27-0 2nd (2) Josh Cologie 11 Buckeye Local 16-9 3rd (6) Jason Wright 12 River 26-5 4th (4) David Foltz 12 Oak Glen 22-7 5th Adam Gibson Wheeling Park 4-2 6th (5) Artis Johnson 10 Bellaire 29-6 7th (8) James Beach 12 Steubenville 24-10 8th Dusty McVay Union Local 3-3
103	175
1st (3) Daniel Felton 10 Brooke 25-3 2nd (1) Ronell Green 10 Wheeling Park 28-4 3rd (5) Chase Clark 9 Union Local 29-4 4th (6) Ethan Dray 9 Oak Glen 16-8 5th (4) Jimmy Reisz 9 Beallsville 24-3 6th (2) Paul Rose 9 Cambridge 24-13 7th (8) Marvin Benson 12 Meadowbrook 24-6 8th (7) Bryan Scammell 12 St. Clairsville 21-10	1st (1) Chas Yoder 12 Martins Ferry 22-0 2nd (3) Chris Stevens 12 Oak Glen 21-5 3rd (5) Nathan Loughran 12 Brooke 29-5 4th (2) Bobbie Scurlock 11 Cambridge 24-5 5th (6) Luke Myers 12 River 28-5 6th (7) Adam Cowser 12 Indian Creek 18-13 7th (4) Corey Archer 12 Caldwell 20-7 8th James Harris Buckeye Local 3-3
112	215
1st (1) Anthony Duffield 12 Liverpool 30-2 2nd (3) Mike Leholay 12 Meadowbrook 28-3 3rd (2) Chaz Clark 11 Union Local 30-2 4th (4) Stephen Jewell 10 Park 24-5 5th (6) Bobby Morris 12 Steub. Central 22-5 6th Jeff Trigg 10 Shadyside 9-12 7th (5) Ryan Stephen 11 Barnesville 23-5 8th (7) Jon Ray 9 Cambridge 26-9	1st (1) Cody Potts 12 Oak Glen 26-0 2nd (3) Elijah Zeyer 12 Martins Ferry 26-6 3rd (4) Jimmy Bowersock 11 Beaver 20-6 4th (2) John Horn 11 Shenandoah 24-3 5th (5) Dirk Soland 12 Bellaire 29-8 6th (7) Devin Dulaney 12 Brooke 19-5 7th Derick Hesson Caldwell 3-2 8th John Grim Edison 3-3
119	275
1st (2) Ronnie Green 11 Park 34-1 2nd (1) James Myers 10 Indian Creek 24-5 3rd (3) Tim Cumpston 12 Cameron 26-4 4th (4) Derek Caudill 11 Beaver Local 22-7 5th (6) Brandon Davis 11 Oak Glen 19-8 6th Derrick Holt 9 Martins Ferry 16-14 7th (7) Dustin Daugherty Cambridge 25-6 8th Justin Rossiter 11 Meadowbrook 21-6	1st (7) Lucas Michel 12 Shenandoah 24-3 2nd (1) Wesley Haslam 12 River 29-1 3rd (3) Kevin Staub 12 Wheeling Park 31-4 4th (8) Eric Diagosta 10 East Liverpool 20-7 5th (2) Maurice Hines 11 Indian Creek 14-3 6th (4) Ralph Petrella 11 Steubenville 29-6 7th John Nicolozakes Cambridge 5-2 8th (6) Andrew Corder 11 Harrison 19-6
125	
1st (1) Abbie Rush 11 Wheeling Park 37-3 2nd (2) Brandon Miller 12 Oak Glen 24-2 3rd (4) Corey Lemaster 12 Caldwell 24-2 4th (3) Logan Hardie 12 John Marshall 33-4 5th (8) Bryan Skoff 9 St. John 18-6 6th Zac Andrisko 10 St. Clairsville 17-6 7th Chase Tucker 9 Martins Ferry 13-9 8th (6) Torey Prickett 10 Monroe 19-12	
130	
1st (1) Mick Nicola 11 St. John 24-0 2nd (2) Sean Mahley 10 Cambridge 27-5 3rd (3) Jarrod Shaw 12 Brooke 25-6 4th (4) Craig Johnston 10 Indian Creek 23-8 5th (6) Zach Basich 9 Wheeling Central 33-4 6th (5) KJ Furbee 11 Shadyside 27-9 7th (8) Chad Ware 11 Martins Ferry 17-11 8th (7) David Bortz 12 Steub. Central 22-6	
135	
1st (1) Justin Seebach 11 Caldwell 23-2 2nd (2) Luke Hoppel Beaver Local 19-6 3rd (5) Clyde Jordan 11 Indian Creek 22-5 4th (3) Andy Stine 9 Edison 30-5 5th (6) Lee Doyle 12 John Marshall 25-10 6th Jason Jones 12 Martins Ferry 12-12 7th (7) Justin Cataldo 12 Wellsville 15-6 8th Zack Six 9 Oak Glen 11-6	

Bierkorte Winners

1971 - Don Blum, Martins Ferry	1989 - Mark Emmerling, East Liverpool
1972 - Art Jones, Bellaire	1990 - Babe Sidon, Martins Ferry
1973 - Dan Calugas, Barnesville	1991 - Douglas Knight, Steubenville
1974 - Sheldon Grace, Weirton	1992 - R.C. Anderson, Cameron
1975 - Mike Kovalick, Bellaire	1993 - Kelly Shields, Edison South
1976 - Handy Davis, Cadiz, Ed Covey, Bridgeport	1994 - Dustin Harris, Beaver Local
1977 - Rich Davis, Jefferson Union	1995 - Justin Ewing, St. Clairsville
1978 - Carl Stanley, Wheeling Park	1996 - Eric Anderson, St. John
1979 - Randy Pryor, Weirton	1997 - Ryan Mukdrew, John Marshall
1980 - Trent Iachini, Steubenville	1998 - Chad Pratz, Linsly
1981 - Mike Tuschowski, Steubenville	1999 - Jose Smith, Cambridge
1982 - Larry Isleman, Toronto	2000 - Scott Roth, Martins Ferry
1983 - Brian Miller, Barnesville	2001 - Cole Bowersock, Beaver Local
1984 - Heath Beadmore, Cambridge	2002 - Derek George, John Marshall
1985 - Tim Moxley, Barnesville	2003 - David Beriolino, Buckeye Local
1986 - Sean Murray, Oak Glen	2004 - Adam Hoppel, Beaver Local
1987 - Mark Mlynec, Bellaire	2005 - Clay Tucker, Martins Ferry
1988 - Rick Burlinski, Bridgeport	

#7

WesBanco

A R E N A

PARKING PERMIT

DATE: OVAC Wrestling Tournament
January 19-21, 2006

EVENT: BACK LOT PASS

Championship.

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In the 189 and 215 weight classes, Weir's Samson Gianessi and River's Mike Matusik come in with just one loss, but could managed just eight seeds. Gianessi is 17-1 at 189 and Matusik is 17-1 at 215. Cambridge's Bobby Scurlock is the top seed at 189.

Top two heavyweight seeds sport near-perfect marks. Beaver Local's Jimmy Bowersock, at 17-1, is the top seed after placing third at 215 last season. Cambridge's John Nicolozakes is the second seed at 15-1 and was a seven-place finisher a year ago.

Another Buckeye Local wrestler grabbing a top



Past Overall Champs

1954 -- Bridgeport, George Kovalick
 1955 -- Bridgeport, George Kovalick
 1956 -- Bridgeport, George Kovalick
 1957 -- Bridgeport, George Kovalick
 1958 -- Bridgeport, George Kovalick
 1959 -- Bridgeport, George Kovalick
 1960 -- Bridgeport, George Kovalick
 1961 -- Martins Ferry, John Vrosos
 1962 -- Martins Ferry, John Vrosos
 1963 -- Martins Ferry, John Vrosos
 1964 -- Martins Ferry, John Vrosos
 1965 -- Martins Ferry, John Vrosos
 1966 -- Martins Ferry, John Vrosos
 1967 -- Martins Ferry, John Vrosos
 1968 -- Martins Ferry, Art Hehr
 1969 -- St. Johns, Joseph Bates
 1970 -- Wheeling Central, John Hbbert
 1971 -- St. Johns, Dennis Bowman
 1972 -- John Marshall, Bill Hinegardner
 1973 -- John Marshall, Bill Hinegardner
 1974 -- John Marshall, Bill Hinegardner
 1975 -- Warwood, Eric Carder
 1976 -- Weirton, Charles Murray
 1977 -- John Marshall, Bill Hinegardner
 1978 -- Wheeling Park, Eric Carder
 1979 -- Wheeling Park, Eric Carder

1980 -- Steubenville, John Craig
 1981 -- Cadiz, John Stephenson
 1982 -- Steubenville, John Craig
 1983 -- John Marshall, Ed Dugas
 1984 -- Steubenville, John Craig
 1985 -- Barnesville, Darrell Davis
 1986 -- East Liverpool, Nick Trombetta
 1987 -- Steubenville, John Craig
 1988 -- East Liverpool, Nick Trombetta
 1989 -- Steubenville, John Craig
 1990 -- Wheeling Park, Buzz Evans
 1991 -- Oak Glen, Larry Shaw
 1992 -- Steubenville, John Craig
 1993 -- Martins Ferry, Jeff Oberdick
 1994 -- Wheeling Park, Buzz Evans
 1995 -- Steubenville, Rick Camilletti
 1996 -- Buckeye Local, Dan Doyle
 1997 -- Buckeye Local, Dan Doyle
 1998 -- Martins Ferry, Jeff Oberdick
 1999 -- Martins Ferry, Jeff Oberdick
 2000 -- East Liverpool, Scott Heimstra
 2001 -- East Liverpool, Scott Heimstra
 2002 -- Oak Glen, Larry Shaw
 2003 -- Beaver Local, Rich Wright
 2004 -- Oak Glen, Larry Shaw
 2005 -- Oak Glen, Larry Shaw

Our Opinion

Mat Spectacle

Today begins the three-day extravaganza of Ohio Valley wrestling.

But this year's Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament, the 53rd installment, will undergo a facelift of sorts.

The nation's largest conference tournament has a new name and a new sponsor -- it now becomes the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament presented by Smitty's Floors.

Mauck will once again serve as tournament director, a capacity in which he's served faithfully for years. It is a well-deserved honor.

But as always, the real story of the tournament will unfold on the mats.

Two wrestlers will be going for their fourth championship, a first in the tourney's 53 years.

Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush and St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller are both three-time champions.

Schuller's weight class (145) features the most drama with three former OVAC champions in the mix. St. John Central's Mick Nicola and Caldwell's Justin Seebach, like Schuller, are also Ohio state placers.

The OVAC Wrestling Tournament, like the cross country championship, is all inclusive -- and that's what makes it special.

Wrestlers from 4A schools compete against those of their small-school brethren.

Size doesn't matter; ability does.

The storylines, the drama, the sheer force of will of the wrestlers -- these are the things that make the OVAC Wrestling Tournament the best championship in the conference.

Now if we can only get the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference to award championship banners based on the tournament results and not dual meets!



Wheeling Civic Center

* BUFFET *

DATE: **OVAC WORKER**

● Wrestling

Continued from Page B1

seed is Panther senior Justin Turnbull. His 15-7 record against some very tough competition earned him the top seed over Wheeling Central's Dirk Bauer.

Cambridge's Dustin Daugherty is the top seed at 119 edging Barnesville's Ryan Stephen. Daugherty, a seventh place finisher in '05, owns a 22-4 mark, Stephen, seventh last season at 112, is 20-4.

Wheeling Park's Adam Gibson and Buckeye Local's Josh Cologie are seeded one and two at 171. Cologie was runnerup at the same weight a year ago and Gibson was fifth at 171. Gibson has a 28-3 mark and Cologie stands at 19-4.

Action gets underway on Thursday with prelims and first round wrestling starting at 6:30 p.m., 30 minutes following the opening ceremony.

On Friday, wrestling resumes at 11 a.m. for the morning session at gets a second start at 5 p.m. for the evening sessions.

Saturday's exciting action will open up with wrestling at noon. The evening session gets started with ceremonies at 6 p.m. and consolation finals and finals to follow.



History

(Continued from Page 19)

Wrestlers Chasing History

Rush, Schuller have not lost at OVAC Tourney

By JIM ELLIOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

More than 460 wrestlers from 35 high schools will hit the mats when first-round action of the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament gets underway this evening inside WesBanco Arena.

Some will simply looking to win one match. Others hope to stick around long enough to place. A select few will be looking for their first OVAC championship.

And then there's Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush and St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller, friends on and off the mat.



Rush

They'll be looking for much more.

Both seniors, neither wrestler has ever lost a match at the mammoth tournament.

If that continues this weekend, they'll join some seriously exclusive company.

In the 53-year history of the event, only five wrestlers have ever been able to make a claim like that — Bridgeport's Bobby Douglas (1961), East Liverpool's Mark Emmerling (1989), Edison South's Kelly Shields (1993), Beaver Local's Adam Hoppel (2004), and Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker (2005).



Schuller

"To be mentioned with the elite names such as Bobby Douglas is special," said Rush, the top seed at 125 who has a record of 30-2 this season. "If I can accomplish this along with a friend of mine (Schuller), it would be an amazing feat."

Yes it would, especially in the case of Schuller, who is in a weight class that features two other 2005 OVAC champions — Justin Seebach of Caldwell and Mick Nicola of Bellaire St. John.

"The competition doesn't make me nervous at all," Schuller said. "I've been thinking about this for a long time."

Both wrestlers watched Ferry's Tucker take care of business last year.

And they were both impressed. Said Rush: "I've known Clay Tucker since we were little. I saw him take it one match at a time. You have a target on your back. You just have to wrestle each match like you have nothing to lose."

Said Schuller: "He didn't let the pressure of it all bother him. It was just another tournament. I look at it the same way he did."

Schuller enters the tourney with a record of 21-1, his only loss coming on a close 7-6 decision at the hands of Seebach.

He's already eyeing a possible rematch, which would likely take place in the semifinals if they both advance that far.

"I think I'm going to put some big points up on him," Schuller said.

Schuller has not wrestled Nicola, the division's top seed, this season.

His quest begins tonight against Shadyside's Luke Horvath.

"I definitely have to come out and get in my groove and set the tone for the tournament," Schuller said.

Rush, who will open against Wellsville's Andrew Gibbs, has already beaten the second-seeded wrestler in this year's 125-pound class in Union Local's Chase Clark. He has not wrestled Cambridge's Jon Ray, the third seed, or St. Clairsville's Zac Androsko, the fourth seed.

Other than that, "I just have to take them one at a time and not pay attention to the bracket," he said.

During his perfect run through the tourney, Rush has taken on some of the best.

He beat Bellaire St. John's Joe Skoff — the top seed at 135 in this year's tourney — to win the title as a freshman, then rallied to beat Anthony Duffield of East Liverpool as a sophomore before blanking Oak Glen's Cody Miller last year.

He said it hasn't been easy. "I think my biggest advantage is I work hard," Rush said. "Even at the OVAC Tournament, I've beat kids I shouldn't have beat because of my conditioning. I have to give a lot of credit to my practice partners like Ronnie Green."

Green, incidentally, is the No. 2 seed at 130.

During his run, Schuller has beaten Martins Ferry's Mike Mamone, 9-2, his freshman year. Mamone was a senior

that year. Then, Schuller doubled up on another senior, Ryan Ferguson of Monroe Central, 6-3, his sophomore season.

Last year, he pinned Harrison Central's Brian Brooks in the third period.

When they're not on the mats, Rush and Schuller often work out together. During their time together, the subject of winning four consecutive OVAC titles has come up.

"We talk about it all the time," Schuller said. "We talk about who's going to get the (Dave) Bierkorette Award (given to the tournament's most outstanding wrestler). We motivate each other and work out together."

Rush will be looking for more than just an individual title.

Wheeling Park hasn't won an OVAC Tournament since 1994, but with 11 seeded wrestlers — five third or higher — the Patriots are being looked at by some as the favorite.

Rush says those people have a reason to think like that.

"Wheeling Park wrestling is definitely back," Rush said. "We have a lot of senior leadership. We just have to take every match one at a time and keep our heads up if one of us happens to lose."

Not that long ago, Park didn't even have enough wrestlers to field a full team. Now they've got more than 40 wrestlers in the program.

"The numbers are great, but

they're quality numbers," Rush said. "We have jayvee kids that can start on most teams in the valley. Knowing there are kids breathing down your neck makes you work harder or you won't be a starter."

Things like that are great motivators for Rush, who was introduced to the sport by his father, also named Abbie, a former wrestler at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The younger Rush caught on quickly, and by the time he'd reached 7th grade, he was an OVAC champion for the first time, albeit at the junior high level.

He matched the feat as an 8th grader.

"I always said kinda jokingly it would be nice to be a six-time OVAC champ," Rush said. "After my freshman and sophomore years, I decided to work harder when I realized it was possible."

Schuller finished third in the tourney as a seventh grader and won his weight class as an eighth grader.

When and Where
The tournament begins tonight at WesBanco Arena with opening ceremonies slated for 6 p.m. First-round action starts at 6:30 p.m. Friday morning's session begins at 11 a.m. with second-round matches and consolation action. Quarterfinal action takes place at 5 p.m. Friday evening. Championship matches will take place at 6:30 p.m. Saturday.

OVAC FIRST ROUND MATCHUPS

103 Pounds

(1) Justin Turnbull (BuL) vs. Bryan Crozier (Shad); Joe Lawrence (IC) bye; Tommy Myers (TC) bye; Mitch Thompson (BvL) vs. (8) Brent Fluharty (Brk); (6) Justin Armann (Riv) vs. J.T. Vrotsos (StC); Nick Risdon (HC) bye; Jon Barker (Barn) bye; Derrick Blirney (Staub) vs. (4) Zack Porter (Bell); (3) Nick Taylor (WP) vs. Patrick Bortz (SCe); Steve Conquest (Cald) bye; Greg Walker (Weir) bye; Jake Foster (BSJ) vs. (5) Ryan Asbury; (7) Ed Lehotay (Mead) vs. Matt Kinney (Cam); Wyatt Duffield (EL) bye; Taylor Yoder (MF) bye; Eric Beck (JM) vs. (2) Dirk Bauer (WC).

112 Pounds

(1) Ronnell Green (WP) vs. Skip Ingram (JM); Justin Lunsford (Shad) bye; Pat Nels (JC) bye; (8) Jared McIntosh (BvL) bye; (6) Justin Rossiter (Mead) vs. Angelo Iachini (Staub); Pat Marshall (IC) bye; Ron Reed (Weir) bye; Michael Glover (TC) vs. (4) Daniel Felton (Brk); (3) Ethan Dray vs. Mike Kendorjaky (BuL); Kevin Snyder (HC) bye; Zack Knowlton (Bell) bye; Brad Mackey (MF) vs. (5) Paul Rose (Camb); Zack Delguzzi (Ed) vs. John Schumacher (MC); Jesse Brown (Shen) bye; Levi Seebach (Cald) bye; (2) Jimmy Reisz (Beall) vs. Cagney Springer (EL).

119 Pounds

(1) Dustin Daugherty (Camb) vs. John Foote (WC); Kyle Warsinsky (Cam) vs. Jeremy Howard (JM); Anthony Iachini (Staub) bye; Greg Civin (BSJ) vs. (8) Troy Eckleberry (OG); Erik Canter (Bell) vs. Joe Coil (EL); Mike Sachs (BvL) bye; Ethan King (Mag) vs. Josh Glasure (Weir); Justin McConnell (Ed) vs. (4) Chaz Clark (UL); (3) Jared Border (Cald) vs. George Heinicke (Riv); Nick Oberdick (StC) vs. Mike Slaga (BuL); Vinnie Deem (Well) vs. Julian Yost (TC); Ben Giles (EL) vs. (6) Stephen Jewell (WP); (7) Jeff Trigg (Shad) vs. Cody Moore (Beal); Travis Harless (Mead) bye; Sean Phillips (HC) vs. Josh Blackstone (MC); Dan Polinsell (IC) vs. (2) Ryan Stephen (Barn).

125 Pounds

(1) Abbie Rush (WP) vs. Andrew Gibbs (Well); Larry Williams (BvL) vs. Taylor Harless (Mead); Ashley Blackstone (MC) bye; Carl Piper (BSJ) vs. (8) Bryan Potkrajac (Ed); (6) Jim McFarland (Brk) vs. Josh Coil (EL); Shawn Huntsman (Barn) bye; Joey Hoover (Shen) vs. Eian Landis (IC); George Cavanaugh (SCe) vs. (4) Zac Androsko (StC); (3) Jon Ray (Camb) vs. Robert Smith (TC); Kurt Peterson (BuL) vs. Paden Potts (OG); Anthony Nicholas (CV) bye; Alex Morales (Staub) vs. (5) Derrick Holt (MF); (7) Johnny Merryman (Shad) vs. Cory Perry (Cam); Kyle Faykus (Bell) bye; Ben Rock (JM) vs. P.J. Thomas (Riv); Skyler North (Weir) vs. (2) Chase Clark (UL).

130 Pounds

(1) Willie Saxton (BuL) vs. Dennis Caldwell (EL); Chad Kilburn (MC) vs. Davy Wilson (UL); Dylan Pendleton (IC) bye; Blake Widmann (Ed) vs. (8) Tim Zoc (MF); (6) Zack Kosky (BSJ) vs. Preston Andrews (OG); Robbie Chilton (Bell) bye; Kyle Maynard (CV) vs.

Caleb Price (Mead); Tyler Cumpston (Cam) vs. (4) Zach Basich (WC); (3) Derek Caudill (BvL) vs. Zach Horvath (Staub); Sam Yockey (StC) vs. Dustin Pratt (HC); Jon Huntsman (Barn) bye; Jonathan Pfluppiena (Well) vs. (5) K.J. Furbee (Shad); (7) Dan Ray (Camb) vs. Brendan Talbot (SCe); Wesley Barnes (Weir) bye; Troy Watbit (TC) vs. Justin Leasure (Shen); Danny Ruza (JM) vs. (2) Ronnie Green (WP).

135 Pounds

(1) Joe Skoff (BSJ) vs. Eric Mellucci (MF); Dirk Baker (OG) vs. Sean McKittrick (Staub); Timmy Jones (Beall) bye; Scott Droginske (WC) vs. (8) Chauncey Green (Bell); (5) Jon Bittenger (BvL) vs. Jeremy Rossiter (Shen); Brandon Snider (IC) bye; Marc Stanger (UL) vs. Danny Doyle (JM); Daniel Magers (Barn) vs. (4) Torrey Prickett (MC); (3) Andy Stine (Ed) vs. Chase Bonnetta (StC); Donnie Webb (CV) vs. Justin Clendenin (Shad); Rob Eddy (HC) bye; Shane Raed (EL) vs. (6) Mike Becca (BuL); (7) Bruce Kennedy (WP) vs. Brian Wright (TC); Cory Utz (Brk) bye; Charles Chambers (Cam) vs. Brandon Conrad (Mead); Justin Mosti (SCe) vs. (2) Sean Mahley (Camb).

140 Pounds

(1) Jessie Mahan (OG) vs. Terina Miller (Brk); A.J. Tiziani (CV) vs. Anthony Lamp (CV); Remington Marcos (WC) bye; Josh Little (Weir) vs. (7) Chris Brancker (Ed); (6) Nick Pasquarella (Staub) vs. Kevin Riggle (EL); Cody Smith (Shen) vs. Tyler Book (BvL); Adam Westley (TC) vs. Steve Hardy (Camb); Josh Perko (SCe) vs. (4) Chad Ware (MF); (3) Kayne Melko (BSJ) vs. Danny Nunner (HC); Andy Sigler (UL) vs. Kason Melchieri (JM); Blake Heslop (Shad) vs. Andrew Ashland (Beall); Tim Oldfield (Riv) vs. (5) Ronnie Nelson (WP); (8) Austin Piergallini (BuL) vs. John Peterson (Cam); Aaron Porter (Bell) bye; Mike Russell (MC) vs. Tyler Lane (Barn); Damian Seracco (Well) vs. (2) James Myers (IC).

145 Pounds

(1) Mick Nicola (BSJ) vs. Nathan McConaughy (MC); Phil Pederson (Brk) vs. P.J. Ware (Staub); Jacob Bishop (Weir) bye; Kiefer Watson (Mead) vs. (7) Ross Johnson (Bell); (5) Adam Messinger (Barn) vs. Carl Perkins (UL); Bradon Richey (JM) vs. Nathan Schaal (BuL); Bob Campbell (BvL) vs. Chris Crock (Shen); Michael Briggs (Cam) vs. (4) Chad Teague (Camb); (3) Zack Schuller (StC) vs. Luke Horvath (Shad); Travis Helmick (Mag) vs. Brandon Richardson (CV); Isaiah Richie (TC) vs. Taylor Banks (HC); Nick Woods (EL) vs. (6) Nick Stine (Ed); (8) Heath Beacher (WP) vs. Joel Timmons (OG); Matt Emery (IC) bye; Chase Tucker (MF) vs. Doug Pell (WC); Jeff Hanselman (Well) vs. (2) Justin Seebach (Cald).

152 Pounds

(1) Jeff Pettit (Cam) vs. Joe Hutton (BuL); Adam Parsons (WC) vs. Josh Rossiter (Mead); David Gianesi (Weir) bye; Casey Klug (Shad) vs. (7) Bryan Bilyeu (Beal); (5) Zac Bowers (MF) vs. Bryant Dray (EL); James Beatty (Camb) bye; Robbie Rossiter (Shen) vs. Zac Leasure (TC); Mark Markakis

(Staub) vs. (4) Cody Miller (OG); (3) Bryan Skoff (BSJ) vs. Emily Dille (Mag); Andrew Hirt (Well) vs. Shane Kandis (WP); Craig Johnston (IC) bye; Tyler Frokopakis (Ed) vs. (6) Nick Perko (Bell); (8) Roger Best (JM) vs. Josh Smith (Barn); Allen Gray (UL) bye; Lamar Dowling (Cald) vs. Chris Richter (MC); Jared Osborne (BvL) vs. (2) Brad Brooks (HC).

160 Pounds

(1) Bud Hinee (Barn) vs. Travis Mitchell (StC); Tyler Bass (Staub) vs. Zach Burke (MC); Justin Rossiter (Shen) bye; Sean Neff (TC) vs. (7) Rodney Kale (BvL); (5) Richard Bereschik (Well) vs. Ethan Warren (OG); Brett Blevins (UL) bye; Troy Starr (Riv) vs. Jamaal Lowery (Camb); Jake Myers (Cam) vs. (3) Dusty Hill (WP); (4) Jonathan Stewart (Ed) vs. Josh Sizemore (Brk); Robert Solter (IC) vs. Jared Booth (Bell); Ron Scott (EL) bye; James Pine (Weir) vs. (5) Jacob Donlay (HC); (8) Seth Skrypek (JM) vs. Tom Prouditt (Mead); George Ruckman (Beal) bye; Jon Boggs (MF) vs. Michael Neff (Cald); Rick Renforth (BuL) vs. (2) Rhett Northcraft (OG).

171 Pounds

(1) Adam Gibson (WP) vs. Josh Oppenheimer (Shen); P.J. Vincent (CV) vs. Josh McShan (Staub); Tyler Love (Mead) bye; Tod Miller (IC) vs. (8) Branko Busick (Weir); (6) Tyler Kinzy (Beal) vs. Lewis Dunn (UL); Matt Shreve (MF) vs. Aaron Crow (Bell) vs. Mark Chambers (JM); Andy Duke (Brk) vs. (4) Kirk Wetherell (Camb); (3) Dan Dunn (BvL) vs. Larry Witzberger (WC); Junior Yost (TC) vs. Kevin Ingram (Ed); Josh Costlow (SCe) vs. Mardis Stevens (MC); Jordan Clegg (Riv) vs. (6) Charlie Fritter (Brk); (7) T.J. Osbon (OG) vs. Ty Howell (HC); Ryan Crabtree (Well) bye; Dustin Crum (Cald) vs. Martin Whiteman (Mag); Tim Minor (EL) vs. (2) Josh Colagio (BuL).

189 Pounds

(1) Bobby Scarlock (Camb) vs. Ben Lehotay (Mead); Brad Ensell (IC) vs. Zach Hoskinson (Bell); Jared Mosti (SCe) bye; Thomas Mora (Shen) vs. (8) Samson Gianesi (Weir); (6) Jacob Kulin (Staub) vs. Josh Richardson (Ed); Jake Davis (UL) bye; Logan VanCamp (Riv) vs. Jerry Kahl (Shad); Koryn Koehler (Beal) vs. (4) Derrick Hesson (Cald); (3) Josh Greathouse (OG) vs. Alan Kane (Mag); Matt Hill (WP) vs. Corey Duke (BuL); Jeff Zawlas (BSJ) vs. Holden Roberts (TC); Levi Holcomb (StC) vs. (5) Brandon Ruckman (JM); (7) Brian Grear (Barn) vs. Steven Woodford (MF); Zach Scott (CV) vs. Schyler Bondy (MC) vs. Marco Cao (WC); James Boreman (HC) vs. (2) Kyle Reeder (BuL).

215 Pounds

(1) John Horn (Shen) vs. Zack Clegg (Bell); Chris Lemasters (TC) vs. Mike English (MC); Pat Reasbeck (WC) bye; Greg Rayburn (Well) vs. (8) Mike Matulis (Riv); (6) Justin Britnell (Camb) vs. Mike Marvowski (Weir); Anthony Faldowski (BuL) vs. Tommy Kettwell (WP); Wendell Habig (BSJ) vs. Donovan Fletcher (Staub); Artie Talbert (EL) vs. (4) Bryan Rowland (OG); (3) Shane Clark (MF) vs. Ben Dodds (HC); Christian Wolfe (Mead) vs. Isaiah Kotsen (Mag); John Ruskowski (Linsly) vs. Adam Kanzlugg (Beal); Martin McCallister (Ed) vs. (5) Taylor Potts (JM); (7) Thad Sollick (BvL) vs. Adam Macy (UL); Zach Costlow (SCe) bye; Thomas Shenkel (Cald) vs. Brent Aitken (Brk); Cain Ware (IC) vs. (2) Paul Jeffers (Barn).

275 Pounds

(1) Jimmy Bowersock (BvL) vs. Rudy Sanchez (Mead); Steve Suka (CV) bye; James Malone (Well) bye; Drake Kowcheck (Brk) vs. (7) Dustin Bruce (Bell); (5) Brett Taylor (WP) vs. Mike Davis (JM); Corey Hastings (Barn) bye; Andrew Kille (TC) vs. Brant Sawyers (Riv); Danny Dishman (Cam) vs. (4) Ralph Petrella (Staub); (3) Eric Diagosta (EL) vs. Shane Gray (StC); Brian McElfresh (Cald) bye; Ryan Sonk (UL) bye; Andrea Gad (BuL) vs. (8) Jeremiah Hinerman (Ed); (8) Jeff Coole (MF) vs. David Collins (OG); Nathan Oaz (IC) bye; James Colvin (Weir) bye; Corey Parsons (WC) vs. (2) John Nicolozakes (Camb).

NOTEBOOK

Continued from page B1



Nick's Notebook

By NICK BEDWAY

Having known Ron Mauck during most of my years as a writer for the Wheeling newspapers, I was especially pleased at last week's announcement that the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference wrestling tournament had been renamed in his honor.

Since 1979 when the giant three-day tournament was moved to its permanent home at the then newly-built Wheeling

Civic Center (now WesBanco Arena), Mauck has served as director of what is believed to be the largest high school conference wrestling tournament in the entire country.

"I don't feel as if I've ever accomplished anything by myself in my life. It has always been people working together."

Ron Mauck

He has performed those duties with both an easily recognizable passion for the sport and his professed mission to do what is best for the kids who participate in wrestling throughout the season, not just the three days in late January when the tournament is in session.

In the early 1970s, Ron and the tournament committee came

up with another way to attract interest in the sport through the media and provide another avenue of competition for the wrestlers by establishing the regular season dual meet championships.

Probably, the No. 1 single achievement of the wrestling program over the past 25 years has been the establishment of a scholarship program that awards thousands of dollars each year to help students further their education by going to college.

Scholarships awarded in the sport of wrestling alone include the George Kovalick Wrestling Scholarship (\$1,000); Daniel Burke Scholarship Award (\$2,500); James "Dead Eye" Morris OVAC Wrestling Scholarship; Matt Salsberry Wrestling Scholarship (\$1,000); and the Lucas D. Sedgmer Scholarship Award (\$1,000).

Months before the tournament unfolds, Mauck is kept busy editing and putting together a huge information book covering every aspect of OVAC wrestling.

Despite all these successes and the rise of popularity of the sport under his direction, Ron would prefer the lime-light go to others.

Thankfully the OVAC executive committee, with the enthusiastic support of the wrestling committee, felt otherwise in renaming the prestigious event as the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament.

See, Notebook, Page B4



Most of the wrestling committee, Mauck included, is made up of "disciples" of the late George Kovalick, considered by many as the "father" of high school wrestling in the area. If that is true, then Mauck would have to be one of the sport's chosen "sons."

If Kovalick was still with us, we could only imagine he would be proud as a peacock to have one of his former pupils selected for such an honor.

"It was humbling," Mauck told me with a look expressing shyness on his face when we asked about his feelings after learning of this honor.

While deeply appreciative, Ron believes that it should be shared by a lot of folks, particularly, his tournament committee.

"I don't feel as if I've ever accomplished anything by myself in my life. It has always been people working together," he said.

Mauck also talked about the OVAC tournament being a family reunion week every year by pointing out that it brings together so many volunteers from the wrestling community that don't ordinarily have an opportunity to see each other.

"The uniqueness of this tournament," he said, "is that so many people have been a part of it for so long."

Although he is approaching his 26th season as tournament director, his association with the OVAC mat event goes back much further. In 1966 when Mauck was the head wrestling coach at Follansbee High School, he brought his first Blue Wave team to the OVAC Tournament. Following the Brooke County consolidation which merged Bethany, Follansbee and Wellsburg High Schools, Mauck was the first wrestling coach at Brooke High School.

He also previously served as a scorekeeper at the tournament which was then directed by the late Bob Hedmond.

His love and admiration for Coach Kovalick began during Ron's junior high days at Bridgeport.

Mauck claims to have been taught the same family values from Kovalick that he got at home as a youngster.

"I look at my dad," said Mauck. "He taught us great work ethic. My grandparents taught us the importance of family. I was no athlete but Coach 'K' taught us a lot of those same things we were learning at home."

Mauck never wrestled for Kovalick at Bridgeport High School but he followed him to West Liberty where he worked for him as a manager in football and wrestling.

They became close friends and Ron often accompanied Kovalick to wrestling meets and other sporting events. George once had Mauck wrestle in a college match when one of the Hill-topper starters was sick. He lost that lone match on riding time.

The teachings of Coach Kovalick still remain

with Mauck. He directs the events placed in his charge with the same straight forwardness and convictions that his mentor handled things.

It was through Kovalick and Bill Hinegardner, then the wrestling coach at John Marshall High School, that Ron first became involved with the OVAC wrestling tournament. The Hinegardner and Mauck families have grown close over the years. They vacation together and continue to rely on each other's advice and help. Hinegardner, one of the OVAC's most successful mat coaches during his career, remains one of the key members of conference wrestling committee.

While we were sipping a couple of iced teas at our usual meeting place, Uncle Pete's Restaurant in North Wheeling, we asked Ron to list the most satisfying moments he has experienced as director of the OVAC tournament.

"Watching the opening ceremonies on Thursday night is such a big highlight," he said. "That's when the kids have an opportunity to walk out on the mat with the own teams."

"So is listening to Ron DiLorenzo playing the national anthem on the trumpet with all the teams lined up together."

Ron also cited the annual 25-year reunions as OVAC individual champions from a quarter of a century ago are brought back for another hurrah from the big crowd. The numerous special awards that are handed out to past coaches and tournament supporters, particularly the Mr. Mat Award, are other very special moments.

Most of all, Mauck has come to cherish the friendships made over the years with fellow committee members and tournament workers such as Hinegardner, John Stephenson, Dan Doyle, Steve Kish, John Craig, Dr. Bill Welker and Dick Wolf, just to list a few of the many volunteers without whose support the OVAC championships would never have reached this pinnacle of success.

Many of those same people have become life-long friends of Ron and his wife, Mary Lou, who also has been an important tournament contributor.

Above in this column are many reasons why Ron feels a bit uncomfortable at being singled out for this honor. One of his favorite quotations is "(The letter) I is an island and it stands alone. We together can accomplish amazing things."

Without a doubt, Ron Mauck and the OVAC Wrestling Tournament Committee have done some truly wonderful things for the kids in a league that encompasses 45 schools in two different states.

I just hope he can excuse us for throwing some of the plaudits his way.

He deserved them.

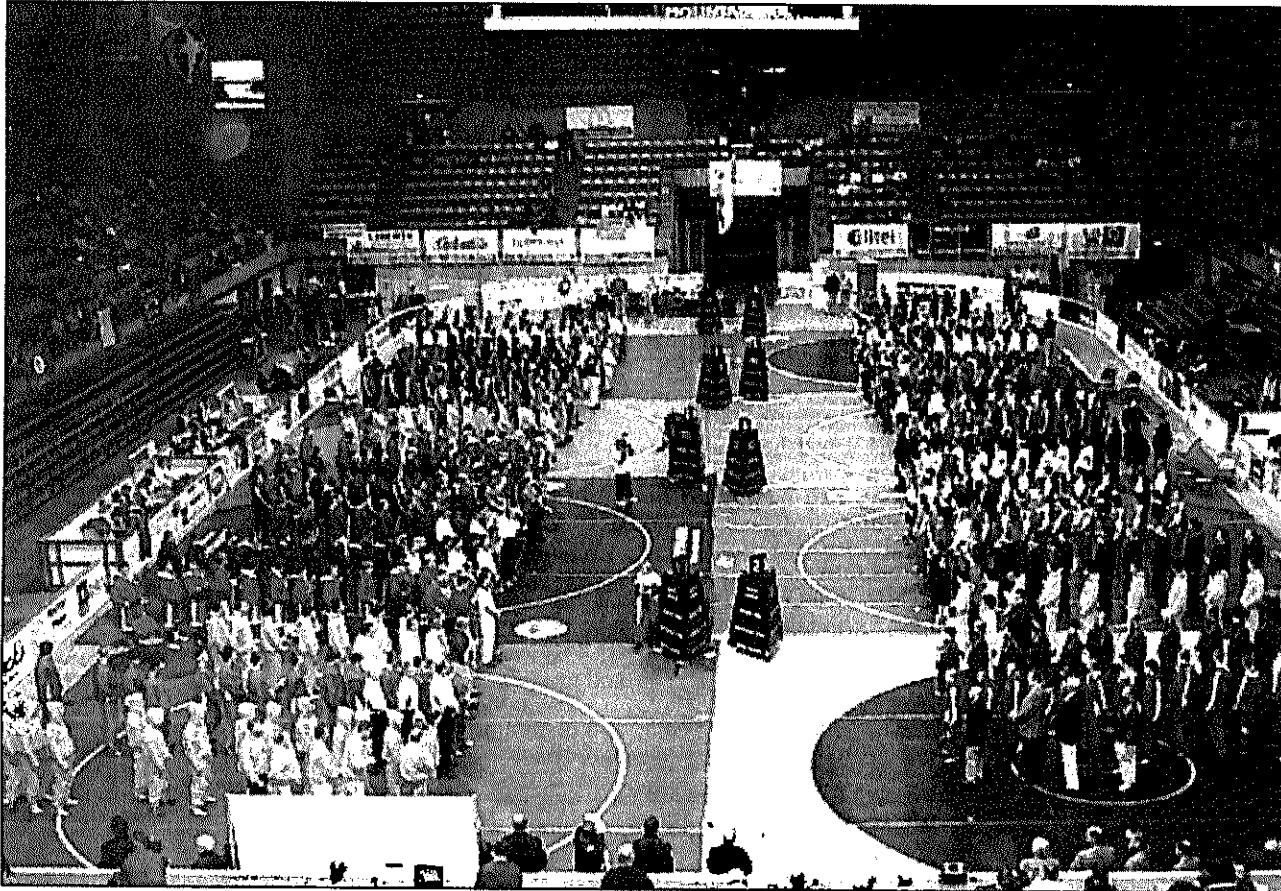
Nick Bedway is the retired executive sports editor of The Intelligencer/Wheeling News-Register.

OVAC Wrestling



THE Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling tournament was named in honor of long-time director Ron Mauck (third from left) during the mandatory coaches meeting and press conference Monday night at WesBanco Arena. Mauck is flanked by his son, Eric, wife Mary Lou and son Jay.

OVAC Wrestlers Hit Tourney Mats



Teams line up for the opening ceremonies Thursday evening for the annual Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament at WesBanco Arena in Wheeling. More than 450 wrestlers representing 35 high schools marched into the arena one after another in an Olympic-style opening ceremony adopted by the conference more than 20 years ago.

Organizers rush to get WesBanco arena ready

By JIM ELLIOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

Organizers of the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament had their backs against the wall Thursday, trying to convert WesBanco Arena into a championship-quality wrestler's heaven in what amounted to one shift's worth of work.

In the past, organizers were

able to pitch in on the conversion for two days, but the arena was hosting "Sesame Street Live" shows earlier this week.

"Big Bird, Cookie Monster and all those little guys were in control on Tuesday and Wednesday," said Mauck, the long-time director of the mammoth tournament who was recently rewarded for his many

efforts by having the event named after him.

"It just goes to show you what a great group of individuals that we have," Mauck said. "They came in here (Thursday) morning at 8:30, and we were ready to roll at 6 o'clock."

That's when the more than

(Please see, OVAC, Page 5)

INSIDE:

■ Wheeling Park leads after first round in OVAC tourney Thursday/17

OVAC

(Continued from Page 1)

460 wrestlers representing 35 high schools marched into the arena one after another in an Olympic-style opening ceremony that was adopted by the conference more than 20 years ago. Soon after, the wrestling began with the first-round championship action in what remains the largest wrestling tournament of its kind in the country.

"We are so blessed," Mauck said. "It is such a unique thing that we can put such an event

together for our high school youths here in the (Ohio) Valley. To be able to make two or three phone calls and bring all of these people together and do the things that we do, what a blessing.

"The people that don't get involved in things like this, they're taking something away from their lives. What fulfillment to meet these people and work with them."

Action will resume at 11 a.m. today with second-round championship matches and

consolation action. Quarterfinal action is set for 5 p.m. today. The semifinals will take place at noon Saturday. The finals are slated for 6:30 p.m. that same day.

Mauck, who has been affiliated with the tournament since 1967, said he was both "humbled" and "uncomfortable" as a result of the conference's decision to rename the tourney after him.

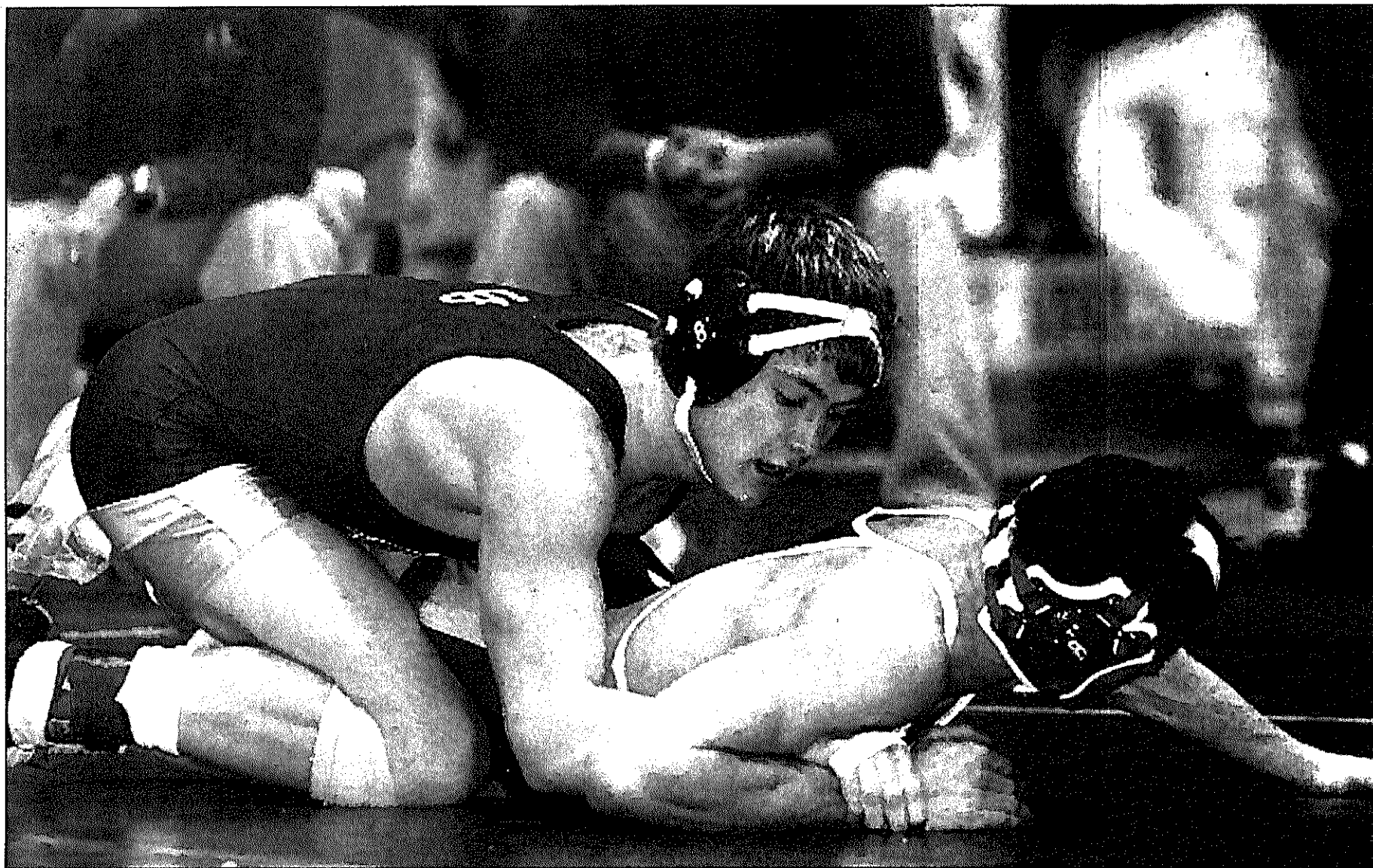
"But I mean that in a very honorable way," Mauck said.

He expects another memo-

orable tournament this year.

While Oak Glen is the defending overall champion, there are a host of previous OVAC individual champions in the field, including a pair of wrestlers aiming for their fourth consecutive titles — Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush and St. Clairsville's Zack Schuller. Both wrestlers got off to fine starts Thursday, as Rush needed just 25 seconds to pin his opponent from Wellsville, while Schuller needed just 3:02 to pin his Shadyside foe.

SPORTS



Oak Glen captures OVAC tourney

• Martins Ferry second

By RICK DeLUCA
Times Leader Sports Writer

Oak Glen and Clay Tucker - the only two guarantees in the OVAC tournament.

Coach Larry Shaw's Golden Bears captured their second straight OVAC title and Tucker joined an elite group by winning his fourth straight OVAC championship to cap off a memorable 52nd OVAC Wrestling Tournament at the WesBanco Arena in Wheeling Monday night.

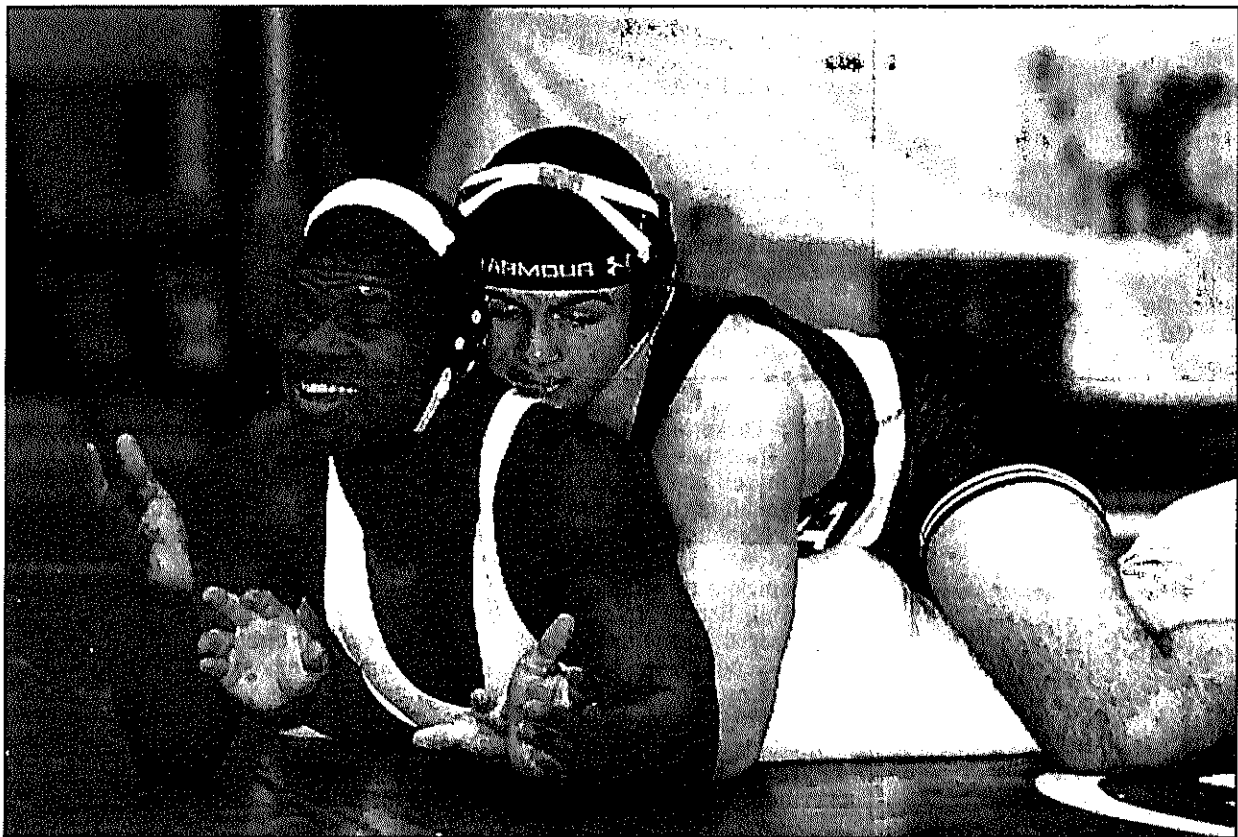
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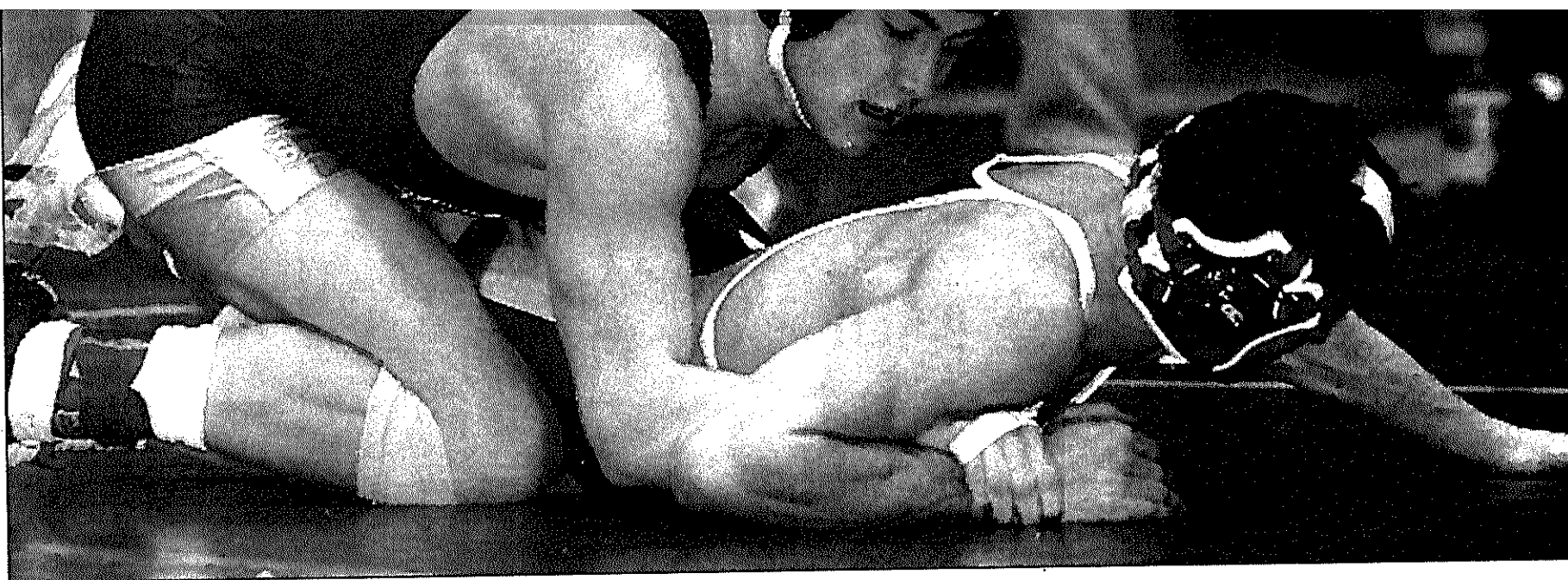
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Oak Glen captures OVAC tourney

• Martins Ferry second

By RICK DeLUCA
Times Leader Sports Writer

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With Brooke and Cambridge finished in the fourth and fifth spots, respectively, overall, John Marshall was sixth with 121.5 points, Indian Creek was next with 114, Beaver Local was eighth with 112, Cameron was ninth with 110.5 and Edison completed the top 10 with 110 points.

Caldwell claimed the Class 2-A title with 105.5 points just ahead of Barnesville with 90 and Shenandoah with 81.

Cameron captured another Class 1-A title with its 110.5 total. St. John Central placed second with 55 and Shadyside was next with 48.

"I am very pleased with our wrestlers," Ferry coach Babe Sidon, a 1990 Bierkorte Award winner, said after the tourney. "We came in with five seeded wrestlers and we ended up placing 10 wrestlers. You come over here and place 10 wrestlers and come close to winning it."

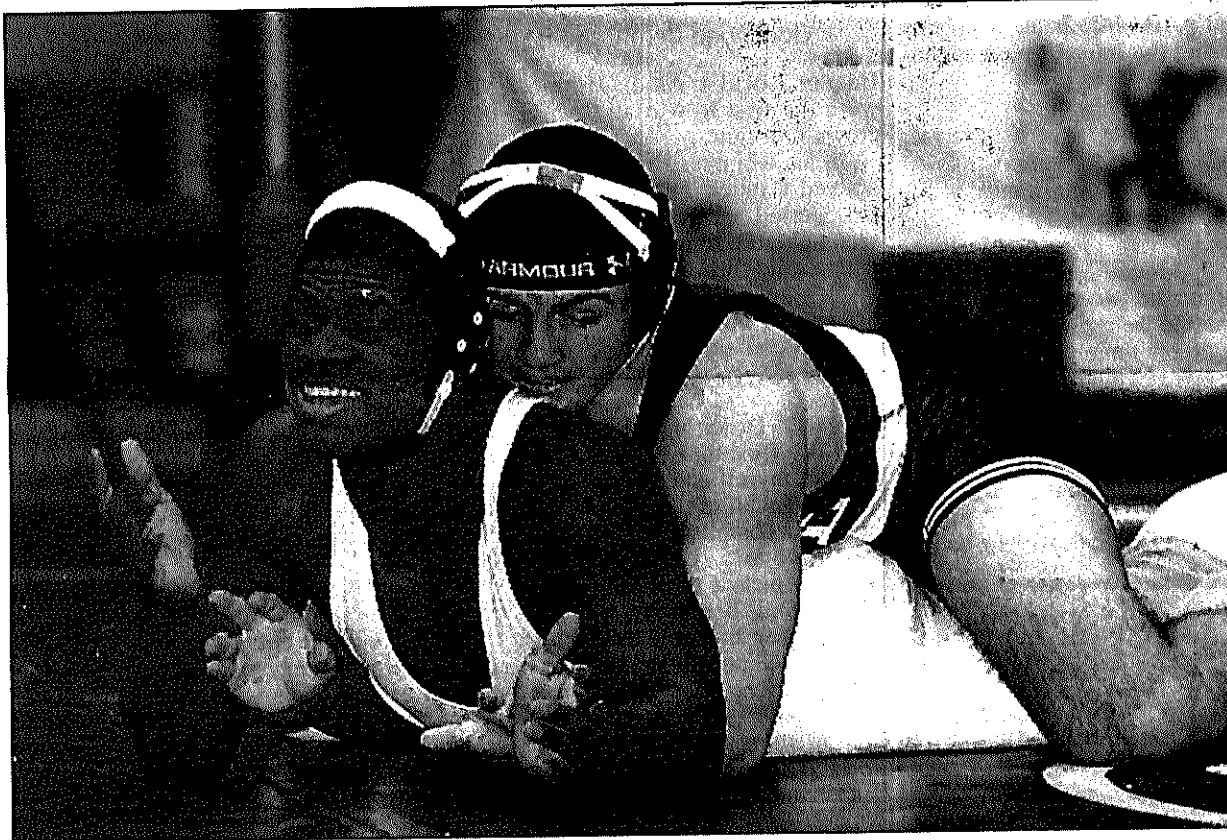
"I'm proud of our kids," Sidon added. "They came to wrestle. They came out and battled. They lost some key matches, but they didn't give up."

Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker has made winning look easy for so long, he knows no other way to win. Completely dominating Beaver Local's Shawn Dunn from start to finish, Tucker easily registered his fourth OVAC title with a 15-4 major decision in his 140-pound championship bout with Dunn.

Tucker, the champion last year at 130, extended his outstanding record to 25-1 with the win. The Purple Rider senior joined an elite group of wrestlers in winning his fourth crown.

Bridgeport's Bobby Douglas, Edison's Kelly Shield's, East Liverpool's Mark Emmerling and

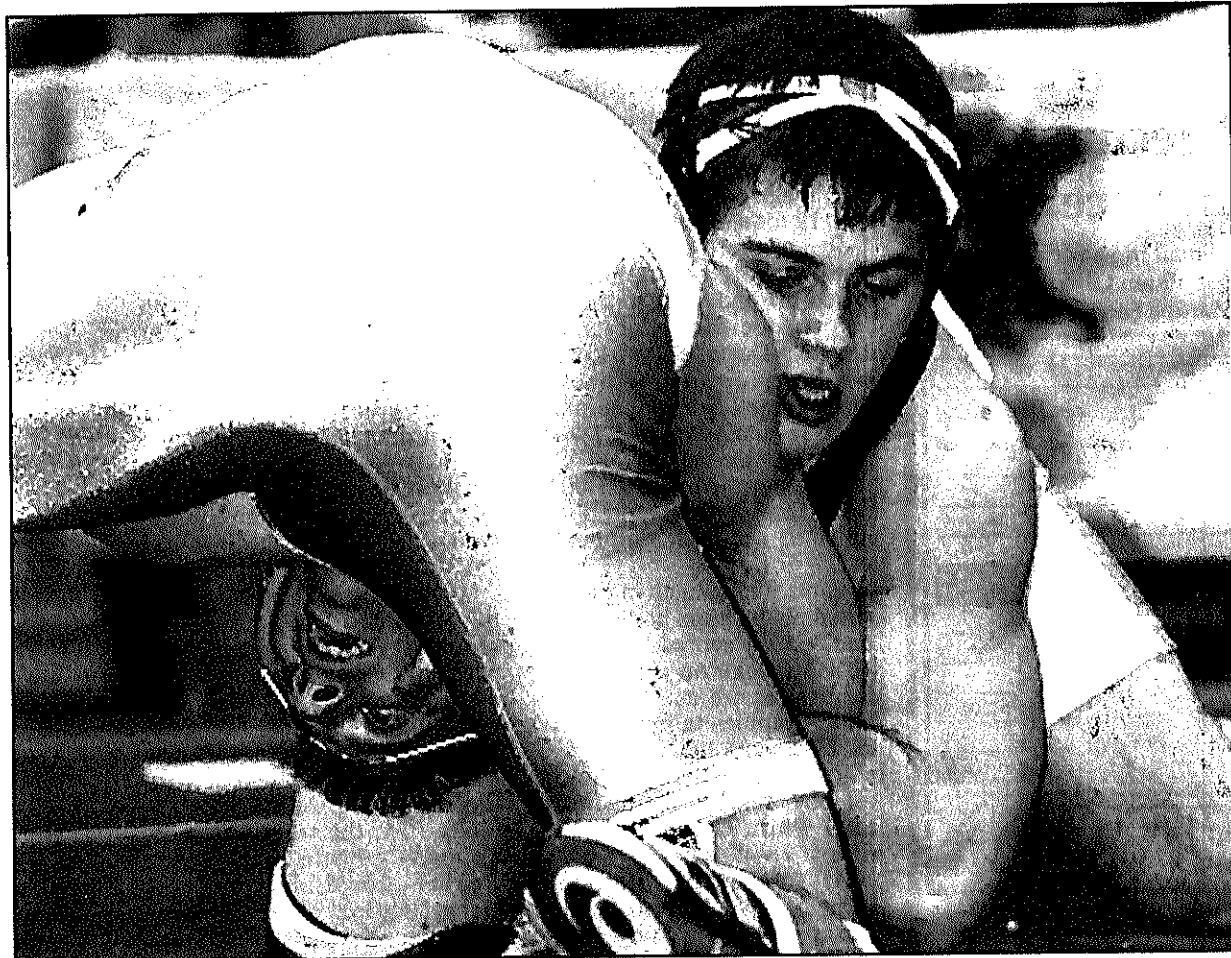
See, OVAC, Page B2



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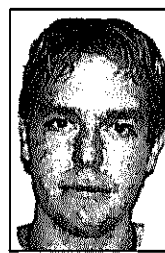
See, TU

SPORTS

Tuesday,
January 25, 2005

**MIDLEZED AND
CONFUSED**

Tucker enters rare air



By
Jeremy
Midel
Times Leader
Sports Writer

Clay Tucker has entered rarified air, the kind that makes you dizzy just thinking about it. But that's what you encounter when climbing to the apex, the very pinnacle of your sport.

It's the place where four-time Ohio Valley Athletic Conference champions reside. All five of them.

Tucker won his fourth title in impressive fashion -- that's to say not much different from his previous three -- joining an elite fraternity of wrestlers that includes Bridgeport alum and Iowa State wrestling coach Bobby Douglas.

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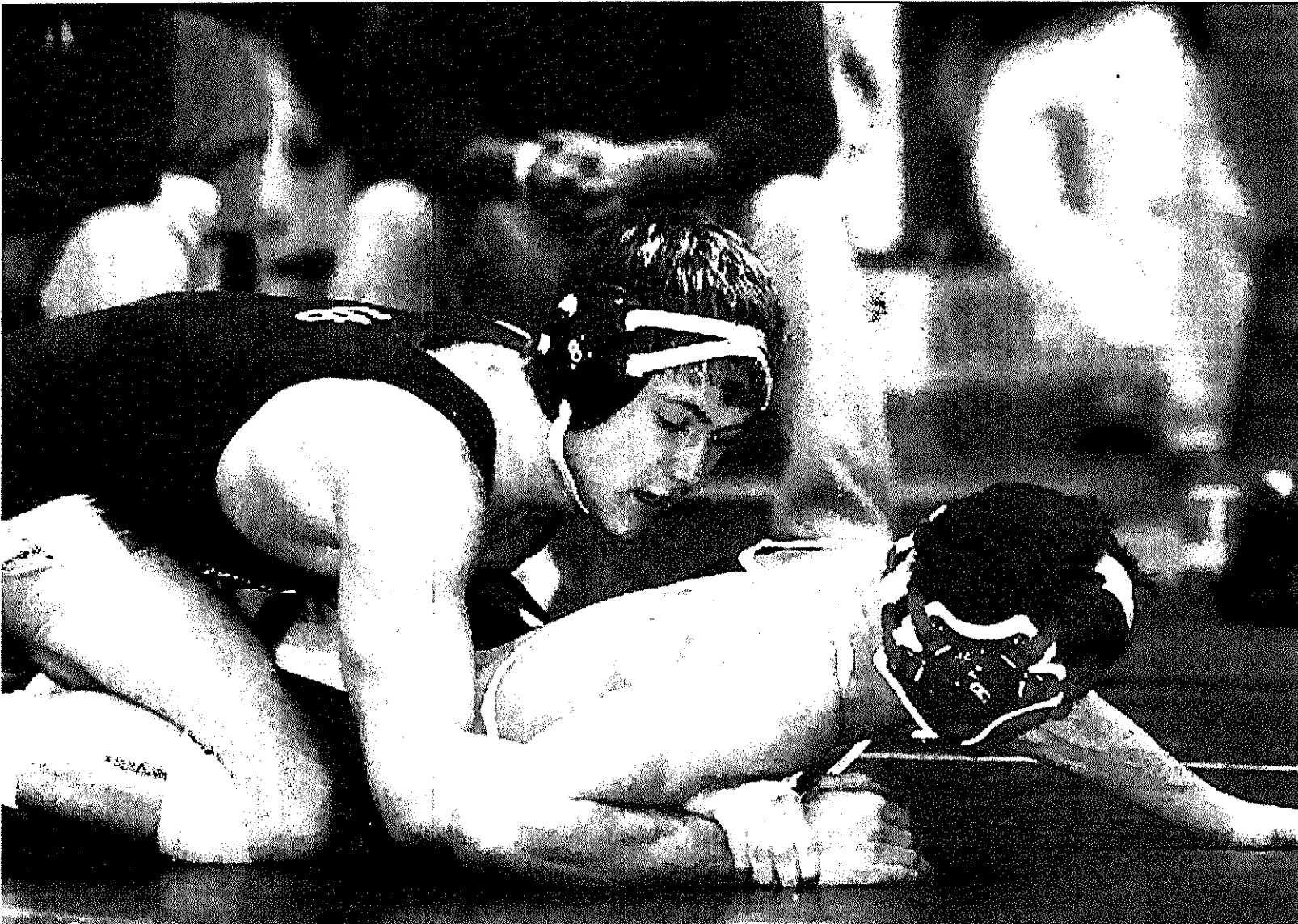
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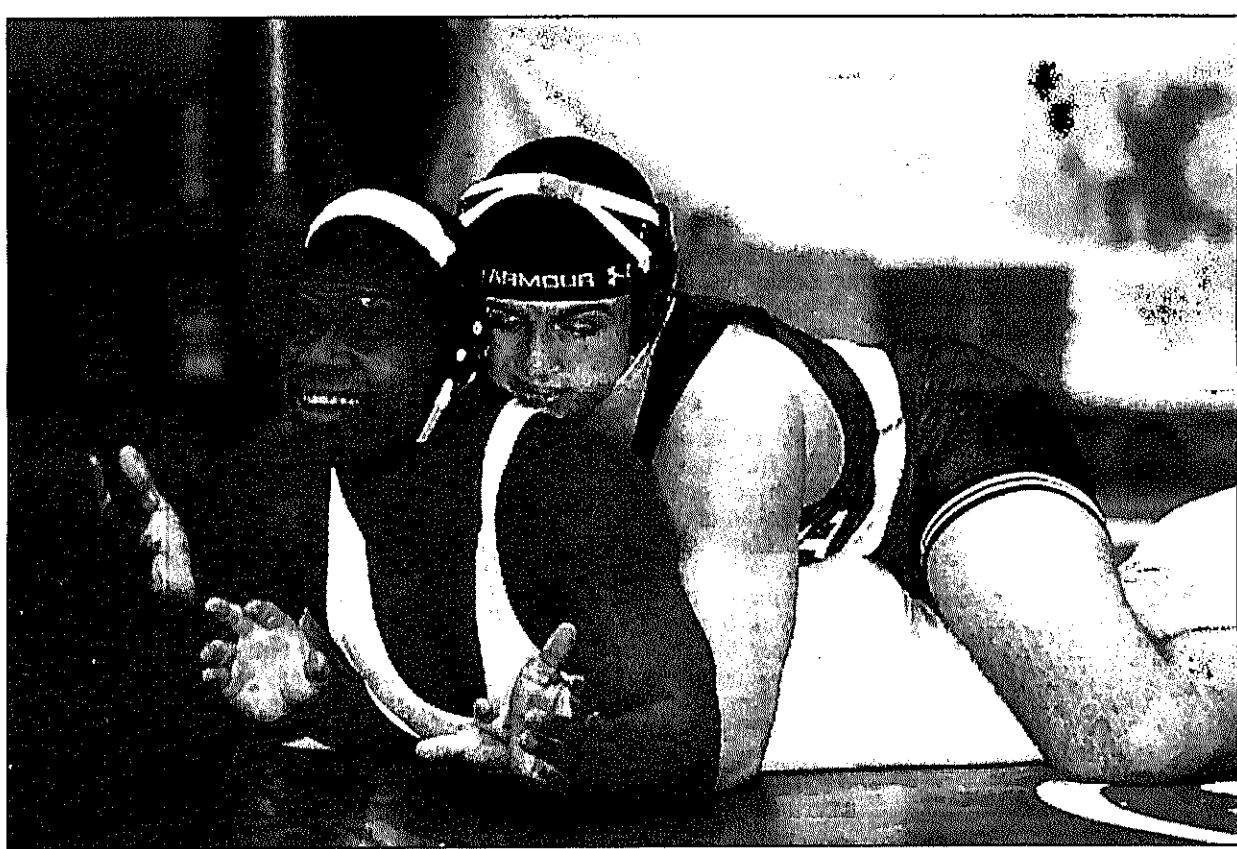
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By
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Clay Tucker - the only two guaranteed winners in the tournament. Martins Ferry captured their fourth OVAC title and Tucker joined his fourth straight OVAC crown off a memorable 52nd OVAC championship at the WesBanco Arena in night.

Winning another OVAC crown to his home another prize in being Bierkorte Award winner as the outstanding wrestler. The Purple team dominated his 140-pound weight class just the second Belmont State first from Martins Ferry to earn

Golden Bears, winners in 1991 and the school's fourth OVAC crown outdistancing runnerup Martins Ferry with 198. The same two teams and two in the Class 3-A title



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Poise? Tucker might as well be Iceman from Top Gun.

Ice cold. No mistakes.

"You have to realize, even if you get taken down, matches are six minutes," said Tucker.

"You have to stay calm and do what you need to do to get back in it, do what you need to do to win."

"He doesn't get rattled," said Sidon. "Clay's very confident, but he just takes one match at a time. He doesn't overlook anyone."

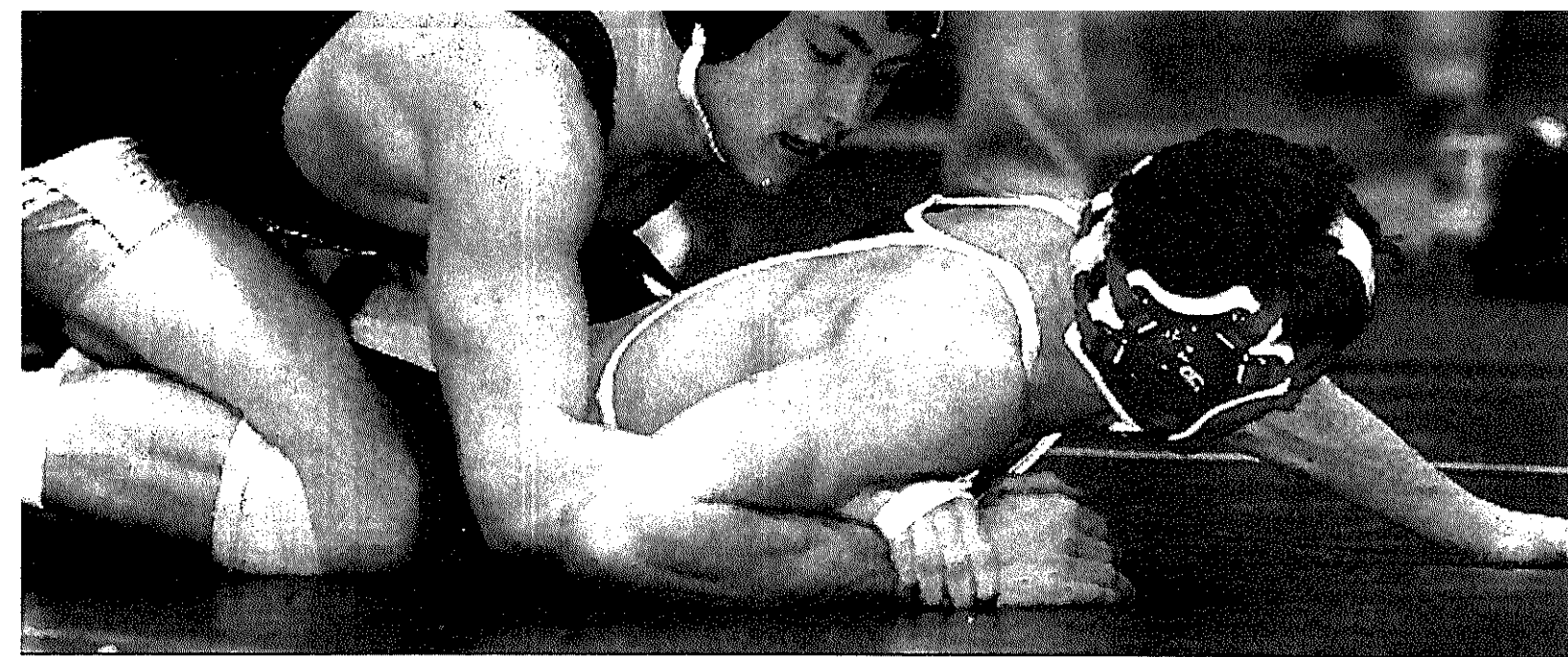
Except maybe himself. "I really didn't expect to have as good a freshman year as I did," said Tucker. "My biggest goal was to win this, the OVAC title."

"And I just built on that each year."

The Rider senior is a rare talent whom Sidon says doesn't come around that often.

"He's a blessing to be around," says Tucker's coach. "He's a blessing to coach. To see him accomplish what he has is a great feeling."

See, TUCKER, Page B2



Clay Tucker Glenn Features OVAC Journey

Ferry second

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Sports Writer

Clay Tucker -- the only two guaranteed

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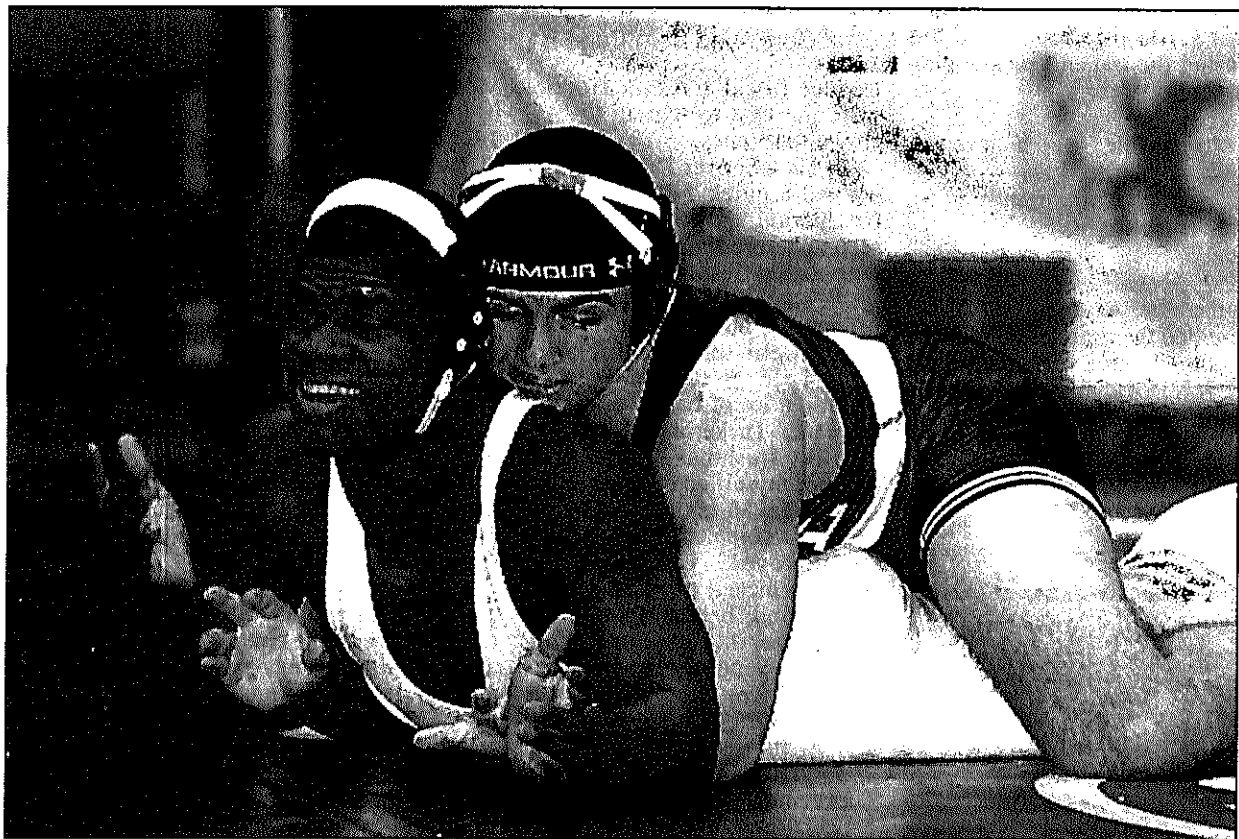
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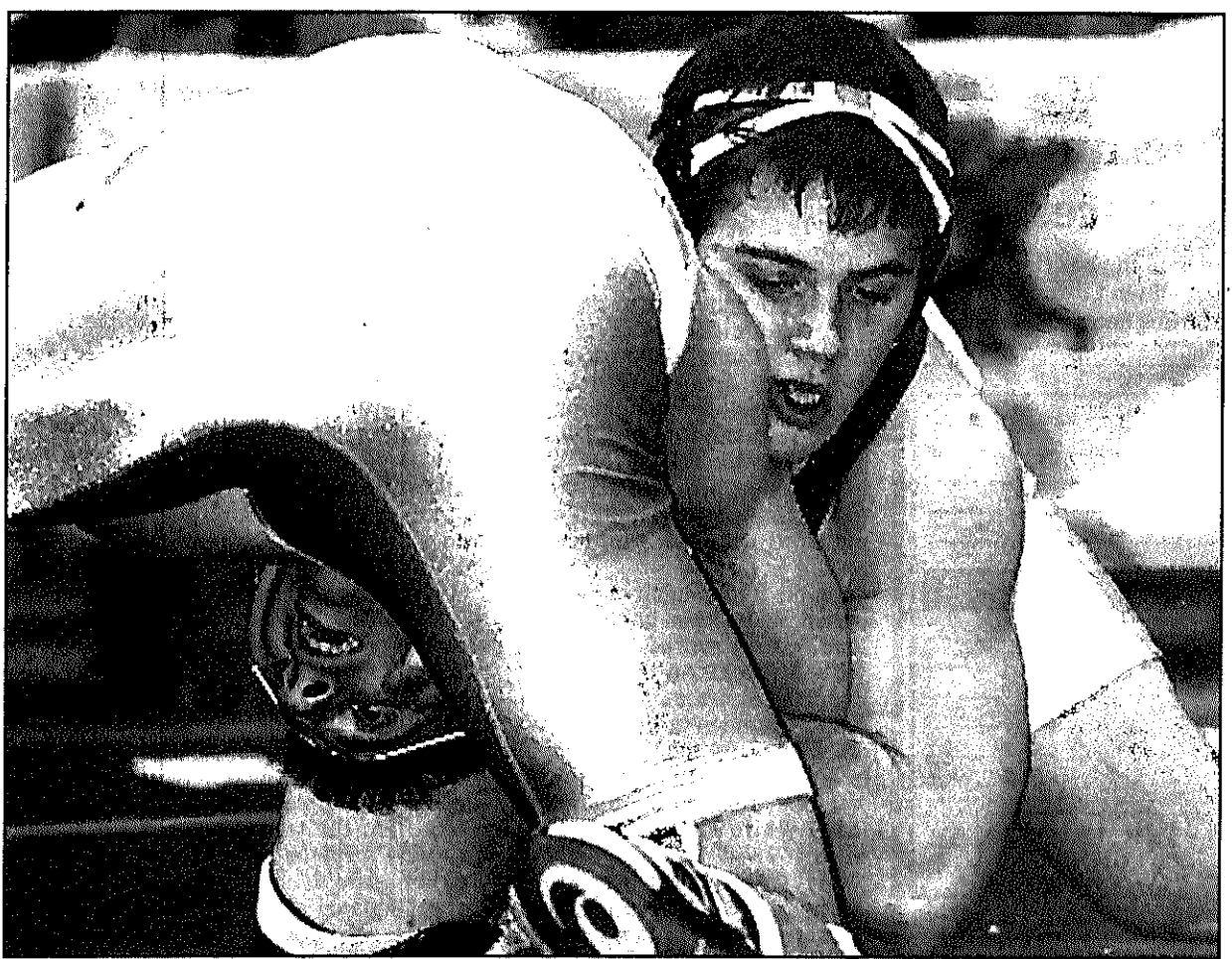
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Champion last year at 130, extended his record to 25-1 with the win. The senior joined an elite group of four-time OVAC title winners.

Bobby Douglas, Edison's Kelly Brumfield, and Park's Mark Emmerling and



OVAC, Page B2

● Tucker

Continued from Page B1

###

Between 1961 and 2004 there were only three four-time champs crowned at the OVAC tournament. But 2006 could see the third and fourth in three years.

Beaver Local's Adam Hoppel — who is now playing football at the University of Cincinnati — staked his claim to OVAC immortality when he won a titanic battle with Union Local's Koel Davia in last year's heavyweight title bout, and Tucker etched his name in the record book last night.

Buckeye Local's Zack Schuller and Park's Abbie Rush may be the next two to do so.

Schuller looks like he stepped out of a GNC ad directly onto the mat. He put that brawn to good use Monday, outmuscling Harrison Central's Brad Brooks at 145 pounds.

In doing so, the Panther junior took one step closer toward the Holy Grail of OVAC wrestling: four titles and, possibly, a Bierkorte Award.

"I've just tried to get better every year," said Schuller. "I didn't expect anything. I just worked hard and it all fell together."

If there's anything that makes Schuller the wrestler he is, it's intensity, intensity, intensity, according to Buckeye Local coach Brian Davis.

"Zack's intensity and focus are important for the type of wrestler he is, said Davis, who sported a red eye following Schuller's match. Where'd it come from?"

"Zack smacked me before his match, and he got me right in the eye. He just has incredible intensity and focus."

Obviously.

"It definitely gets me pumped just thinking about it," said Schuller. "I'm ready to go get that fourth title."

If anyone's ready for the challenge, it's Schuller.

"He handles pressure better than most because of the exposure he's had," said Davis.

"Zack's wrestled in a lot of venues other wrestlers haven't even dreamed of."

And through it all, he remains humble. A blue-collar wrestler.

"Thanks to Coach Davis, my practice partners Josh (Cologie), James (Harris) and everyone all the way down the line.

"It's all because of hard work and wrestling as much as I can."

Zack has a 26-2 record this season.

Rush also made it three in a row by blanking Oak Glen's Brandon Miller, 3-0, in the title match at 125. Rush won at 103 his freshman year and 112 last season.

He's 37-3 on the campaign.

###

A **THIRD** four-timer in 2007 is out of the question, however. James Myers, who won 103 as a freshman, battled Wheeling Park's Ronnie Green in a rematch of last year's 103 title bout. And this time, Green came out on top, 4-3, erasing the Indian Creek sophomore's quest to become an OVAC quad titleist.

###

HERE'S something for the 'I'm a Moron' File. And believe me, it grows bigger every day.

When one writes stories about a certain wrestling family at St. John Central, one should try to get all the names right.

Zach Kosky's dad is Stephen, not Joe.

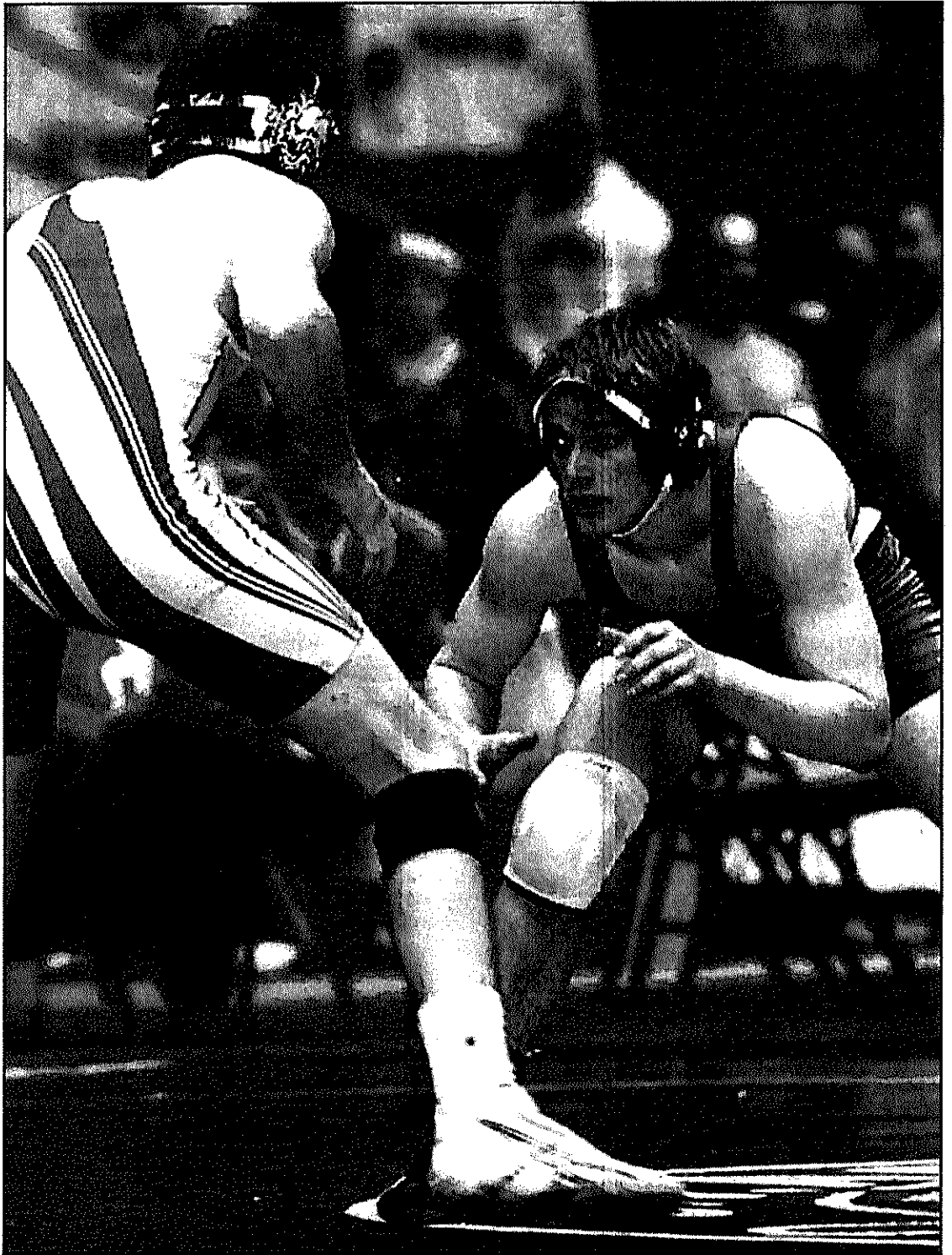
###

POST script from Saturday's column: the two members of the Kosky clan able to wrestle Monday acquitted themselves quite well.

Mick Nicola won his second OVAC title in three years, fighting a tough battle against the unorthodox style of Cambridge's Sean Mahley at 130 pounds.

Nicola boosted his record to 24-0.

And freshman Bryan Skoff finished fifth, outdueling St. Clairsville's Zac Androsko. Skoff wrestled at 125 pounds, a stacked and senior-laden weight.

Jeremy Midei can be reached via email at jmidei@comcast.net

ST. JOHN
Nicola and Mahley capture the outside champion evening Wrestling eventual decision capture in three y

● OVAC

Continued from Page B1

Beaver Local's Adam Hoppel were the first to win an OVAC crown four times.

In his win over Dunn, Tucker opened a quick 5-0 lead in the first period and led 11-1 in the second before finishing off Dunn with a solid final two minutes.

"It's good to get that pressure off me," a humble Tucker said after his history-making win. "Now I can relax a bit."

"It's a lot of hard work, a lot of years," Tucker added. "After I won my freshman year, I set a goal for myself and it feels really good to get all of the pressure off me and accomplish that goal."

Buckeye's Local's Zack Schuller picked up what Tucker left behind, becoming a three-time winner at 145 with a pin of Harrison Central's Brad Brooks at the 4:26 mark. Schuller's title was his third in three years and he now moves into the spotlight and will be looking to join Tucker next year as a four-time winner.

Schuller was the tournament's lone wrestler to pin his way through the event. Brooks was the first opponent to extend the Panther wrestler beyond the second period. Schuller jumped out to a 4-1 lead in the first and had opened a 10-4 lead into the third before catching Brooks on his back for the pin.

With the win, Schuller improved to 26-2 on the season and moved within two wins of 100 career victories.

Brooks finished the tournament at 21-4.

Schuller's efforts earned him the Hercules Award for his efforts throughout the tournament winning with pins of 1:21, 1:50, 1:59, 1:10 and his title fall in 4:26.

"It feels great," Schuller said afterwards. "I can't imagine what a Bierkorte Award winner or a

Meadowbrook's Mike Lehotay in the title match registering an 18-2 technical fall.

Duffield, who lost a tough 3-1 decision to Park's Abbie Rush in the 2004 OVAC tournament, boosted his season record to 30-2 with the win. Lehotay, coming in as the third seed, finished the weekend at 28-3.

Monday's 119-pound final was a rematch of 2004's 103-pound championship match. Wheeling Park's junior Ronnie Green managed to take a 2-0 lead in the first period, but saw it fall by the wayside with a pair of escapes by Indian Creek's James Myers.

With 0:55 left in the third period, Green scored a takedown on the fringe of the circle to open a 4-2 lead. Myers managed another escape to close the gap to one, but despite some desperate moments in the final seconds, Green held on to register the win and take the title.

Green, a hard-luck 1-0 loser in 103 title match to Myers last year, stretched his near-perfect season mark to 34-1 with the OVAC sweep. Myers, just a sophomore, closed at 24-5.

In the 125 pound championship match, Park's Rush, the champ at 112, squared off with the 2004 112-pound third-place finisher, Brandon Miller of Oak Glen.

Rush scored early with a first period takedown and a second period escape and held off Miller's efforts in the third to register the 3-0 win.

With the win, Rush boosted his season mark to 37-3 and became a rare three-time OVAC winner. He will have the opportunity to join an elite group next season vying for a fourth. Miller, a senior, lost for only the second time this season finishing at 24-2.

Hoppel, a third-place finisher at 119, was the second seed.

Seebach was methodical in his win over Hoppel, registering a 3-0 decision in the title match with a takedown in the second and escape in the third.

Seebach was forced to endure Hoppel's last second attempt to turn the tables, but held on for the win.

Seebach closed the tournament with a 23-2 mark while Hoppel closed at 19-6.

In the 152-pound title match, a pair of unbeaten wrestlers locked horns with John Marshall's Dustin Richey dominating Cameron's Jeff Cumpston en route to a 13-2 major decision.

After taking a 2-0 lead in the first with a takedown, Richey recorded an escape, takedown and near-fall in the second to open an 8-2 lead. In the third, Richey sealed it with a takedown and another near-fall.

Richey, a place finisher twice, pushed his season record to 35-0 with the win. Cumpston finished the tournament at 18-1.

At 160, Brooke's defending champion Dana Davis found himself in a dogfight with Oak Glen's Rhett Northcraft, a runner-up at 152 last year. Northcraft proved to be an able opponent is registering a thrilling and high-scoring 21-15 win over Davis in the title match.

Davis, coming in unbeaten at 29-0 battled with the 24-2 record Northcraft through much of the first tree periods before Northcraft scored a near-pin late in the third period and to extend his lead to five and held off Davis' late advances to win.

In the 171-pound championship final, Edison's unbeaten Mitch Costa held off a determined Josh Cologie of Buckeye Local to earn his first OVAC

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Rush also made it three in a row by blanking Oak Glen's Brandon Miller, 3-0, in the title match at 125. Rush won at 103 his freshman year and 112 last season.

He's 37-3 on the campaign.



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● OVAC

Continued from Page B1

A **THIRD** four-timer in 2007 is out of the question, however. James Myers, who won 103 as a freshman, battled Wheeling Park's Ronnie Green in a rematch of last year's 103 title bout. And this time, Green came out on top, 4-3, erasing the Indian Creek sophomore's quest to become a OVAC quad titleist.

HERE'S something for the 'I'm a Moron' File. And believe me, it grows bigger every day.

When one writes stories about a certain wrestling family at St. John Central, one should try to get all the names right.

Zach Kosky's dad is Stephen, not Joe.

POST script from Saturday's column: the two members of the Kosky clan able to wrestle Monday acquitted themselves quite well.

Mick Nicola won his second OVAC title in three years, fighting a tough battle against the unorthodox style of Cambridge's Sean Mahley at 130 pounds.

Nicola boosted his record to 24-0.

And freshman Bryan Skoff finished fifth, outdueling St. Clairsville's Zac Androsko. Skoff wrestled at 125 pounds, a stacked and senior-laden weight.

Jeremy Midei can be reached via email at jmidei@comcast.net

Beaver Local's Adam Hoppel was the first to win an OVAC crown four times.

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"It's good to get that pressure off me," a humble Tucker said after his history-making win. "Now I can relax a bit."

"It's a lot of hard work, a lot of years," Tucker added. "After I won my freshman year, I set a goal for myself and it feels really good to get all of the pressure off me and accomplish that goal."

Buckeye's Local's Zack Schuller picked up what Tucker left behind, becoming a three-time winner at 145 with a pin of Harrison Central's Brad Brooks at the 4:26 mark. Schuller's title was his third in three years and he now moves into the spotlight and will be looking to join Tucker next year as a four-time winner.

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With the win, Schuller improved to 26-2 on the season and moved within two wins of 100 career victories.

Brooks finished the tournament at 21-4.

Schuller's efforts earned him the Hercules Award for his efforts throughout the tournament winning with pins of 1:21, 1:50, 1:59, 1:10 and his title fall in 4:26.

"It feels great," Schuller said afterwards. "I can't imagine what a Bierkorte Award winner or a four-time winner feels like. I can only imagine. I've got something to work for next year."

In an exciting 103-pound final, a pair of sophomores paired off and went to the wire before deciding the match. Brooke's Daniel Felton scored a 7-6 decision over Wheeling Park's Ronell Green by turning a quick reversal with just 19 seconds left in the match.

Felton opened with a 3-0 lead in the first period before Green pulled to within 3-2 in the second.

In the final minute of the third period, with Felton holding a 5-3 lead, Green scored a reversal with 30 ticks on the clock to even the score at 5-5, but the Bruin grappler turned the trick and held on for the win.

Felton, a sixth place finisher last year, finished the tourney at 25-3 while Green closed the night at 28-4.

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With 0:55 left in the third period, Green scored a takedown on the fringe of the circle to open a 4-2 lead. Myers managed another escape to close the gap to one, but despite some desperate moments in the final seconds, Green held on to register the win and take the title.

Green, a hard-luck 1-0 loser in 103 title match to Myers last year, stretched his near-perfect season mark to 34-1 with the OVAC sweep. Myers, just a sophomore, closed at 24-5.

In the 125 pound championship match, Park's Rush, the champ at 112, squared off with the 2004 112-pound third-place finisher, Brandon Miller of Oak Glen.

Rush scored early with a first period takedown and a second period escape and held off Miller's efforts in the third to register the 3-0 win.

With the win, Rush boosted his season mark to 37-3 and became a rare three-time OVAC winner. He will have the opportunity to join an elite group next season vying for a fourth. Miller, a senior, lost for only the second time this season finishing at 24-2.

St. John Central's Mick Nicola was back on the championship mat after placing third last season and winning the title in 2003. Nicola took his unbeaten mark into his title match with Cambridge's Sean Mahley at 130.

Nicola had his hands full with Mahley, but controlled the Bobcat grappler before notching the 130-pound title with a 5-2 decision. Nicola, a winner at 112 as a freshmen, opened a 2-0 lead with a first period takedown and led 3-2 late in the third period.

Catching a leg and managing to get Mahley to the mat, Nicola scored a takedown with 13 seconds left on the clock.

Just a junior, Nicola boosted his 2004-2005 record to 24-0 with the OVAC tourney sweep. Mahley, second-seeded at 130, finished the night at 27-5.

At 135, the top two seeds, Caldwell's Justin Seebach and Beaver Local senior Luke Hoppel squared off. Seebach, a fifth-place finisher at 125 last year, came in as the top seed and

Hoppel, a third-place finisher at 119, was the second seed.

Seebach was methodical in his win over Hoppel, registering a 3-0 decision in the title match with a takedown in the second and escape in the third.

Seebach was forced to endure Hoppel's last second attempt to turn the tables, but held on for the win.

Seebach closed the tournament with a 23-2 mark while Hoppel closed at 19-6.

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Richey, a place finisher twice, pushed his season record to 35-0 with the win. Cumpston finished the tournament at 18-1.

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Davis, coming in unbeaten at 29-0 battled with the 24-2 record Northcraft through much of the first tree periods before Northcraft scored a near-pin late in the third period and to extend his lead to five and held off Davis' late advances to win.

In the 171-pound championship final, Edison's unbeaten Mitch Costa held off a determined Josh Cologie of Buckeye Local to earn his first OVAC title with a 7-4 decision.

Costa, a sixth-place finisher at 160 in 2004, pushed his season mark to 27-0 with the win. He opened a 5-0 lead in the second period, but saw Cologie rally with a reversal and takedown in the third to pull to with 6-4.

Cologie closed the tournament with a deceiving 16-9 record. He placed seventh at 160 a year ago.

Senior and unbeaten Chas Yoder was another big winner for Martins Ferry taking Oak Glen's Chris Stevens to the final seconds before pinning the Golden Bear senior at 5:54 in their title match at 189.

Yoder was a 2004 champion at 171 pounds easily beating Shadyside's Luke Burkhart in the finals. On Monday, Yoder out muscled the Golden Bear and rolled up a 12-6 lead before pinning Stevens, the fourth-place finisher at 171 a year ago.

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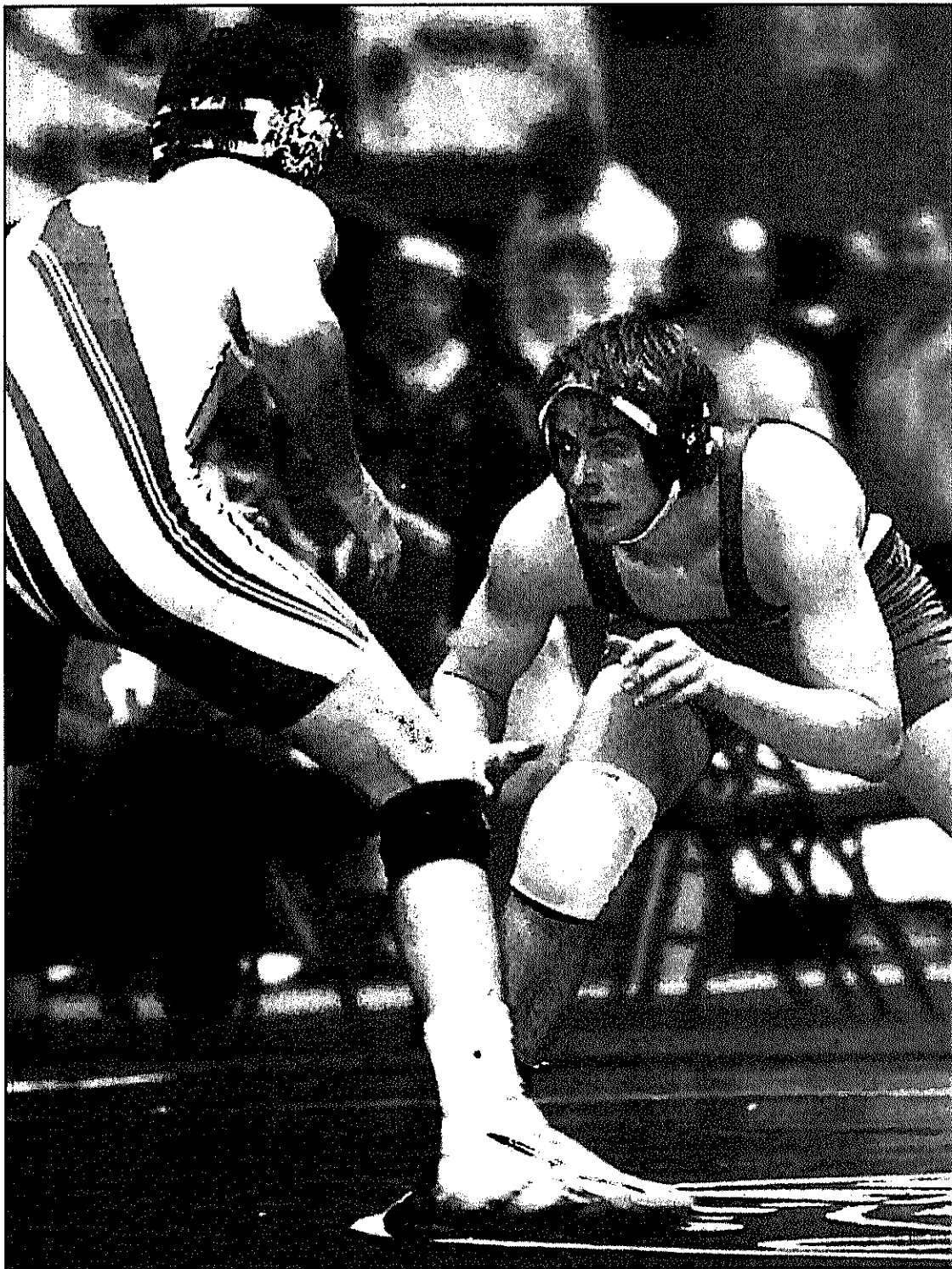
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T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH
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In the overtime, the pair battled to a standoff in the extra period before Potts scored a quick escape in the sudden death to gain the title. Zeyer finished the tournament at 26-6.

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Michael took an early 4-2 lead and held off the Pilot grappler to notch his first OVAC title. Michael failed to place last season. The Zep senior finished the tournament at 24-3 while Haslam lost for the first time after 29 straight wins this season.

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DAN DOYLE was presented with the OVAC's most prestigious award Monday night when he was handed the 2005 Mr. Mat Award. Doyle, a highly-successful coach at both Jefferson Union in Richmond and Buckeye Local in Connorville, is currently the superintendent of schools in Noble County.

VETERAN OFFICIAL Ray Marling of Bellaire was presented with the Official of the Year Award.

Marling, one of the more respected officials in the Ohio Valley, was presented his award by Bill Welker.

MARTINS FERRY and Buckeye Local, two Eastern Ohio schools that have been in the thick of the OVAC title hunt year in and year out over the past couple decades, took home the two top individual honors in the OVAC tournament Monday night.

Tucker won the premier award as the Bierkorte Award winner and Schuller's pinning his way through the tourney in just over 10 minutes total garnered him the Hercules Award.

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OVAC Wrestling Tournament set



By
**RICK
DELUCA**
Times Leader
Sports Writer

It's been just about a year and the wait is finally over. The OVAC Wrestling Tournament is set to get underway at the WesBanco Arena.

For the 52nd time, prep wrestlers from throughout the Ohio Valley will gather for what has become one of the country's largest and finest mat extravaganzas. The 2005 event will be no different.

As many as 12 wrestlers will come into this weekend's tournament with 100 or more career wins. Nine will come in with perfect records for the season.

Eight wrestlers come in as defending conference champions and one enters the tournament looking for a coveted fourth OVAC crown.

What a weekend for the Ohio Valley and high school wrestling at the WesBanco Arena in Wheeling. It's not often that Ohio Valley sports fans get the opportunity to witness so many championship caliber athletes and teams battle it out on the same floor over a three-day period.

A bit of snow may be in the forecast, but neither snow nor rain nor even rising waters have prevented the OVAC from putting on its giant wrestling tournament over the past 51 years and 2005 is set to get off the ground without a hitch.

Action gets under way on Thursday with Bout No. 1 pitting 103-pound top seed Ronell Green of Wheeling Park squaring off with Harrison Central's Kevin Snyder. On Saturday evening, the tournament concludes with the 275-pound championship bout. In the middle, a whole bunch of quality wrestling.

Possibly one of the most exciting events of the tournament will be the journey of Martins Ferry's ultra-talented senior Clay Tucker through the 140-pound weight class. Tucker, a champion in the OVAC tournament each year since his freshman campaign, will be looking to grab his fourth title. A fit that has only been accomplished by five other

AROUND THE MATS

wrestlers in the long history of the OVAC.

Tucker, coached by former Ohio state and OVAC champion Babe Sidon, leads as very talented Martins Ferry squad into the tournament with an outstanding 21-1 record. Tucker was unbeaten last season en route to an Ohio state championship.

Of course, the Riders won't be resting all of their hopes on the talented Tucker.

The Riders' Chas Yoder, another senior and defending OVAC champ, is the top seed at 189 and sports a perfect 17-0 mark coming in. Yoder and Tucker are both owners of over 100 career mat wins.

Buckeye Local, another of the Ohio Valley's premier mat teams each year, also returns two defending OVAC champions and both will be back next year.

Buckeye's Willie Saxton, who just notched his 100th career win last week in a match with Edison, is the defending champ at 125. Saxton's road to another title will take him through a weight class that includes another defending champion, Abbie Rush of Wheeling Park, who took home the 112 title a year ago. Rush is another of those 100 career win guys. Seven of the top eight seeded wrestlers in the class have lost three or few matches this season.

Zack Schuller, the other half of the Panther mat duo, brings a 21-2 record into his opening match as he goes for OVAC title No. 3.

Just a junior, Schuller capture the 140-pound title a year ago and will battle through a tough division.

Interestingly enough at 152, two wrestlers with over 100 career wins and perfect marks in 2004-2005 are the top two

seeds in the class. John Marshall's Dustin Richey, a runnerup at 145 last year, sports a 30-0 mark as the top seed and Cameron's Jeff Cumpston, a sixth place finisher at 140 a year ago, owns a 14-0 mark as the second seed. And that's not all. Shadyside's talented Billy Frollini, another wrestler over the 100-win mark, is the third seed at 152.

Another unbeaten heading into this Thursday's action is St. John Central's Mick Nicola. At 19-0, Nicola, now a junior, will be the top seed at 130 pounds and will be looking for an OVAC crown after placing third at 125 last year.

Brooke's Dana Davis, a defending champion at 160 pounds, is back at the top seed in the same division. He sports a perfect 25-0 mark and is another of those 100 career win wrestlers heading into the tournament.

Davis leads a very strong Brooke team that placed third overall last year.

One of the big surprises this season has been Edison's Mitch Costa, whose perfect 22-0 slate has catapulted the 2004 sixth-place finisher at 160 into the top seed this year at 171.

River's Wesley Haslam joined the 100-win club this year and has rolled through opponents to amass an impressive 25-0 mark in the heavy-weight division this season. Haslam leads a strong field at 275 as the top seed.

Oak Glen, easily the favorite to take another OVAC title and down the road a ninth consecutive West Virginia state title, has but one top seed in 215-pound Cody Potts.

At 21-0, Potts is the No. 1 seed over the talented and 20-1 record John Horn of Shenandoah.

In the lightweights along with Green at 103, Anthony Dunfield, a runnerup last year and winner of over 100 career matches, is the top seed at 112

with a 25-2 mark. Defending champion James Myers of Indian Creek is the top seed at 119 sporting a 20-4 mark. Ronnie Green, the runnerup at 103 last season, is second seed at 119.

Caldwell can claim the other top seed and 100 career win wrestler. Justin Seebach is the top seed at 135, a class that also features Beaver Local's Luke Hopple and his 100 career wins. Seebach's teammate Corey Lemasters, seeded fifth at 125, went over the century mark in wins this season.

Action in this weekend's tournament gets underway on Thursday with opening ceremonies starting at 6 p.m. and wrestling at 6:30 p.m.

On Friday, there are two sessions with action starting at 11 a.m. and then again at 5 p.m.

Saturday activities get underway at noon with championship ceremonies and introductions at 6 p.m. and championship and consolation finals starting at 6:30 p.m.

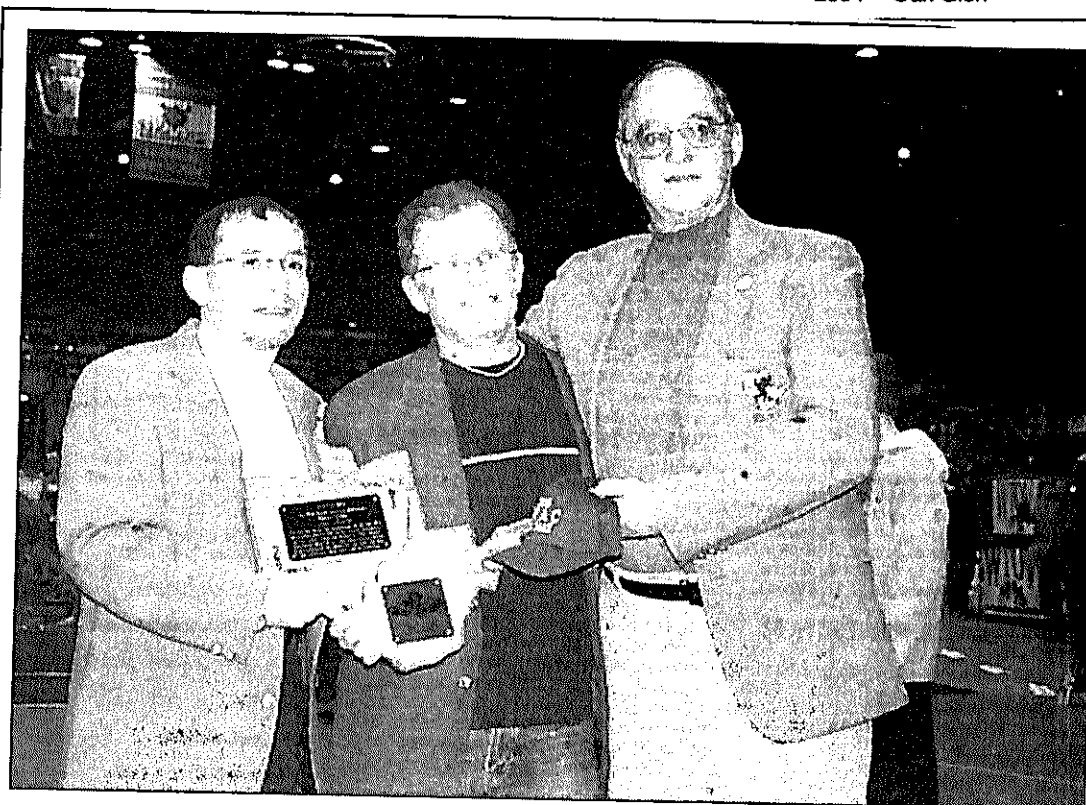
Clear your schedule and open things up for OVAC wrestling this weekend.

LEADER • Wednesday, January 19, 2005 • Page 25

Past Tournament Team Champs

OVAC Wrestling Tournament Team Champions

TEAM	COACH
1954 -- Bridgeport	George Kovalick
1955 -- Bridgeport	George Kovalick
1956 -- Bridgeport	George Kovalick
1957 -- Bridgeport	George Kovalick
1958 -- Bridgeport	George Kovalick
1959 -- Bridgeport	George Kovalick
1960 -- Bridgeport	George Kovalick
1961 -- Martins Ferry	John Vrotsos
1962 -- Martins Ferry	John Vrotsos
1963 -- Martins Ferry	John Vrotsos
1964 -- Martins Ferry	John Vrotsos
1965 -- Martins Ferry	John Vrotsos
1966 -- Martins Ferry	John Vrotsos
1967 -- Martins Ferry	John Vrotsos
1968 -- Martins Ferry	John Vrotsos
1969 -- St. John Central	Art Heier
1970 -- Wheeling Central	John Hibbert
1971 -- St. John Central	Dennis Bowman
1972 -- John Marshall	Bill Hinegardner
1973 -- John Marshall	Bill Hinegardner
1974 -- John Marshall	Bill Hinegardner
1975 -- Warwood	Eric Carder
1976 -- Weirton	Charles Murray
1977 -- John Marshall	Bill Hinegardner
1978 -- Wheeling Park	Eric Carder
1979 -- Wheeling Park	Eric Carder
1980 -- Steubenville	John Craig
1981 -- Cadiz	John Stephenson
1982 -- Steubenville	John Craig
1983 -- John Marshall	Ed Dugas
1984 -- Steubenville	John Craig
1985 -- Barnesville	Darrell Davis
1986 -- East Liverpool	Nick Trombetta
1987 -- Steubenville	John Craig
1988 -- East Liverpool	Nick Trombetta
1989 -- Steubenville	John Craig
1990 -- Wheeling Park	Buzz Evans
1991 -- Oak Glen	Larry Shaw
1992 -- Steubenville	John Craig
1993 -- Martins Ferry	Jeff Oberdick
1994 -- Wheeling Park	Buzz Evans
1995 -- Steubenville	Rick Camilletti
1996 -- Buckeye Local	Dan Doyle
1997 -- Buckeye Local	Dan Doyle
1998 -- Martins Ferry	Jeff Oberdick
1999 -- Martins Ferry	Jeff Oberdick
2000 -- East Liverpool	Scott Heimstra
2001 -- East Liverpool	Scott Heimstra
2002 -- Oak Glen	Larry Shaw
2003 -- Beaver Local	Rich Wright
2004 -- Oak Glen	Larry Shaw



THE ANNUAL Mr. Mat Award was presented during the OVAC Wrestling Tournament to Dan Doyle, center. He is given the award by Dr. Bill Welker, left, and Dick Edge, two previous Mr. Mat Award winners. Doyle is a Wheeling Central product who later guided Buckeye Local to great mat success.

Sports Saturday

The No. 1 sports report in the Ohio Valley

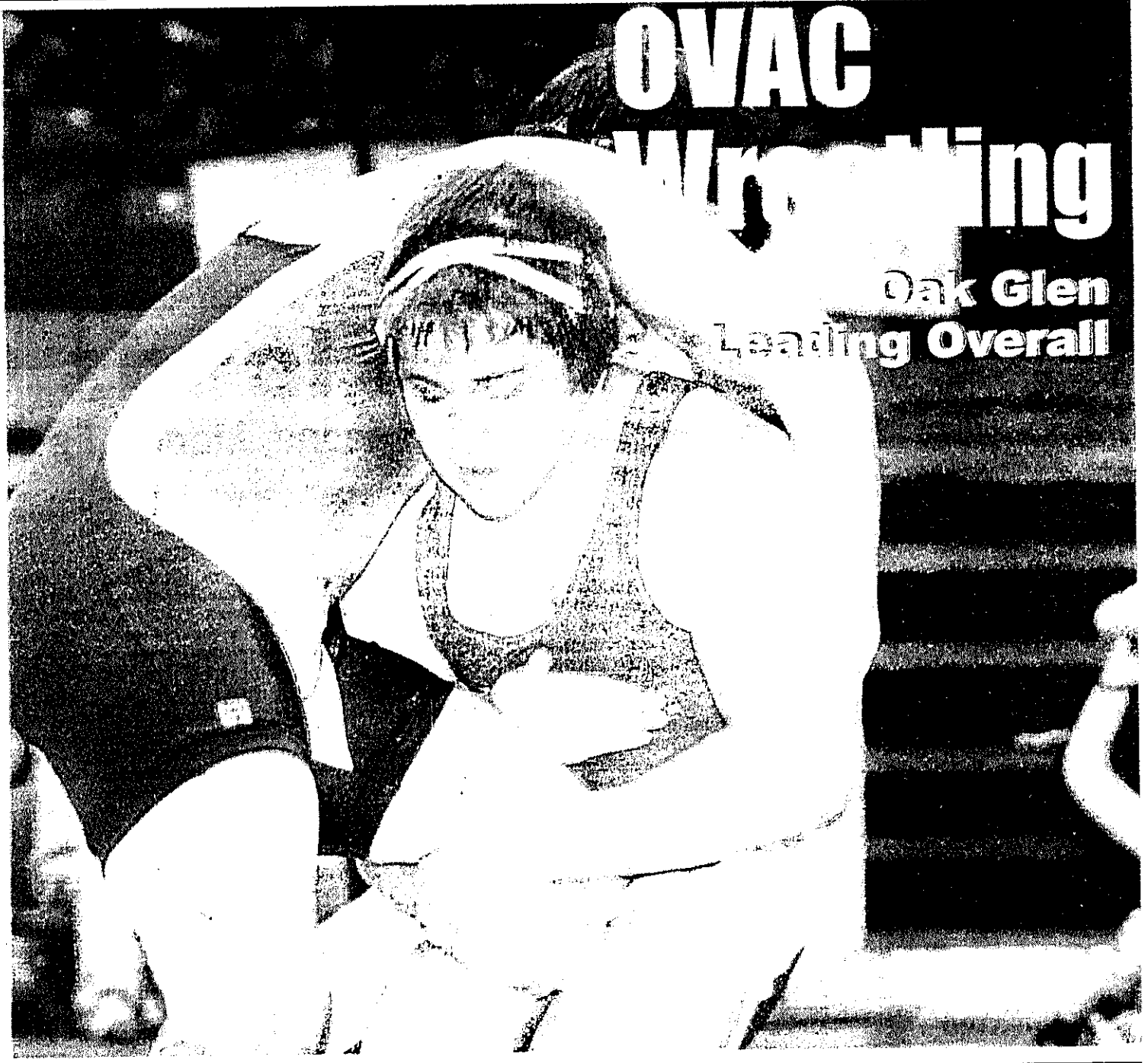
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Saturday,
January 22, 2005

Church Pours In 37 Points In Ferry Victory



St. Clairsville Slips Past Shadyside



52nd OVAC Wrestling Tournament begins Thursday at WesBanco Arena

JEFF HARRISON

THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

WHEELING, W.Va. — One of the showcase events of the year for the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference — the 52nd annual OVAC Wrestling Tournament — will unfold later this week at WesBanco Arena.

Nearly 500 wrestlers from 35 schools will compete in approximately 850 bouts on eight mats in what is believed to be the nation's largest conference wrestling tournament. Action begins Thursday and continues through Saturday night when 14 individual champions as well as the overall and class champion teams will be crowned.

The event gets under way Thursday at 6 p.m. with the gala Olympic-style opening ceremony, following by the start of wrestling action at 6:30.

On Friday, the first of two sessions begins at 11 a.m. and will feature second round matches. Later that day, starting at 5 p.m. will be quarter-final bouts and early round consolations.

Saturday will also feature two sessions, the first beginning at noon featuring semifinal matches

and more consolation rounds.

That sets the stage for the final session at 6 p.m., with a host of awards to be presented including the Mr. Mat Award; assistant and junior high coach awards; and the recognition of the 25th anniversary OVAC champions from 1980.

Wrestling action then resumes at 6:30 with the championship matches along with those to determine third through eight place in each division.

Oak Glen is the overall and Class 3-A defending champion. Other division winners last year were Buckeye Local in Class 4-A; Shenandoah in Class 2-A and St. John Central in Class 1-A.

The seeds and pairings for this year's event will be announced Monday evening by tournament director Ron Mauck at a press conference Monday at 6:30 p.m. at WesBanco Arena.

Tickets for the event are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students for the first four sessions, with single tickets for the final session costing \$7 for adults and \$4 for students. Ticket books for all five sessions are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students.

The championship bouts will be televised live Saturday night by WTOV-TV9.



OVAC Wrestling Past Champions

1976 -- George Kovalick (Bellaire Athletic Director)
 1977 -- Bill Vane Horne (Sports Editor, Wheeling News-Register)
 1978 -- John Vrotros (Martins Ferry High School)
 1979 -- Richard Edge (Principal, Springfield High)
 1980 -- George Walley (John Marshall Athletic Director)
 1981 -- Bob Hedmond (Steubenville Athletic Director)
 1982 -- Paul Crago (Marshall County Schools)
 1983 -- Dr. Vince Monseau (West Liberty State College)
 1984 -- Bill Hinegardner (John Marshall High School)
 1985 -- Dennis Bowman (Bellaire High School)
 1986 -- Ron Mauck (Brooke High School)
 1987 -- Eric Carder (Wheeling Park Athletic Director)
 1988 -- Dave Kovalick (Barnesville High School)
 1989 -- Steve Kish, Jr. (Principal, Bellaire High School)

1990 -- Carl Fodor (Hancock County Schools)
 1991 -- Dr. Bill Welker (Warwood Middle School)
 1992 -- Larry Deaton (Martins Ferry High School)
 1993 -- John Stephenson (Cadiz High School)
 1994 -- Joe Bates (Woodsfield High School)
 1995 -- Bob Bruney (Martins Ferry High School)
 1996 -- Larry Chambers (Moundsville Jr. High)
 1997 -- Gary Davis (Beallsville High School)
 1998 -- Cal Pokas (Martins Ferry Times Leader)
 1999 -- Tom Lackman (Jefferson Union)
 2000 -- Ed "Buzz" Evans (Wheeling Park)
 2001 -- William McEldowney (Wheeling)
 2002 -- John Craig (Indian Creek)
 2003 -- Ed Dugas (John Marshall)
 2004 -- Jeff Oberdick (Martins Ferry)

Wrestlers Hit Century Mark

Twelve enter tournament with 100 wins

By JIM ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

There will be no time to rest on laurels when the 52nd annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference wrestling tournament begins Thursday, but it would be easy to understand why a dozen of the more than 400 participants might want to take a minute anyway.

Entering the tournament, Beaver Local's Luke Hoppel, Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker and Chas Yoder, John Marshall's Dustin Richey, Cameron's Tim Cumpston, Brooke's Dana Davis, Caldwell's Corey Lemaster, Buckeye Local's Willie Saxton, Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush, East Liverpool's Anthony Duffield, Shadyside's Billy Frollini, and River's Wesley Haslam have already recorded 100 wins in their high school careers.

With a good showing, a few others will reach the milestone during the tournament. By season's end, the number might be tripled.

"Ten years ago, it was almost unrealistic to have a 100-win wrestler at some of the bigger schools," Cameron wrestling coach Jim Potts said, noting that many of them couldn't begin the count until their sophomore years because not all schools had moved the ninth-graders out of the junior highs.

You might have noticed defending OVAC champion Oak Glen doesn't have a single wrestler on that list. Veteran head coach Larry Shaw predicts by the end of the season, he'll have four (seniors Cody Potts and Brandon Miller and juniors Rhett Northcraft and Jesse Mahan).

Yes, the sport is a little more fast-paced than it seems.

Except, of course, if you're talking about Richey.

The Monarch senior recorded his 100th win just last week. He's a two-time state champion who finished as a runner-up in the 152-pound weight class in the OVAC tourney last season.

He knows how quick this sport can be.

Mainly because he makes it that way.

"He's a good pinner," says John Marshall wrestling coach Ed West. "I think out of 29 wins this year, 25 have come from pins."

Richey, who has only been wrestling varsity for two and a half years, won 36 matches as a sophomore 35 last year, and has 29 thus far as a senior.

"He's been pretty consistent through the years," West said.

Richey is the No. 1 seed at 152 entering this year's tournament.

Cameron's Tim Cumpston is the latest in a long line of outstanding wrestlers at Cameron.

Cumpston, a senior who wrestles at 119 pounds, knows what he's doing on a mat.

"He has real good physical strength, good quickness, and good technique," says Potts.

Cumpston has only 23 career losses, another number Potts likes to talk about.

"One-hundred wins is a great accomplishment," says Jim Potts, "but I always look at how many career losses he's got."

He's had wrestlers with as many as 100 wins and as few as seven or eight losses, a winning percentage that's practically off the charts.

"And we've seen wrestlers with 100 wins and 45 losses," Potts said.

Cameron has another wrestler, Jeff Pettit, with more than 90 career wins.

At Martins Ferry, coach Babe Sidon watched last year as Clay Tucker won his 100th as a junior. Tucker, a three-time OVAC champion, has a record of 20-1 this season, where he's moved up to 140, where he is the top seed going into the OVAC tourney. He won it all at 130 last year.

"He's a great technician," Sidon said. "He always keeps his head, he knows where he is at all times on the mat."

Yoder, who picked up win No. 100 on Jan. 12 (the same day as

Hoppel wrestles in the 130-pound class.

Another Beaver Local wrestler, 140-pounder Shawn Dunn, is sitting on 97 wins and could hit the century mark sometime Friday.

Wheeling Park's Rush, just a junior, recorded his 100th win on Dec. 29. He is already a two-time OVAC champ, who has made quite a name for himself as a pinner.

"He's always working for a fall," said Patriot wrestling coach Gene Monteleone. "He gets mad when he gets a technical fall. He's probably the best pinning kid on our team."

Monteleone also figures Rush's teammate, Ronnie Green, the No. 2 seed at 119 in this year's tourney, will reach the century mark by the end of the season.

Caldwell's Corey Lemaster has a bit of an inspiring story.

"He's a self-made wrestler," says his coach, Dalton Summers.

Lemaster didn't wrestle until he was in the 7th grade, and he entered high school as a 98-pound freshman, the same year he failed to win a single match in the OVAC tourney. He won his 100th in the match that assured him a place in last year's Ohio Div. III state tourney.

Today, he's wrestling at 125 pounds and looking for big things. He was an OVAC runner-up last year at 112.

"When he wants to wrestle he's hard to stop," said Summers, which explains how he advanced all the way to the state semifinals a year ago. He's got 120 career wins.

Another Caldwell wrestler, Justin Seebach, has 94 career wins. He wrestles at 135, and could be sitting on the doorstep with 99 if he's able to get through this week's tourney unscathed. On paper, it could happen, as Seebach is the top seed in his class.

Buckeye Local's Willie Saxton, the defending OVAC champ at 125, is a junior who is sitting on 100 wins as he enters the tournament.

"He's a hard worker who has been wrestling probably since he could walk," said Panther coach Brian Davis. "He's just a tough kid."

Saxton's teammate, and the other part of Buckeye Local's 1-2 punch, Zack Shuller could reach 100 by tournament's end.

Shuller is already a two-time OVAC champ. He wrestled at 140 last year and has made the jump to 145 this year, where he's a No. 1 seed.

Brooke's Dana Davis is well-known for what he can do on a football field. The Bruins' W.Va. Class AAA first-team all-state football player is just as good on a mat. He won his 100th on Dec. 29 and is sitting on 108 wins going into the tournament.

Davis, a senior, is unbeaten this year at 160 with a 23-0 record and was an OVAC champion last year.

"He has a combination of speed and strength," said Brooke coach Joe Earlewine. "Football has helped him out a lot. He works hard in the weight room and the wrestling room. He's a very focused wrestler."

River's Wesley Haslam just may be the OVAC's top heavy-weight. That's something we'll find out this weekend.

For now, we know Haslam has 129 career wins — with 106 coming via pin. He won his 100th last year as a junior.

"He's very strong," said River wrestling coach Chuck Baker. "He's a very gentle kid off the mat, but when he gets on it, he's all business."

Frollini, a two-time state qualifier in the Ohio Division III tournament, recorded his 100th victory on Dec. 29.

"He's an excellent tilt man," Shadyside wrestling coach John Grinch said. "He has real good hips which allow him to get out of positions you'd never expect a wrestler to get out of."

OVAC WRESTLING

52nd Annual OVAC Tournament
(at WesBanco Arena)
TEAM SCORES

Overall
Oak Glen 43.5; Wheeling Park 36; Cambridge 31; Bellaire 30; Edison 29; Cameron 28; Martins Ferry 27.5; Indian Creek 25; Brooke 23.5; Shenandoah 23; Caldwell 20; John Marshall 20; Beaver Local 19; Beallsville 18; Harrison Central 16; Meadowbrook 16; River 13.5; Monroe Central 13; Barnesville 12; Buckeye Local 12; Steubenville 12; Shadyside 11; East Liverpool 10; Bellaire St. John's 10; Magnolia 8; St. Clairsville 8; Steubenville Central 6; Weir 6; Wellsville 5.5; Tyler Consolidated 4; Union Local 3.5; Wheeling Central 3.5; Linsly 3; Bishop Donahue 0; Conotton Valley 0; Weirton Madonna 0

Class AAAA
Wheeling Park 36; Cambridge 31; Edison 29; Brooke 23.5; John Marshall 20; Beaver Local 19; Buckeye Local 12; Steubenville 12; East Liverpool 10; Weir 6

Class AAA
Oak Glen 43.5; Bellaire 30; Martins Ferry 27.5; Indian Creek 25; Harrison Central 16; Meadowbrook 16; Magnolia 8; St. Clairsville 8; Tyler Consolidated 4; Union Local 3.5

Class AA
Shenandoah 23; Caldwell 20; River 13.5; Monroe Central 13; Barnesville 12; Steubenville Central 6; Wellsville 5.5; Wheeling Central 3.5

Class A
Cameron 28; Beallsville 18; Shadyside 11; Bellaire St. John's 10; Linsly 3; Bishop Donahue 0; Conotton Valley 0; Weirton Madonna 0

Individual Results

Championship Bracket

First Round

103 Pounds

Rona Green (WP) p. Snyder (HC) 1:28; Rose (Camb) p. Ingram (JM) :54; Dray (OG) p. Morgan (Cam) :08; Reisz (Beal) p. Landefeld (MC) :29; Felton (Brk) d. Thompson (BvL) 17-0.

112 Pounds

Stephen (Barn) p. Deem (Well) :58; Lehotay (Mead) p. Taylor (JM) 1:47; Jewell (WP) p. Kluehert (BuL) :36; Duffield (EL) p. Neis (WC) 1:05; Heslop (Bell) d. Williams (BvL) 5-1; Potrkrajac (Ed) d. McLaughlin (Brk) 16-7; Trigg (Shad) d. Morris (SCe) 5-2; Ray (Camb) d. Phillips (HC) 7-1; Clark (UL) d. Andrews (OG) 20-5; Brown (Shen) p. Yost (TC) 4:34; Marling (Beal) d. Parry (Cam) 8-6.

119 Pounds

Rossiter (Mead) p. Dodd (Shen) 2:43; Daugherty (Camb) p. Minet (Barn) :49; Myers (IC) p. Barnes (Weir) 1:43; Tim Cumpston (Cam) p. Thomas (JM) 1:21; Dimmerling (Cald) d. Foose (WC) 10-3; Ronn Green (WP) p. Wilson (UL) :36; McFarland (Brk) p. Collins (Well) 1:32; Oberdick (StC) d. Peck (TC) 7-5; Caudill (BvL) p. Beatty (Riv) 1:04; Davis (OG) p. Seavers (Bell) :58; Moore (HC) p. Caldwell (EL) 3:11; Holt (MF) d. Delguzzi (Ed) 10-5; Kilburn (MC) p. Blake 3:39.

125 Pounds

Lemaster (Cald) p. Gillette (SCe) :24; Rush (WP) p. Sanders (Staub) 1:01; Androsko (UL) p. Grant (HC) 1:48; Martin (IC) p. Wilson (Riv) :50; Hartle (JM) p. Smith (TC) 1:32; Prickett (MC) d. Reed (EL) 9-3; Carosiello (Well) d. Porter (Bell) 10-4; Ray (Camb) p. Pell (WC) 1:03; Miller (OG) d. Widmann (Ed) 19-2; Skoff (BSJ) p. Stenger (UL) 3:28; Clendenin (Shad) d. Hoover (Shen) 5-1.

130 Pounds

Nicola (BSJ) p. Burgey 3:01; Shaw (Brk) p. Howard (JM) 1:36; Kennedy (WP) p. Pratt (HC) :35; Hughes (Cam) p. Mehaffey (WM) :40; Ware (MF) p. Tiziani (CV) 1:45; Furbee (Shad) d. Riggle (EL) 15-0; Mahley (Camb) p. Ring (MC) :59; Green (Bell) d. McCoy (BvL) 9-2; Johnston (IC) d. Magers (Barn) 12-5; Baker (OG) p. Smith (Staub) 3:46; Bortz (SCe) p. Watson (Mead) 3:24; Basich (WC) d. Williams (Well) 21-5.

135 Pounds

Seebach (Cald) p. Ware (Staub) :32; Jordan (IC) p. Pell (WC) :25; Six (OG) p. Ty Cumpston (Cam) 1:09; Stine (Ed) p. Thomas (Weir) :48; Cataldo (Well) d. Sells (Barn) 16-0; Aberegg (Beal) d. Frick (TC) 14-2; Johnson (Bell) p. Keener (EL) 3:20; Doyle (JM) d. Becca (BuL) 6-5; Lewis (MC) d. Gray (Brk) 17-2; Teague (Camb) d. Howell (HC) 10-2; Nelson (WP) p. West (Mead) 1:07; Jones (MF) d. Horvath (Shad) 5-1; Hoppel (BvL) p. Bogetitch (StC) 1:24.

140 Pounds

Dunn (BvL) p. Corbin (Brk) 1:25; Mahan (OG) p. Haga (Cald) 1:35; Furry (Mead) p. Helmick (Mag) 1:04; Cl. Tucker (MF) p. Markakis (Staub) 1:11; Prokopakis (Ed) p. Bandyk (BuL) :48; Perko (Bell) p. DiPalma (SCe) 2:14; Bry. Bilyeu (Beal) d. Stacy (Well) 6-3; Smithberger (MC) d. Rebecca (UL) 15-0; Horneck (EL) d. Emery (IC) 5-2.

145 Pounds

Schuller (BuL) p. Huff (Brk) 1:21; McCort (Bell) d. Best (JM) 7-4; Starr (Riv) p. Henthorn (Mag) 5:34; Timmons (OG) d. Campbell (BvL) 3-2; Crock (Shen) p. Pine (Weir) :46; Brooks (HC) p. Markos (WC) 2:57; Smith (Barn) d. Beatty (Camb) 9-2; Bra. Bilyeu (Beal) d. Perkins (UL) 16-5; Pendleton (IC) d. Woods (EL) 15-2; Pettit (Cam) p. Carder (Mead) 1:36; McCort (Ed) d. Bayne (SCe) 8-7.

152 Pounds

Stewart (Ed) p. Potenzini (SCe) 3:49; Richey (JM) p. Neff (TC) :26; Miller (OG) d. McShan (Staub) 5-0; J. Cumpston (Cam) p. Walters (IC) 3:12; Warren (MF) p. Babel (BuL) 1:35; Wetherell (Camb) d. Walters (StC) 7-1; Rossiter (Mead) p. Dunn (Mag) 2:55; Frollini (Shad) d. Burke (MC) 17-2; Hines (Barn) p. Platt (WP) 1:07; Perko (Bell) p. Twarog (UL) 3:31; Gianessi (Weir) d. Dunn (BvL) 2-0.

160 Pounds

Sulek (Bell) p. Monahan (MC) :37; Smith (Barn) d. Mitchell (StC) 6-1; Jones (MF) d. Ingram (Ed) 15-0; Northcraft (OG) p. Scott (EL) 5:59; Cooper (Cam) p. Clendenin (Mag) :33; Ware (Staub) p. Messerly (IC) 1:47; Hill (WP) p. Van Camp (Riv) 4:35; Kinzy (Beal) p. McMilian (HC) 5:56; Gianessi (Weir) p. Kala (BvL) 5:42; Davis (Brk) p. Druschel (JM) 1:15; Snyder (Cald) d. Spencer (Shen) 9-5.

171 Pounds

Roberts (TC) p. Adkins (EL) 2:34; Costa (Ed) p. Mallernee (HC) 2:56; Johnson (Bell) p. Keyser (Mead) 3:34; Gibson (WP) p. Garvin (Camb) :59; Beach (Staub) p. Witzberger (WC) 1:31; Simmons (JM) p. Stevens (MC) 1:51; Wright (Riv) d. Provenzano (MF) 4-1; Cologle (BuL) p. Miller (Barn) 4:36; Reeder (BvL) d. Perko (SCe) 15-1; Zerkle (Shen) d. Gianessi (Weir) 11-3; Foltz (OG) p. Ensell (IC) 1:16; Ogle (Cald) p. Traina (Well) 1:48.

189 Pounds

Archer (Cald) p. Wolfe (Mead) 1:52.

Cumpston, Brooke's Dana Davis, Caldwell's Corey Lemaster, Buckeye Local's Willie Saxton, Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush, East Liverpool's Anthony Duffield, Shadyside's Billy Frollini, and River's Wesley Haslam have already recorded 100 wins in their high school careers.

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Yes, the sport is a little more fast-paced than it seems.

Except, of course, if you're talking about Richey.

■ The Monarch senior recorded his 100th win just last week. He's a two-time state champion who finished as a runner-up in the 152-pound weight class in the OVAC tourney last season.

He knows how quick this sport can be.

Mainly because he makes it that way.

"He's a good pinner," says John Marshall wrestling coach Ed West. "I think out of 29 wins this year, 25 have come from pins."

Richey, who has only been wrestling varsity for two and a half years, won 36 matches as a sophomore 35 last year, and has 29 thus far as a senior.

"He's been pretty consistent through the years," West said.

Richey is the No. 1 seed at 152 entering this year's tournament.

■ Cameron's Tim Cumpston is the latest in a long line of outstanding wrestlers at Cameron.

Cumpston, a senior who wrestles at 119 pounds, knows what he's doing on a mat.

"He has real good physical strength, good quickness, and good technique," says Potts.

Cumpston has only 23 career losses, another number Potts likes to talk about.

"One-hundred wins is a great accomplishment," says Jim Potts, "but I always look at how many career losses he's got."

He's had wrestlers with as many as 100 wins and as few as seven or eight losses, a winning percentage that's practically off the charts.

"And we've seen wrestlers with 100 wins and 45 losses," Potts said.

Cameron has another wrestler, Jeff Pettit, with more than 90 career wins.

■ At Martins Ferry, coach Babe Sidon watched last year as Clay Tucker won his 100th as a junior. Tucker, a three-time OVAC champion, has a record of 20-1 this season, where he's moved up to 140, where he is the top seed going into the OVAC tourney. He won it all at 130 last year.

"He's a great technician," Sidon said. "He always keeps his head, he knows where he is at all times on the mat."

Yoder, who picked up win No. 100 on Jan. 12 (the same day as Richey), is unbeaten thus far in 2004-05 with a record of 17-0.

The OVAC's defending champion at 171, Yoder will compete at 189 this year, where he is the top seed.

"He's very strong," Sidon said. "He has great hips, which makes him a hard person to take down. He's very dominating."

■ Hoppel, a name synonymous with outstanding wrestling at Beaver Local, has 103 career wins. He's a senior who has been with the program for four years, and "done a great job every year," said Mark Emmerling, the Beavers' first-year coach.

"He works hard, wrestles all year 'round. He's just a tough kid."

gets mad when he gets a technical fall. He's probably the best pinning kid on our team."

Monteleone also figures Rush's teammate, Ronnie Green, the No. 2 seed at 119 in this year's tourney, will reach the century mark by the end of the season.

■ Caldwell's Corey Lemaster has a bit of an inspiring story.

"He's a self-made wrestler," says his coach, Dalton Summers. Lemaster didn't wrestle until he was in the 7th grade, and he entered high school as a 98-pound freshman, the same year he failed to win a single match in the OVAC tourney. He won his 100th in the match that assured him a place in last year's Ohio Div. III state tourney.

Today, he's wrestling at 125 pounds and looking for big things. He was an OVAC runner-up last year at 112.

"When he wants to wrestle he's hard to stop," said Summers, which explains how he advanced all the way to the state semifinals a year ago. He's got 120 career wins.

Another Caldwell wrestler, Justin Seebach, has 94 career wins. He wrestles at 135, and could be sitting on the doorstep with 99 if he's able to get through this week's tourney unscathed. On paper, it could happen, as Seebach is the top seed in his class.

■ Buckeye Local's Willie Saxton, the defending OVAC champ at 125, is a junior who is sitting on 100 wins as he enters the tournament.

"He's a hard worker who has been wrestling probably since he could walk," said Panther coach Brian Davis. "He's just a tough kid."

Saxton's teammate, and the other part of Buckeye Local's 1-2 punch, Zack Shuller could reach 100 by tournament's end.

Shuller is already a two-time OVAC champ. He wrestled at 140 last year and has made the jump to 145 this year, where he's a No. 1 seed.

■ Brooke's Dana Davis is well-known for what he can do on a football field. The Bruins' W.Va. Class AAA first-team all-state football player is just as good on a mat. He won his 100th on Dec. 29 and is sitting on 108 wins going into the tournament.

Davis, a senior, is unbeaten this year at 160 with a 23-0 record and was an OVAC champion last year.

"He has a combination of speed and strength," said Brooke coach Joe Earlewine. "Football has helped him out a lot. He works hard in the weight room and the wrestling room. He's a very focused wrestler."

■ River's Wesley Haslam just may be the OVAC's top heavy-weight. That's something we'll find out this weekend.

For now, we know Haslam has 129 career wins — with 106 coming via pin. He won his 100th last year as a junior.

"He's very strong," said River wrestling coach Chuck Baker. "He's a very gentle kid off the mat, but when he gets on it, he's all business."

■ Frollini, a two-time state qualifier in the Ohio Division III tournament, recorded his 100th victory on Dec. 29.

"He's an excellent tilt man," Shadyside wrestling coach John Grinch said. "He has real good hips which allow him to get out of positions you'd never expect a wrestler to get out of."

Frollini is a No. 3 seed in this year's tourney at 152 pounds.

■ East Liverpool's Duffield won his 100th during the Brooke Classic in December. The 112-pound senior has a record of 25-2 this season, with his only losses coming to a former Oklahoma state champion who transferred to West Greene, Pa., (3-2 in the last 30 seconds) and a two-overtime setback to a strong wrestler from another Pa. power, McGuffey.

"He's real good on his feet," said Potter wrestling coach Ken Parker. "He can ride, and he can turn people."

Parker expects Duffield, the top-seeded wrestler at 112 going into the tournament, to win it all.

"It shouldn't be a problem," Parker said.

Campston 28; Beallside 18; Shadyside 11; Bellaire St. John's 10; Linsly 3; Bishop Donahue 0; Conotton Valley 0; Weirton Madonna 0

Individual Results

Championship Bracket

First Round

103 Pounds

Rona.Green (WP) p. Snyder (HC) 1:28; Rose (Camb) p. Ingram (JM) :54; Dray (OG) p. Morgan (Cam) :08; Reisz (Beal) p. Landefeld (MC) :29; Felton (Brk) d. Thompson (BvL) 17-0.

112 Pounds

Stephen (Barn) p. Deem (Well) :58; Lehotay (Mead) p. Taylor (JM) 1:47; Jewell (WP) p. Kluhart (BuL) :36; Duffield (EL) p. Neis (WC) 1:05; Heslop (Bell) d. Williams (BvL) 5-1; Potkrajac (Ed) d. McLaughlin (Brk) 16-7; Trigg (Shad) d. Morris (SCe) 5-2; Ray (Camb) d. Phillips (HC) 7-1; Clark (UL) d. Andrews (OG) 20-5; Brown (Shen) p. Yost (TC) 4:34; Marling (Beal) d. Parry (Cam) 8-6.

119 Pounds

Rossiter (Mead) p. Dodd (Shen) 2:43; Daugherty (Camb) p. Minet (Barn) :49; Myers (IC) p. Barnes (Weir) 1:43; Tl.Cumpston (Cam) p. Thomas (JM) 1:21; Dimmerling (Cald) d. Foose (WC) 10-3; Ronn.Green (WP) p. Wilson (UL) :36; McFarland (Brk) p. Collins (Well) 1:32; Oberdick (StC) d. Peck (TC) 7-5; Caudill (BvL) p. Beatty (Riv) 1:04; Davis (OG) p. Seever (Bell) :58; Moore (HC) p. Caldwell (EL) 3:11; Holt (MF) d. Delguzzi (Ed) 10-5; Kilburn (MC) p. Blake 3:39.

125 Pounds

Lemaster (Cald) p. Gillette (SCe) :24; Rush (WP) p. Sanders (Staub) 1:01; Androsko (UL) p. Grant (HC) 1:48; Martin (IC) p. Wilson (Riv) :50; Hartle (JM) p. Smith (TC) 1:32; Prickett (MC) d. Reed (EL) 9-3; Carosello (Well) d. Porter (Bell) 10-4; Ray (Camb) p. Pell (WC) 1:03; Miller (OG) d. Widmann (Ed) 19-2; Skoff (BSJ) p. Stenger (UL) 3:28; Clendenin (Shad) d. Hoover (Shen) 5-1.

130 Pounds

Nicola (BSJ) p. Burgey 3:01; Shaw (Brk) p. Howard (JM) 1:36; Kennedy (WP) p. Pratt (HC) :35; Hughes (Cam) p. Mahaffey (WM) :40; Ware (MF) p. Tiziani (CV) 1:45; Furbee (Shad) d. Riggle (EL) 15-0; Mahley (Camb) p. Ring (MC) :59; Green (Bell) d. McCoy (BvL) 9-2; Johnston (IC) d. Magers (Barn) 12-5; Baker (OG) p. Smith (Staub) 3:46; Bortz (SCe) p. Watson (Mead) 3:24; Basich (WC) d. Williams (Well) 21-5.

135 Pounds

Seebach (Cald) p. Ware (Staub) :32; Jordan (IC) p. Pell (WC) :25; Six (OG) p. Ty.Cumpston (Cam) 1:09; Stine (Ed) p. Thomas (Weir) :48; Cataldo (Well) d. Sells (Barn) 16-0; Aberegg (Beal) d. Frick (TC) 14-2; Johnson (Bell) p. Keener (EL) 3:20; Doyle (JM) d. Becca (BuL) 6-5; Lewis (MC) d. Gray (Brk) 17-2; Teague (Camb) d. Howell (HC) 10-2; Nelson (WP) p. West (Mead) 1:07; Jones (MF) d. Horvath (Shad) 5-1; Hoppel (BvL) p. Bogetitch (StC) 1:24.

140 Pounds

Dunn (BvL) p. Corbin (Brk) 1:25; Mahan (OG) p. Haga (Cald) 1:35; Furry (Mead) p. Helmick (Mag) 1:04; Cl.Tucker (MF) p. Markakis (Staub) 1:11; Prokopakis (Ed) p. Bandyk (BuL) :48; Perko (Bell) p. DiPalma (SCe) 2:14; Bry.Bilyeu (Beal) d. Stacy (Well) 6-3; Smithberger (MC) d. Rebecca (UL) 15-0; Horneck (EL) d. Emery (IC) 5-2.

145 Pounds

Schuller (BuL) p. Huff (Brk) 1:21; McCort (Bell) d. Best (JM) 7-4; Starr (Riv) p. Henthorn (Mag) 5:34; Timmons (OG) d. Campbell (BvL) 3-2; Crock (Shen) p. Pine (Weir) :46; Brooks (HC) p. Markos (WC) 2:57; Smith (Barn) d. Beatty (Camb) 9-2; Bra.Bilyeu (Beal) d. Perkins (UL) 16-5; Pendleton (IC) d. Woods (EL) 15-2; Pettit (Cam) p. Carder (Mead) 1:36; McCort (Ed) d. Bayne (SCe) 8-7.

152 Pounds

Stewart (Ed) p. Potenzini (SCe) 3:49; Richey (JM) p. Neff (TC) :26; Miller (OG) d. McShan (Staub) 5-0; J.Cumpston (Cam) p. Walters (IC) 3:12; Warren (MF) p. Babel (BuL) 1:35; Wetherell (Camb) d. Walters (StC) 7-1; Rossiter (Mead) p. Dunn (Mag) 2:55; Frollini (Shad) d. Burke (MC) 17-2; Hines (Barn) p. Platt (WP) 1:07; Perko (Bell) p. Twarog (UL) 3:31; Gianessi (Weir) d. Dunn (BvL) 2-0.

160 Pounds

Sulek (Bell) p. Monahan (MC) :37; Smith (Barn) d. Mitchell (StC) 6-1; Jones (MF) d. Ingram (Ed) 15-0; Northcraft (OG) p. Scott (EL) 5:59; Cooper (Cam) p. Clendenin (Mag) :33; Ware (Staub) p. Messerly (IC) 1:47; Hill (WP) p. Van Camp (Riv) 4:35; Kinzy (Beal) p. McMillian (HC) 5:56; Gianessi (Weir) p. Kale (BvL) 5:42; Davis (Brk) p. Druschel (JM) 1:15; Snyder (Cald) d. Spencer (Shen) 9-5.

171 Pounds

Roberts (TC) p. Adkins (EL) 2:34; Costa (Ed) p. Mallernee (HC) 2:56; Johnson (Bell) p. Keyser (Mead) 3:34; Gibson (WP) p. Garvin (Camb) :59; Beach (Staub) p. Witzberger (WC) 1:31; Simmons (JM) p. Stevens (MC) 1:51; Wright (Riv) d. Provenzano (MF) 4-1; Cologie (BuL) p. Miller (Barn) 4:36; Reeder (BvL) d. Perko (SCe) 15-1; Zerkle (Shen) d. Gianessi (Weir) 11-3; Foltz (OG) p. Ensell (IC) 1:16; Ogle (Cald) p. Traina (Well) 1:48.

189 Pounds

Archer (Cald) p. Wolfe (Mead) 1:52; Yoder (MF) d. Hughes (Cam) default; Cowser (IC) p. Minor (SCe) :11; Stevens (OG) p. Campbell (Shad) 1:50; Myers (Riv) d. English (MC) 3:19; Harris (BuL) p. Mankowski (Weir) 2:56; Scurlock (Camb) p. Sellick (BvL) 5:46; Pratt (HC) p. Miller (EL) :25; Loughran (Brk) p. Cline (Shen) :46; Ruskowski (Lin) d. Kettlewell (WP) 11-1; Rickman (JM) d. Grear (Barn) 9-4.

215 Pounds

Potts (OG) p. Scott (CV) 1:37; Soland (Bell) p. Nice (HC) 1:10; Dulaney (Brk) p. Lemasters (TC) 2:59; Wade (Mag) p. Springer (Well) 1:17; Blake (Cam) p. Reasbeck (WC) 3:02; Potts (JM) p. Gummere (UL) :34; Zeyer (MF) p. Harton (Staub) 1:05; Horn (Shen) p. Lillie (EL) :26; Mosti (SCe) d. Sawyers (Riv) 8-3; Grim (Ed) p. Neilly (IC) :43; Bowersock (BvL) p. Britnell (Camb) 2:33; Habig (BSJ) d. Hill (WP) 4-2.

275 Pounds

Nicolozakas (Camb) p. Kile (TC) :45; Adams (Mag) p. Wise (Barn) :39; Haslam (Riv) p. White (Mead) :22; Hines (IC) p. Sonk :34; Staub (WP) p. Parsons (WC) 1:45; Diagosta (EL) p. Rowland (OG) 3:50; Hinerman (Ed) p. Covin (Weir) :36; Michel (Shen) p. Klingsmith (SCe) :46; Petrella (Staub) p. Kanzigg (Beal) :35; Corder (HC) p. Hvizdak (Brk) 1:33; Dishman (Cam) p. Clark (MF) 2:45.

Bears, Redskins Rule Brackets

By JIM ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

The seedings for the 2004-05 Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament were announced Monday with Oak Glen and Indian Creek leading the way with nine each.

A surprise to no one.

The Bears, winners of two of the last three OVAC tourneys, are getting used to this. Last year, on their way to a runaway title, the Golden Bears had 12 seeded wrestlers.

"We've certainly got a target on our backs," said Oak Glen wrestling coach Larry Shaw. "But we should be used to it."

Among Oak Glen's seeded wrestlers are a one No. 1 (Cody Potts at 215), two No. 2's (Rheft Northcraft at 160 and Jesse Mahan at 140) and a No. 3 (Brandon Miller at 125).

Indian Creek, which finished fifth overall a year ago, has one top seed (James Myers at 119) and two No. 2's (heavyweight Maurice Hines and Zach Pendleton at 145).

How good is Myers?

After last year's tourney, he was announced as the Hercules Award winner, given to the wrestler with the most — and the quickest — pins.

"I walked into a pretty good situation," first-year Indian Creek coach Mike Blackburn said with a smile. "We've got a real good team, it's a good group

of seniors that we have."

Good enough to overtake the defending champs?

"How do we get above Oak Glen, now that's a question," Blackburn pondered. "I wish I could answer that."

Coach Shaw's been at Oak Glen for a good number of years. He has tradition and a winning program set up ... Hopefully over the years, we've been building a program that can take the next step."

Cambridge, with three No. 2 seeds, was third with seven seeded wrestlers, followed by 2002-03 champion Beaver Local with six, Bellaire, Beallsville, Brooke, Edison, John Marshall, Martins Ferry, and Wheeling Park, all with five.

These are not really surprises either. Buckeye Local finished second a year ago, followed by Brooke, Beaver Local, Wheeling Park, Indian Creek, John Marshall, Shenandoah, Bellaire St. John's, and Martins Ferry.

Buckeye Local, with Willie Saxton (125) and Zack Shuller (145) and Martins Ferry, with Chas Yoder (189) and Clay Tucker (140) each have two top-seeded wrestlers.

and help us and wrestle up to those seeds because all the seeds aren't 1 or 2."

The top seeds

The top seeds for this year's tournament are: (103) Ronnell Green, Wheeling Park; (112) Anthony Duffield, East Liverpool; (119) Myers, Indian Creek; (125) Saxton, Buckeye Local; (130) Mick Nicola, Bellaire St. John's; (135) Justin Seebach, Caldwell; (140) Tucker, Martins Ferry; (145) Shuller, Buckeye Local; (152) Dustin Richey, John Marshall; (160) Dana Davis, Brooke; (171) Mitch Costa, Edison; (189) Yoder, Martins Ferry; (215) Potts, Oak Glen; and (HWT) Wesley Haslam, River.

The unbeaten

The unbeaten wrestlers coming into this year's tournament are: Cambridge 103-pounder Paul Rose (21-0); Saxton (23-0), Nicola (19-0); Richey (30-0); Cameron 152-pounder Jeff Cumpston (14-0); Davis (25-0); Costa (22-0); Yoder (17-0); Potts (21-0); and Haslam (25-0).



Wrestling Report

ITS

THE INTELLIGENCER - Wheeling, W.Va. - Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Doyle Named 'Mr. Mat'

Staff report

The OVAC Wrestling Tournament made its annual visit to the Ohio Valley sports calendar this weekend.

Along with the usual excitement of individual bouts and the team competition, the wrestling community is took pause to present its greatest honor: The Mr. Mat Award.

And for those involved with OVAC wrestling, the announcement that Wheeling's Dan Doyle is the 30th Mr. Mat came as little surprise.

The Doyle name first burst onto the Ohio Valley wrestling scene in the late 1960s and early 1970s, as a quartet of grapplers found enormous success donning the maroon of Wheeling Central. The older sibling trio of Pat, Mike and Matt Doyle did their share of impacting the wrestling community and collecting OVAC and West Virginia wrestling titles before passing the torch to youngest brother Dan.

Dan Doyle finished a prep career in 1973 that netted him three OVAC place finishes, a 1972 OVAC championship and a 1973 state championship.

Next up for Doyle was a four-year career for Allegheny (Pa.) College, where he became a Division III national qualifier.

In 1977, Doyle graduated from Allegheny and took his first teaching and coaching job at Jefferson Union High near Richmond, Ohio. Also coaching baseball and football, and teaching science, it was the passing of a proud wrestling program from another Mr. Mat winner, Tom Lackman, that lured the Wheeling native north.

After completing a Master's degree in administrative education from the University of Dayton through Steubenville University, Doyle moved to Buckeye South in 1985 to pursue an administrative career. And while the move was one in an upward direction for his career in educa-

tion, it became time to start over again in wrestling.

After having been instrumental in the development of small-fry wrestling at Jefferson Union, Doyle began the same task in a school system that had not even had the sport at any level. Yet, by surrounding himself with others dedicated to the sport, within just a few years the Buckeye program was gaining the respect of OVAC coaches, and by 1997 Doyle had guided the consolidated Buckeye Local program in becoming the first school in 18 years to win back-to-back OVAC tournament titles.

Doyle retired from a 20-year coaching career in 1997 with a resume that included a pair of OVAC tourney titles plus the following accolades: Two-time East/South Ohio Division II coach of the year, two-time OVAC coach of the year, two OVAC dual meet coaching titles, an appearance in the Division II dual meet championships.

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following accolades:

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While Doyle's full-time career has been equally impressive, having moved from teacher to administrator to current superintendent of Noble Local Schools, it may be the impact that he has had on others around him that is Doyle's greatest achievement both in and out of the sport.

The hundreds of student-athletes and fellow coaches that Doyle has influenced include current Wheeling Park assistant principal Rich McCardle (also a highly involved OVAC supporter), current Warren G. Harding baseball coach Joe Smarrella, current West Virginia University wrestler Nate Kendjorsky and his own son, Sean Doyle, a graduate and former wrestler for Cornell University.

And as for family, Doyle's son Sean is not the only one to have followed in his father's footsteps. Doyle's wife Cindy, and daughters Erin and Megan have been fixtures as volunteers at the OVAC tournament for many years.

It has been indeed a family affair.

Rule

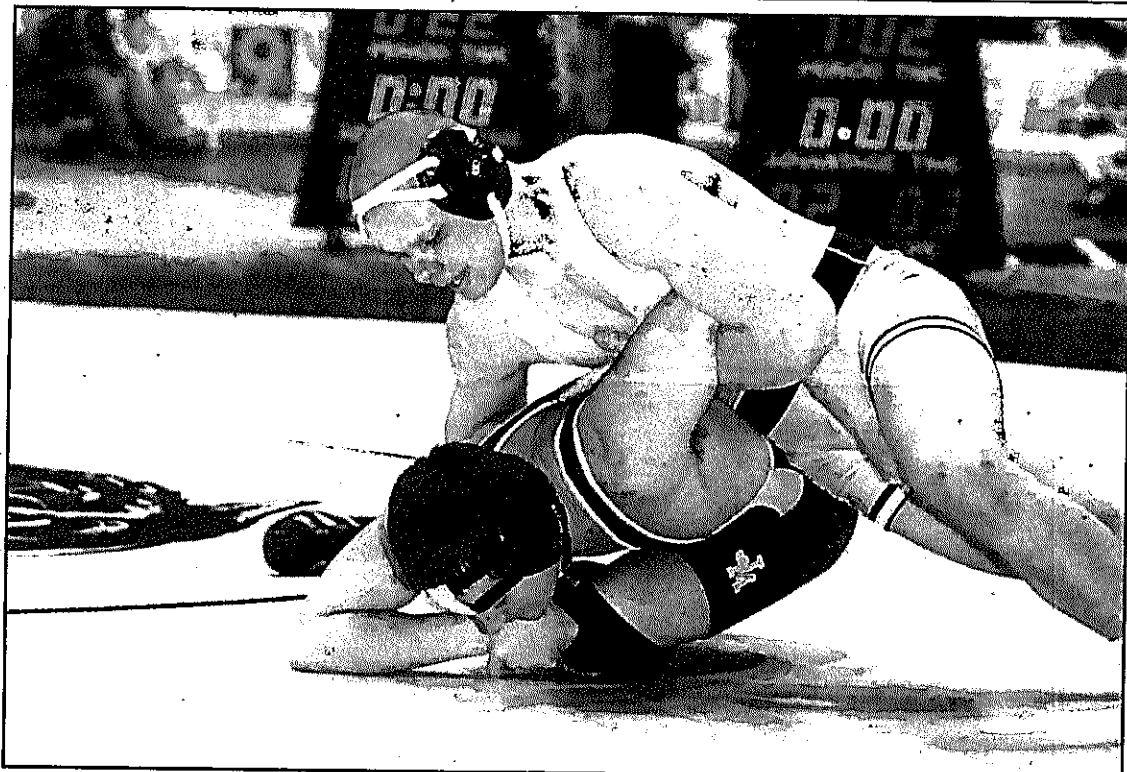
(Continued from Page 15)

Still, everyone's gunning for the Golden Bears.

"I feel like we're going to be pretty confident coming in," said Shaw, who has seven wrestlers back who placed in last year's tournament. "We've had so much success so far this year, and we have a lot of experienced kids in our lineup who've been in this type of atmosphere and under this pressure. I think our kids will respond, and I'll think they'll perform very well."

The Bears won this thing last year by 48 points, but had only one overall champion (Potts at 215). Shaw always preaches the importance of the consolation rounds.

"The kids earned what they got," Shaw said, speaking of the seeds. "We just remind them that they need to wrestle up to those seeded positions. I think the keys are two things: One, if we get can get contributions from all of our kids, and two, that our guys, if they lose a match, that they can come back through the consolation rounds



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH
BUCKEYE Local's Josh Cologle (right) works to gain control of John Marshall's Shawn Simmons during action in the 52nd Annual OVAC Wrestling Tournament at WesBanco Arena Friday night. Cologle posted a pin in the match in 5:40.

Oak Glen leads OVAC

• Wheeling Park sits in second, Martins Ferry holds third

By JEREMY MIDEI
 Times Leader Sports Writer

The Oak Glen Golden Bears came into Friday's session of the OVAC Wrestling Tournament with the overall lead, but Wheeling Park wrestled it away from the Golden Bears by the break.

And then Larry Shaw's outfit simply yanked the lead back heading into this morning's semifinals.

Merely a bump in the road for the defending AAA and overall tournament champions or a major pothole? Only today will tell, but the Patriots have seven wrestlers still vying for a title; the Golden Bears counter with five.

Park coach Gene Monteleone said his "bigger guys need to step up" and that's what they did: the Patriots snuck two unranked wrestlers, Dusty Hill (160) and Adam Gibson (171) into the semis, which may tip the scales in the Patriots' favor.

The three highly-seeded Park lightweights -- Ronnell Green (103), Ronnie Green (119) and Abbie Rush (125) -- all advanced with Stephen Jewell (112) and heavyweight Kevin Staub also picking up quarterfinal wins.

Martins Ferry, meanwhile, lurks in third place. The Riders are seven points out of first place, and a mere point separates them from second. Babe Sidon's outfit is not to be discounted, but Ferry has only three wrestlers still in the championship bracket.

There weren't many surprises in a tame Day Two. If you were the higher seed, chances are you won Friday evening (unless you were wrestling a Patriot). Upset? No such thing, as 45 of 54 matches resulted in the higher seed moving on.

Unranked James Harris of Buckeye Local notched the tournament's biggest upset, toppling 189-pound two seed Bobbie Scurlock

of Cambridge in the championship second round.

And Shenandoah's Lucas Michel took down second-seeded heavyweight Maurice Hines of Indian Creek. Hines came from nowhere last year to win third place behind Adam Hoppel and Koel Davia.

Eighty-three percent of the top four seeds at each class will move on to this morning's semifinal round. And the good news for those who won in the quarters: you're guaranteed a place in this evening's action.

103 POUNDS: All is right with the world at the lowest weight classification. All eight seeded wrestlers made it to the quarterfinals, and the top four seeds made it out: Park's Ronnell Green, Cambridge's Paul Rose, Daniel Felton of Brooke and Beallsville's Jimmy Reisz.

Reisz advanced with a 4-2 decision over Oak Glen's Ethan Dray.

112 POUNDS: Again, the top four seeds advanced to the semifinals. Anthony Duffield of East Liverpool, Union Local's Chaz Clark, Meadowbrook's Mike Lehotay and Wheeling Park's Stephen Jewell all remained in the championship bracket.

Clark won by technical fall over Martins Ferry's Mike Shreve in 4:26. He will face Lehotay this morning for entry into the title match.

"It's like the last tournament he (Clark) was in," said UL coach Wade Smolira. "He's getting better every match. We need to make sure he peaks in his next two."

119 POUNDS: The trend continued at 119 where James Myers of Indian Creek, Ronnie Green (Wheeling Park), Tim Cumpston (Cameron) and Derik Caudill of Beaver Local are all moving on. Myers is the number one seed, and he won the 103-pound title last year.

125 POUNDS: Four seeds, four winners. Top dog Abbie Rush of Wheeling Park -- as

well as Caldwell's Corey Lemaster, John Marshall's Logan Hartle and Oak Glen's Brandon Miller -- will mix it up in the next round.

130 POUNDS: St. John's Mick Nicola won a hard-fought battle against Martins Ferry's Chad Ware in the quarterfinal at 130. Nicola picked up a 6-3 decision and will wrestle Indian Creek sophomore Craig Johnston in the semis. The Irish junior is 22-0 on the season.

Two- and three-seeds Sean Mahley of Cambridge and Jarrod Shaw of Brooke also advanced. Shaw punched his ticket by downing Shadyside's K.J. Furbee, 12-4.

135 POUNDS: 135 bucked the trend with two upsets: Wellsville's Justin Cataldo upended second seeded Luke Hoppel of Beaver Local, 5-3, and Clyde Jordan of Indian Creek took down Edison's Andy Stine.

Top seed Justin Seebach advanced, as the Caldwell junior pinned Union Local's Allen Gray in the first period. Lee Doyle of John Marshall beat unranked Cole Lewis of Monroe Central. Doyle will face Seebach in the semifinal.

140 POUNDS: Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker continued his quest toward a fourth OVAC title with a dismantling of East Liverpool's Dean Hornbeck. Tucker won by technical fall at the 2:32 mark.

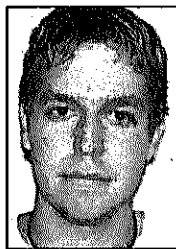
He'll face Monroe Central's Justin Smithberger in the semis this morning, as the Seminole senior decisioned Tyler Prokopakis of Edison, 6-4.

"We know he's facing a great wrestler in Tucker," said Monroe coach Paul Robison. "But Justin's wrestled pretty well, and we'll just see what happens."

Top seeds Jesse Mahan (Oak Glen) and Shawn Dunn (Beaver Local) also moved on.

See, **OVAC**, Page 3

Wrestling is a family sport at SJC



By
**JEREMY
MIDEI**
Times Leader
Sports Writer

Wrestling is a family sport, and at St. John Central, the pre-eminent name is Kosky. Or Skoff. Or Nicola. Depending on who marries who, I guess.

But regardless of the surname, if your family tree has Kosky roots, you've probably wrestled for the Irish, and wrestled well.

Gary Kosky was an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference champion in 1971, David in '73, and Saturday commemorates the 25th anniversary of Mark's title at 126 pounds.

A quarter of a century later, a new generation of Kosky offspring is continuing that legacy.

Juniors Mick Nicola (130) and Joe Skoff (135), and freshmen Zach Kosky (119) and Bryan Skoff (125) represent the backbone of Irish wrestling, making up nearly 60 percent of the SJC roster.

"The two younger ones really look up to Mick and Joe, and the older ones take care of and push Zach and Bryan," said Irish coach Andrew "Chick" LaMotte. "They're like brothers, and like

MIDEIZED AND CONFUSED

all brothers they fight, but they also push, help and mentor each other.

"They make each other better."

Joe and Bryan actually are brothers.

And how are the four related? Well, Joe and Bryan's mom, along with Mick's, are sisters to Zach's dad Joe, who also wrestled at St. John from '81 to '84.

Did you get all that? No problem.

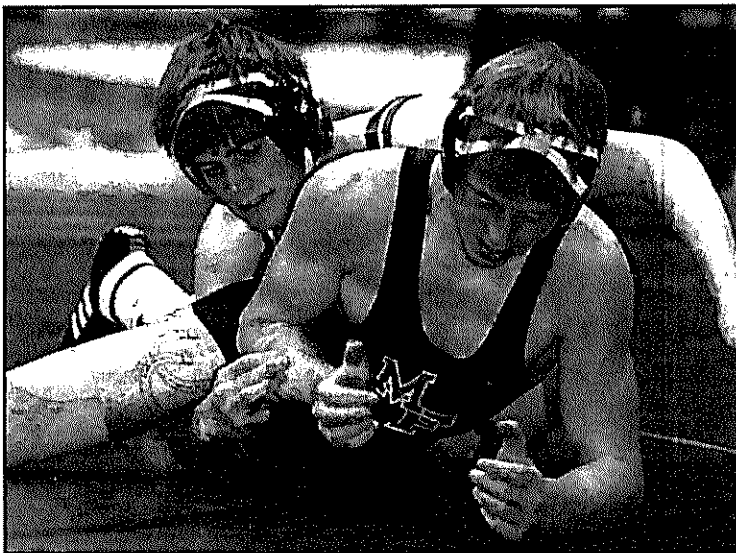
What isn't a problem for the Irish foursome is success on the mat. That comes, while not easily, with some regularity.

Credit Joe with a state runner-up finish at 119 pounds last season, as well as two OVAC second-place finishes. Mick, meanwhile, won an OVAC title at 112 in his freshman season, and was third at 125 last year. He's the top-seeded wrestler at 130 pounds this season.

Both are undefeated: Mick is 19-0, Joe has 17 wins.

Joe and Mick, along with six other wrestlers, won an OVAC single-A title, captured St. John's first-ever district title and placed seventh at the state tournament in 2004.

And it's not like Bryan and Zach are practice dummies. The duo has a sterling junior high record. Both were undefeated



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH

ST. JOHN Central's Mick Nicola (top) controls Martins Ferry's Chad Ware during action Friday night. Nicola posted a 6-2 decision.

leading up to the district meet, winning the equivalent of an OVAC title in the process. And the younger Skoff won the district and placed sixth in the state.

As freshmen, Zach's compiled a 15-4 record and Bryan has 14 wins in 19 bouts.

The Irish lost four wrestlers last season, but had high hopes this year, nonetheless.

"As a team, we wanted to win the OVAC team title again," said Bryan. "But now we probably can't accomplish that."

That's because, as the bad luck of the Irish would have it, Joe and Zach were stricken with

whooping cough prior to the OVAC tournament, all but dashing SJC's title hopes.

To put it plainly, it...well, it sucks, according to Bryan.

"The sad thing is, Joe was runner-up two years in a row and he won't get the chance to improve on that because of illness," said Bryan, who may have taken his brother's ailment harder than Joe did.

"It was hard to get him motivated to wrestle," said LaMotte. "We just had to say, 'Do it for your brother.'"

But it has obviously been a tough road to hoe for Joe and

Zach, as well as Kayne Melko, who was also unable to suit up.

"It's been pretty hard," said Joe.

"All we can do is help them after practice," said Zach. "Maybe keep them company while they're losing weight."

Both hope to resume wrestling in the near future. And when that happens the foursome will recommence kicking the crap out of each other on a daily basis.

"Fist fights," said Mick. "Sometimes we get pretty mad at each other."

"A lot of fights," echoed Zach. "We (Bryan and Zach) kept each other strong in junior high like Joe and Mick have in high school."

"But it's worth getting the hell beaten out of you," said Bryan. "It pays off."

And the pay off is this: "Kosky is a strong name in SJC wrestling, and we want to keep it strong," said Bryan. "We want to do just as well, if not better than our uncles."

Illness notwithstanding, they are well on their way. It would appear the St. John program is in good hands. And all seven Irish wrestlers return next season with two brothers and two cousins leading the way.

"We're all brothers," said...well, does it really matter? They're all brothers.

Even if they do kick the living crap out of each other.

● OVAC

Continued from Page 2

145 POUNDS: Three local wrestlers grabbed much coveted semifinal slots Friday night. Top seed Zack Schuller of Buckeye Local kept his dream of a third consecutive OVAC title alive with a pin of Barnesville's Josh Smith.

Schuller will face Bellaire senior Brandon McCort, who won by a 5-2 decision over Beallsville's Brad Bilyeu.

"We haven't seen Bellaire at all," said Buckeye coach Brian Davis. "This is a great tournament, but Zach has wrestled at another level."

"Not much phases him," David said of the added pressure Zach is under with a potential third title in three years hanging in the balance. "It's just another tournament to him."

"He (McCort) has a tough opponent, but he's wrestled well," said Bellaire coach Shane Shaffer. "Brandon's shown a lot

of character. He's doing all the little things he needs to win."

And Harrison Central junior Brad Brooks will make a semifinal appearance after nipping Edison's Mark McCourt, 7-5.

Zac Pendleton of Indian Creek rounds out the foursome.

152 POUNDS: Two local matches went a long toward determining a champion at 152. Barnesville's Bud Hines decided Luke Warren of Martins Ferry, 5-0, and third-seeded Billy Frollini of Shadyside narrowly defeated Bellaire's John Perko.

Frollini sustained a slight knee injury in the first period and nearly used up his allotted injury time.

"It took him out of his game," said Shadyside coach John Grinch. "He uses that knee a lot. He's a tough kid, but I know he was in a lot of pain. He did everything he had to to pull that

match out.

"Hopefully he's over it by tomorrow, but I'm concerned about it."

Frollini will face second-ranked Jeff Cumpston of Cameron, and Hines will hope to upset top-seeded Dustin Richey of John Marshall.

160 POUNDS: Kyle Smith defeated Adam Cooper of Cameron 5-1 to advance to this morning's semis. The Barnesville Shamrock will face Oak Glen two-seed Rhett Northcraft.

Top-ranked and defending champ Dana Davis of Brooke will face unranked Dusty Hill of Wheeling Park.

Davis pinned Tyler Kinzy of Beallsville in the quarters.

171 POUNDS: Artis Johnson of Bellaire will meet Buckeye Local's Josh Cologie in an all-local semifinal.

Cologie, the two seed, pinned

John Marshall's Shawn Simmons.

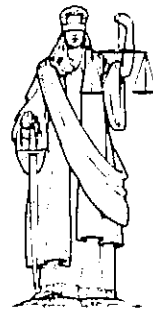
"Josh has tried to make too much happen," said Buckeye Local's Davis. "Since he's the

number two seed, he felt he needed to 'ooo' and 'ahhh' the crowd. But he wrestled a nice

See, OVAC, Page 4

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● OVAC

Continued from Page 3

match against Simmons."

Johnson, meanwhile, upset Beaver Local's Kyle Reeder, but needed to come back to do so.

"As he showed in this match, he possesses the ability to come back late if need be," said Bellaire's Shaffer. "He wrestles very well on his feet.

"Artis is trying to set the school record for takedowns. He needs two more."

On the other side of the bracket, top seed Mitch Costa of Edison will face the second of two unranked Park wrestlers to advance, Adam Gibson.

189 POUNDS: Martins Ferry's Chas Yoder continues his to march unabated toward a second consecutive title.

He won last year at 171.

Yoder manhandled Harrison's Mike Pratt, pinning the Huskie in 2:30. He'll face Luke Myers of River who survived a stern test from Caldwell's Corey Archer.

Oak Glen's Chris Stevens and Creek's Adam Cowser round out the bracket.

215 POUNDS: Another Ferry heavyweight, Elijah Zeyer, moved on with a sound beating of Caldwell's Derick Hesson. Zeyer will face Shenandoah two-seed John Horn in the semis. Horn finished third at 189 last season.

Top-seeded Cody Potts rambled on, tech falling Edison's John Grim. Beaver's Jimmy Bowersock is Potts' opponent this morning.

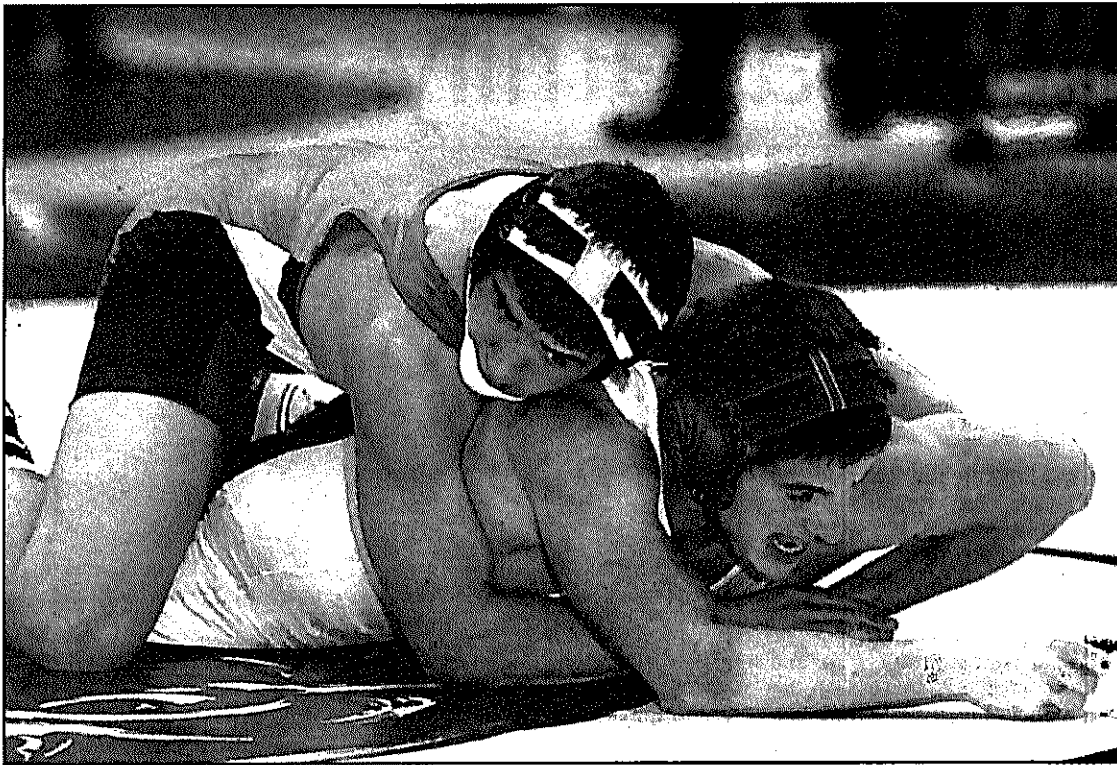
275 POUNDS: River heavyweight Wesley Haslam has pinned all three opponents on his way to the semifinals.

Most recently, the Pilot senior put away Eric Diagosta from East Liverpool.

Wheeling Park's Kevin Staub is his next possible pin victim.

Steubenville's Ralph Petrella and Shenandoah's Lucas Michel are also vying for a spot in the title match.

This morning's action is slated to begin just after noon, while the main event is scheduled for 6:30 p.m.



T-L Photo/JOEL JOSEPH
SHADYSIDE'S Billy Frollini (top) tries to maintain control of Bellaire's John Perko during action in the 152-pound weight class Friday night at WesBanco Arena. Frollini pulled out a tough 2-1 victory over Perko.

● OVAC Wrestling Tournament Results

OVAC WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

TEAM SCORES: 1. Oak Glen, 130.5; 2. Wheeling Park, 124.5; 3. Martins Ferry, 123.5; 4. Cambridge, 99.5; 5. John Marshall, 92.5; 6. Edison, 84; 7. Brooke, 83; 8. Bellaire, 83; 9. Indian Creek, 83; 10. Caldwell, 79.5; 11. Beaver Local, 74; 12. Cameron, 73.5; 13. Barnesville, 73; 14. Shenandoah, 61; 15. Meadowbrook, 56; 16. River, 51.5; 17. Harrison Central, 49; 18. Union Local, 46.5; 19. Steubenville, 46; 20. East Liverpool, 43.5; 21. Beallsville, 40.5; 22. Monroe Central, 40; 23. Shadyside, 40; 24. Buckeye Local, 39; 25. St. Clairsville, 32; 26. St. John Central, 31; 27. Steubenville Central, 29.5; 28. Wellsville, 25.5; 29. Wheeling Central, 25.5; 30. Weir, 17; 31. Magnolia, 16; 32. Tyler Consolidated, 11; 33. Linsly, 6; 34. Bishop Donahue, 1.

CHAMPIONSHIP QUARTERFINALS

103 - Ronnell Green (WP) pinned Marvin Benson (Mead), 4:51; Daniel Felton (Brooke) pinned Chase Clark (UL), 4:50; Paul Rose (Camb) tech. fall Bryan Scammell (St. C), 5:40; Jimmy Relsz (Beal) dec. Ethan Dray (OG), 4-2.

112 - Anthony Duffield (EL) tech. fall Anthony Iachini (Steub), 4:24; Stephen Jewell (WP) maj. dec. Jeff Trigg (Shady), 12-4; Mike Lehotay (Mead) dec. Ryan Stephen (Barn), 11-7; Chaz Clark (UL) tech. fall Mike Shreve (MF), 4:26.

119 - James Myers (IC) maj. dec. Dustin Daugherty (Camb), 13-3; Tim Cumpston (Cam) dec. Brandon Davis (OG), 5-2; Ronnie Green (WP) pinned Justin Rossiter (Mead), 5:08; Derik Caudill (Beav) maj. dec. Derrick Holt (MF), 15-6.

125 - Abbie Rush (WP) dec. Robbie Martin (IC), 3-1; Logan Hartle (JM) dec. Torey Prickett (MC), 9-7; Corey Lemaster (Cald) tech. fall David Bortz (SCC), 14-0; Brandon Miller (OG) dec. Bryan Skoff (SJC), 6-3.

130 - Mick Nicola (SJC) dec. Chad Ware (MF), 6-2; Craig Johnston (IC) dec. Zach Basich (WC), 10-5; Jarrod Shaw (Brooke) maj. dec. K.J. Furbee (Shady), 12-4; Sean Mahley (Camb) tech. fall David Bortz (SCC), 6:00.

135 - Justin Seebach (Cald) pinned Allen Gray (UL), :37; Clyde Jordan (IC) dec. Andy Sline (Ed), 5-4; Lee Doyle (JM) dec. Cole Lewis (MC), 6-3; Justin Cataldo (Well) dec. Luke Hoppel (Beav), 5-3.

140 - Shawn Dunn (Beav) tech. fall Bryan Bilyeu (Beal), 17-2; Clay Tucker (MF) tech. fall Dean Hornbeck (EL), 2:32; Jesse Mahan (OG) tech. fall Nick Perko (Bell), 3:34; Justin Smithberger (MC) dec. Tyler Prokopakis (Ed), 6-4.

145 - Zach Schuller (BL) pinned Josh Smith (Barn), 1:59; Zac Pendleton (IC) pinned Richard Bereschick (Well), 1:50; Brad Brooks (HC) dec. Mark McCourt (Ed), 7-5; Brandon McCort (Bell) dec. Brad Bilyeu (Beal), 5-2.

152 - Dustin Ritchey (JM) pinned David Gianessi (Weir), 1:12; Bud Hines (Barn) dec. Luke Warren (MF), 5-0; Billy Frollini (Shady) dec. John Perko (Bell), 2-1; Jeff Cumpston (Cam) maj. dec. Jonathan Stewart (Ed), 14-4.

160 - Dana Davis (Brooke) pinned Tyler Kinzy (Beal), 4:59; Kyle Smith (Barn) dec. Adam Cooper (Cam), 5-1; Dusty Hill (WP) dec. Luke Sulek (Bell), 6-3; Rhett Northcraft (OG) pinned Donald Gianessi (Weir), 3:09.

171 - Mitch Costa (Ed) maj. dec. James Beach (Steub), 11-1; Josh Cologie (BL) pinned Shawn Simmons (JM), 5:40; Artis Johnson (Bell) pinned Kyle Reeder (Beav), 5:38; Adam Gibson (WP) dec. Jason Wright (River), 5-2.

189 - Chas Yoder (MF) pinned Mike Pratt (HC), 2:30; Luke Myers (River) dec. Corey Archer (Cald), 3-1; Chris Stevens (OG) maj. dec. Nathan Loughran (Brooke), 21-

11; Adam Cowser (IC) dec. James Harris (BL), 4-3.

215 - Cody Potts (OG) tech. fall John Grim (Ed), 18-3; Elijah Zeyer (MF) maj. dec. Derick Hesson (Cald), 13-5; John Horn (Shen) pinned Devin Dulaney (Brooke), 3:17; Jimmy Bowersock (Beav) dec. Dirk Soland (Bell), 5-3.

275 - Wesley Haslam (River) pinned Eric Diagosta (EL), 1:44; Ralph Petrella (Steub) pinned Jeremiah Hinerman (Ed), 2:56; Lucas Michel (SHEN) dec. Maurice Hines (IC), 2-1; Kevin Staub (WP) dec. Andrew Corder (HC), 8-4.

CHAMPIONSHIP SECOND ROUND

103 - Ronnell Green (WP) pinned Kyle Fakus (Bell), :58; Ethan Dray (OG) pinned Cody Smith (Shen), 1:38; Chase Clark (UL) pinned Andrew Gibbs (Wells), 3:27; Jimmy Relsz (Bealls) tech. fall Zane Boyd (Edison); Daniel Felton (Brooke) maj. dec. Jared Border (Cald), 15-1; Marvin Benson (Meadow) pinned Greg Civin (SJC), 2:44; Bryan Scammell (St. C) dec. Cagney Springer (EL), 10-3; Paul Rose (Camb) pinned Ethan King (Mag), 1:39.

112 - Anthony Duffield (EL) pinned J.T. Vrotsos (St.C), 2:19; Ryan Stephen (Barnes) pinned Josh Giasera (Weir), :42; Chaz Clark (UL) tech. fall Jesse Brown (Shen), 18-3; Stephen Jewell (WP) dec. Brian Potkrajac (Ed), 3-1; Mike Lehotay (Meadow) pinned Jed Marling (Bealls), 1:03; Jeff Trigg (Shady) pinned Michael Brown (Cald), 1:02; Anthony Iachini (Steub) dec. Rich Heslop (Bell), 5-2; Mike Shreve (MF) dec. Jon Ray (Camb), 18-11.

119 - James Myers (IC) pinned Nick Oberdick (St.C); Brandon Davis (OG) dec. Derrick Gullen (Steub), 4-0; Ronnie Green (WP) pinned Chad Kilburn (MC), 3:01; Dustin Daugherty (Camb) pinned Zack Klug (Shady), :53; Tim Cumpston (Cam) pinned Lee Dimmerling (Cald), 3:49; Justin Rossiter (Meadow) pinned Donnie Webb (CV), 3:25; Derik Caudill (Beaver) dec. Tim McFarland (Brooke), 16-7; Derrick Holt (MF) pinned Eric Moore (HC), 5:02.

125 - Abbie Rush (WP) pinned Jesse Stoneking (Cam), 1:40; John Bittenger (Beaver) dec. Tony Carosello (Weir), 5-4; Torey Prickett (MC) dec. Chase Tucker (MF), 7-2; Corey Lemaster (Cald) maj. dec. Dan Ray (Camb), 8-0; Robbie Martin (IC) pinned Travis Harless (Meadow), 4:24; Bryan Skoff (SJC) pinned Kevin Stoney (Bealls), 2:25; Brandon Miller (OG) pinned Zac Androsko (St.C), 4:10; Logan Hartle (JM) dec. Justin Clendenin (Shady), 8-2.

130 - Mick Nicola (SJC) pinned Justin Rossiter (Shen), 3:34; Craig Johnston (IC) pinned Sam Yockey (St.C), 1:38; Zach Basich (WC) maj. dec. Bruce Kennedy (WP), 12-4; Jarrod Shaw (Brooke) dec. Kelly Hughes (Cam), 9-2; Chad Ware (MF) tech. fall Chris Brancker (Ed), 17-0; David Bortz (SCC) dec. Josh Gust (Cald), 8-3; Sean Mahley (Camb) tech. fall Dirk Baker (OG), 16-0; K.J. Furbee (Shad) dec. Chauncey Green (Bell), 7-6.

135 - Andy Sline (Ed) dec. Jason Jones (MF), 6-4; Allen Gray (UL) pinned Chad Teague (Camb), :34; Justin Cataldo (Well) tech. fall Chris DiPalma (SCC), 16-0; Justin Seebach (Cald) pinned Ronnie Nelson (WP), 5:30; Lee Doyle (JM) tech. fall Nathan Hrinko (Shen), 3:25; Luke Hoppel (Beav) won by injury default, Zack Six (OG); Cole Lewis (MC) dec. Matt Abaregg (Beal), 6-4; Clyde Jordan (IC) pinned Ross Johnson (Bell), 2:22.

140 - Clay Tucker (MF) pinned John Peterson (Cam), :49; Dean Hornbeck (EL) pinned Scott Droginske (WC), 2:18; Shawn Dunn (Beav) pinned Brett Stephen (Barn), 5:03; Justin Smithberger (MC) dec. Matt Conklin (WP),

9-5; Bryan Bilyeu (Bealls) dec. Adam Weekly (IC), 12-2; Tyler Brokopakis (Ed) pinned Nate Furry (Meadow), 5:26; Jesse Mahan (OG) dec. Seth Skyppek (JM), 5-0; Nick Perko (Bell) pinned Brad Bertubin (Camb), 4:43.

145 - Zach Schuller (BL) pinned Patrick Sparkman (MC), 1:50; Josh Smith (Barnes) pinned Sean McKittrick (Steub), 4:28; Mark McCort (Ed) dec. Jeff Pettit (Cam), 4-3; Brad Brooks (HC) maj. dec. Braxton Thorngate (WP), 12-4; Brandon McCort (Bell) dec. Troy Starr (Riv), 8-3; Richard Bereschick (Wells) dec. Joel Timmons (OG), 2-1; Brad Bilyeu (Bealls) dec. Zach Bowers (MC), 6-5; Zach Pendleton (IC) dec. Chris Crock (Shen), 7-2.

152 - Dustin Ritchey (JM) pinned Andrew Hirt (Wells), :24; Luke Warren (MF) pinned Mac Cannon (River), 2:43; Billy Frollini (Shady) dec. Josh Rossiter (Meadow), 14-3; Bud Hines (Barnes), dec. Cody Miller (OG), 13-3; Jonathan Stewart (Ed) dec. Devon Ludwig (EL), 10-5; David Gianessi dec. Jacob Donley (HC), 4-3; Jeff Cumpston (Cameron) pinned Kirk Wetherell (Camb), 3:08; John Perko (Bell) dec. Robbie Rossiter (Shen), 6-5.

160 - Dana Davis (Brooke) pinned Jeff Hanselman (Wells), 1:12; Tyler Kinzy (Bealls) pinned Jamaal Lowery (Camb), 1:24; Rhett Northcraft (OG) tech. fall Jesse Jones (MF), 20-2; Adam Cooper (Cameron) pinned Zach Compston (UL), :49; Kyle Smith (Barnes) dec. Carl Ware (Steub), 5-0; Luke Sulek (Bell) pinned T.J. Vincent (CV), 1:16; Donald Gianessi (Weir) dec. Tyler Love (Meadow), 6-3; Dusty Hill (WP) dec. Derick Snyder (Cald), 4-2.

171 - Mitch Costa (Ed) pinned Holden Roberts (TC), 3:19; James Beach (Steub) dec. Dusty McVay (UL), 11-6; Jason Wright (River) pinned Jesse Campbell (Brooke), 1:42; Shawn Simmons (JM) pinned John Mayfield (Mag), :17; Artis Johnson (Bell) dec. Chris Lyons (Cam), 6-4; Josh Cologie (Beaver) dec. Matt Ogle (Cald), 6-1; Adam Gibson (WP) dec. David Foltz (OG), 5-2; Kyle Reeder (Beaver) maj. dec. Jacob Zerke (Shen), 13-4.

189 - Chas Yoder (MF) pinned Nate Burdette (St.C), 1:14; Adam Cowser (IC) pinned Nate Gosselt (UL), 1:32; Chris Stevens (OG) pinned John Ruskowski (Linsly), 3:07; Luke Myers (River) pinned Mike Ross (Steub), 1:17; James Harris (Beaver) dec. Bobbie Scurlock (Camb), 3-2; Mike Pratt (HC) pinned Jonathan Benitz (Wells), 2:29; Corey Archer (Cald) tech. fall Brandon Rickman (JM), 18-1; Nathan Loughran (Brooke) pinned Jack Thompson (Ed), 5:50.

215 - Cody Potts (OG) pinned Scott Wade (Mag), 2:59; Elijah Zeyer (MF) pinned Jared Mosti (SCC), :27; John Grim (Ed) pinned Earl Haberfield (Meadow), 1:20; Jimmy Bowersock (Beaver) tech. fall Steve Blake (Cam), 4:29; Devin Dulaney (Brooke) dec. Corey Hastings (Barnes), 7-3; John Horn (Shen) pinned Wendell Habig (SJC), :34; Derick Hesson (Cald) pinned Taylor Potts (JM), 5:53; Dirk Soland (Bell) maj. dec. Justin Pernell (Weir), 10-2.

275 - Wesley Haslam (River) pinned Kyle Singleton (MC), :19; Ralph Petrella (Steub) pinned Derrick Adams (Mag), :53; Andrew Corder (HC) pinned Alex Stevenson (Bell), :53; Lucas Michael (Shen) pinned Nelson Hooker (JM), :58; Eric Diagnosta (EL) maj. dec. Jimmy Malone (Wells), 13-0; Maurice Hines (IC) pinned Dan Dishman (Cam), :23; Kevin Staub (WP) dec. John Nicholzakos (Camb), 1-0; Jeremiah Hinerman (Ed) pinned Brian McElfresh (Cald), :32.

52ND ANNUAL OVAC WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

Team Scores

Overall

Oak Glen 130.5; Wheeling Park 124; Martins Ferry 123.5; Cambridge 99.5; John Marshall 92.5; Edison 84; Brooke 83.5; Bellaire 83; Indian Creek 83; Caldwell 79.5; Beaver Local 74; Cameron 73.5; Barnesville 73; Shenandoah 61; Meadowbrook 56; River 51.5; Harrison Central 49; Union Local 48.5; Steubenville 46; East Liverpool 43.5; Beallsville 40.5; Monroe Central 40; Shadyside 40; Buckeye Local 39; St. Clairsville 32; Bellaire St. John's 31; Steubenville Central 29.5; Wellsville 25.5; Wheeling Central 25.5; Weir 17; Magnolia 16; Tyler Consolidated 11; Linsly 6; Bishop Donahue 1; Conotton Valley 0; Weirton Madonna 0

Class AAAA

Wheeling Park 124; Cambridge 123.5; John Marshall 92.5; Edison 84; Brooke 83.5; Beaver Local 74; Steubenville 46; East Liverpool 43.5; Buckeye Local 39; Weir 17

Class AAA

Oak Glen 130.5; Martins Ferry 123.5; Bellaire 83; Indian Creek 83; Meadowbrook 56; Harrison Central 49; Union Local 48.5; St. Clairsville 32; Magnolia 16; Tyler Consolidated 11

Class AA

Caldwell 79.5; Barnesville 73; Shenandoah 61; River 51.5; Monroe Central 40; Steubenville Central 29.5; Wheeling Central 25.5; Wellsville 25.5

Class A

Cameron 73.5; Beallsville 40.5; Shadyside 40; Bellaire St. John's 31; Linsly 6; Bishop Donahue 1; Conotton Valley 0; Weirton Madonna 0

Championship Bracket

Second Round

103 Pounds

Green (WP) p. Faykus (Bell) :58; Benson (Mead) p. Cavin (BSJ) 2:44; Dray (OG) p. Smith (Shen) 1:38; Reisz (Bea) d. Boyd (Ed) 15:0; Felton (Brk) d. Border (Cald) 15:1; Clark (UL) p. Andrew Gibbs (Well) 3:27; Scammell (StC) d. Springer (EL) 10:3; Rose (Camb) p. King (Mag) 1:39.

112 Pounds

Duffield (EL) p. Vrotsos (StC) 2:19; Iachini (Staub) d. Heslop (Bell) 5:2; Trigg (Sha) p. Brown (Cald) 1:02; Jewell (WP) d. Potkrajac (Ed) 3:1; Lehotay (Mead) p. Marling (Bea) 1:03; Stephen (Bar) p. Glasure (Weir) :42; Shreve (MF) d. Ray (Camb) 18:11; Clark (UL) d. Brown (Shen) 18:3.

119 Pounds

Myers (IC) p. Oberdick (StC) :45; Daugherty (Camb) p. Klug (Sha) :53; Davis (OG) d. Derrick Gullen (Steub) 4:0; Cumpston (Cam) p. Dimmerling (Cald) 3:49; Caudill (BvL) d. Jim McFarland (Brk) 16:7; Holt (MF) p. Moore (HC) 5:02; Rossiter (Mead) p. Webb (CV) 3:25; Green (WP) p. Kilburn (MC) 3:01.

125 Pounds

Rush (WP) p. Stoneking (Cam) 1:40; Martin (IC) p. Harless (Mead) 4:24; Bittenger (BvL) d. Carosiello (Well) 5:4; Lemaster (Cald) d. Ray (Camb) 8:0; Hartle (JM) d. Clendenin (Sha) 8:2; Prickett (MC) p. Tucker (MF) 3:38; Skoff (BSJ) p. Kevin Stoney (Bea) 2:25; Miller (OG) p. Androsko (StC) 4:10.

130 Pounds

Nicola (BSJ) p. Rossiter (Shen) 3:34; Ware (MF) d. Brancker (Ed) 17:0; Basich (WC) d. Kennedy (WP) 12:4; Johnston (IC) p. Yockey (StC) 1:38; Shaw (Brk) d. Hughes (Cam) 9:2; Furbee (Sha) d. Green (Bell) 7:6; Bortz (ScE) d. Gust (Cald) 8:3; Mahley (Camb) d. Baker (OG) 16:0.

135 Pounds

Seebach (Cald) p. Nelson (WP) 5:30; Gray (UL) p. Teague (Camb) :34; Doyle (JM) d. Hrinko (Shen) 16:0; Lewis (MC) d. Aberegg (Bea) 6:4; Stine (Ed) d. Jones (MF) 6:4; Jordan (IC) p. Johnson (Bell) 2:22; Cataldo (Well) d. DiPalma (ScE) 16:0; Hoppel (BvL) d. Six (OG) default.

140 Pounds

Tucker (MF) p. Peterson (Cam) :49; Hornbeck (EL) p. Droginske (WC) 2:18; Smithberger (MC) d. Conklin (WP) 9:5; Prokopakis (Ed) p. Furry (Mead) 5:26; Dunn (BvL) p. Stephens (Bar) 5:03; Bilyeu (Bea) d. Weekly (TC) 12:2; Perko (Bell) p. Bertubin (Camb) 4:43; Mahan (OG) d. Skrypek (JM) 5:0.

145 Pounds

Schuller (BuL) p. Sparkman (MC) 1:50; Smith (Bar) p. McKittrick (Steub) 4:28; Bilyeu (Bea) d. Bowers (MF) 6:5; McCort (Bell) d. Starr (Riv) 8:3; McCourt (Ed) d. Jeff Pettit (Cam) 4:3; Brooks (HC) d. Thorngate (WP) 12:4; Bereschik (Well) d. Timmons (OG) 2:1; Pendleton (IC) d. Crock (Shen) 7:2.

152 Pounds

Richey (JM) p. Hirt (Well) :24; Gianessi (Bell) p. Donley (HC) 4:3; Warren (MF) p. Caneen (Riv) 2:43; Hines (Bar) d. Miller (OG) 13:3; Frollini (Sha) d. Rossiter (Mead) 14:3; Perko (Bell) d. Rossiter (Shen) 6:5; Stewart (Ed) d. Ludwig (EL) 10:5; Cumpston (Cam) p. Wetherell (Camb) 3:08.

160 Pounds

Davis (Brk) p. Hanselman (Well) 1:12; Kinzy (Bea) p. Lowery (Camb) 1:24; Sulek (Bell) p. Vincent (CV) 1:16; Hill (WP) d. Snyder (Cald) 3:2; Smith (Bar) p. Carl Ware (Steub) 3:47; Cooper (Cam) p. Compston (UL) :49; Gianessi (Weir) d. Tyler Love (Mead) 6:3; Northcraft (OG) p. Jones (MF) 2:45.

171 Pounds

Costa (Ed) p. Roberts (TC) 3:19; Beach (Steub) d. McVay (UL) 11:6; Wright (Riv) p. Campbell (Brk) 1:42; Gibson (WP) d. Foltz (OG) 5:2; Reeder (BvL) d. Zerkle (Shen) 13:4; Johnson (Bell) d. Lyons (Cam) 6:4; Simmons (JM) p. Mayfield (Mag) :17; Cologie (BuL) d. Ogle (Cald) 6:1.

189 Pounds

Yoder (MF) p. Burdette (StC) 1:14; Pratt (HC) p. Benitz (Well) 2:29; Myers (Riv) p. Ross (Steub) 1:17; Archer (Cald) d. Rickman (JM) 18:1; Stevens (OG) p. Ruskowski (Lin) 3:07; Loughran (Brk) p. Thompson (Ed) 5:50; Cowser (IC) p. Gossett (UL) 1:32; Harris (BuL) d. Scurlock (Camb) 3:2.

215 Pounds

Potts (OG) p. Wade (Mag) 2:59; Grim (Ed) p. Haberfield (Mead) 1:20; Soland (Bell) d. Pernel (Weir) 10:2; Bowersock (BvL) d. Blake (Cam) 17:2; Zeyer (MF) p. Mosti (ScE) :27; Hesson (Cald) p. Potts (JM) 5:53; Dulaney (Brk) d. Hastings (Bar) 7:3; Horn (Shen) p. Habig (BSJ) :34.

275 Pounds

Haslam (Riv) p. Singleton (MC) :19; Diagosta (EL) d. Malone (Well) 13:0; Corder (HC) p. Stevenson (Bell) :53; Staub (WP) d. Nicolozakes (Camb) 1:0; Petrella (Steub) p. Adams (Mag) 1:08; Hinerman (Ed) p. McElfresh (Cald) :32; Michel (Shen) p. Hooker (JM) :58; Hines (IC) p. Dishman (Cam) :23.

Third Round

103 Pounds

Green (WP) p. Benson (Mead) 4:54; Felton (Brk) p. Clark (UL) 4:50; Rose (Camb) d. Scammell (StC) 18:3; Reisz (Beal) d. Dray (OG) 4:2.

112 Pounds

Duffield (EL) d. Iachini (Steb) 19:3; Jewell (WP) d. Trigg (Shad) 12:4; Lehotay (Mead) d. Stephen (Barn) 11:7; Clark (UL) d. Shreve (MF) 22:7.

119 Pounds

Caudill (BvL) d. Holt (MF) 15:6; Myers (IC) d. Daugherty (Camb) 13:3; Cumpston (Cam) d. Davis (OG) 5:2; Green (WP) d. Rossiter (Mead) 17:5.

125 Pounds

Rush (WP) d. Martin (IC) 3:1; Hartle (JM) d. Prickett (MC) 9:7; Miller (OG) d. Skoff (BSJ) 6:5; Lemaster (Cald) d. Bittenger (BvL) 14:0.

130 Pounds

Nicola (BSJ) d. Ware (MF) 6:2; Johnston (IC) d. Basich (WC) 10:5; Mahley (Camb) d. Bartz (ScE) 16:1; Shaw (Brk) d. Furbee (Shad) 12:4.

135 Pounds

Seebach (Cald) p. Gray (UL) :37; Doyle (JM) d. Lewis (MC) 6:3; Jordan (IC) d. Stine (Ed) 5:4; Cataldo (Well) d. Hoppel (BvL) 4:3.

140 Pounds

Mahan (OG) d. Perko (Bell) 16:0; Tucker (MF) d. Hornbeck (EL) 17:0; Dunn (BvL) d. Bilyeu (Beal) 17:2; Smith Berger (MC) d. Prokopakis (Ed) 6:4.

145 Pounds

Schuller (BuL) p. Smith (Barn) 1:59; Pendleton (IC) p. Bereschik (Well) 1:50; McCort (Bell) d. Bilyeu (Beal) 5:2; Brooks (HC) d. McCort (Ed) 7:5.

152 Pounds

Hines (Barn) d. Warren (MF) 5:0; Frollini (Shad) d. Perko (Bell) 2:1; Richey (JM) p. Gianessi (Weir) 1:12; Cumpston (Cam) d. Stewart (Ed) 14:4.

160 Pounds

Smith (Barn) d. Cooper (Cam) 5:1; Davis (Brk) p. Kinzy (BvL) 4:39; Hill (WP) d. Sulek (Bell); North craft (OG) p. Gianessi (Weir) 3:09.

171 Pounds

Costa (Ed) d. Beach (Steub) 11:1; Gibson (WP) d. Wright (Riv) 5:2; Johnson (Bell) p. Reeder (BvL) 5:38; Cologie (BuL) p. Simmons (JM) 5:40.

189 Pounds

Myers (Riv) d. Archer (Cald) 3:1; Yoder (MF) p. Pratt (HC) 2:30; Stevens (OG) d. Loughran (Brk) 21:11; Cowser (IC) d. Harris (BuL) 4:3.

215 Pounds

Potts (OG) d. Grim (Ed) 18:3; Horn (Shen) p. Delaney (Brk) 3:17; Zeyer (MF) d. Hesson (Cald) 13:5; Bower sock (BvL) d. Soland (Bell) 5:3.

275 Pounds

Haslam (Riv) p. Diagosta (EL) 1:24; Petrella (Steub) p. Hinerman (Ed) 2:56; Michel (Shen) d. Hines (IC) 2:1; Staub (WP) d. Corder 8:4.

Consolation Bracket

First round

103 Pounds

No matches.
McLaughlin (Brk) p. Klubert (BuL) 1:29; Taylor (JM) p. Parry (Cam) 2:11; Andrews (OG) p. Yost (TC) 4:37.

119 Pounds

Peck (TC) p. Barnes (Weir) 18; Thomas (JM) p. Foote (WC) 4:22; Beatty (Riv) p. Collins (Well) 3:13; Delguzzi (Ed) d. Caldwell (EL) 13:7; Blake (BD) d. Wilson (UL) 13:6.

125 Pounds

Pell (WC) won by forfeit over Gillette (ScE); Hoover (Shen) p. Smith (TC) :35; Widmann (Ed) p. Grant (HC) 3:40.

130 Pounds

Lucas (UL) p. Burgey (Mag) :55; Pratt (HC) d. Williams (Well) 8:2; Magers (Bar) p. McDanietis (Bea) 2:20; Howard (JM) p. Mehaffey (WM) :45; McCoy (BvL) d. Riggie (EL) 8:4; Smith (Steub) p. Ring (MC) 4:02.

135 Pounds

West (Mead) p. Ware (Steub) 2:49; Frick (TC) d. Gray (Brk) 8:5; Horvath (Sha) p. Thomas (Weir) 2:31; Pell (WC) p. Keener (EL) 3:04; Cumpston (Cam) d. Bogetitch (StC) 15:0; 3:13.

140 Pounds

Helmick (Mag) d. Bandyk (BuL) 9:3.

145 Pounds

Best (JM) p. Henthorn (Mag) 4:38; Bayne (ScE) d. Carder (Mead) 15:0; 3:25; Woods (EL) p. Pine (Weir) 3:27.

152 Pounds

McShan (Steub) p. Platt (WP) 2:01; Burke (MC) d. Dunn (Mag) 6:5; Walters (StC) d. Walters (IC) 7:5.

160 Pounds

Van Camp (Riv) d. Spencer (Shen) 7:3; Mitchell (StC) d. Messerly (IC) 6:1; Ingram (Ed) p. Scott (EL) :21.

171 Pounds

Mallerna (HC) d. Adkins (EL) 13:5; Garvin (Camb) p. Ensell (IC) 2:18; Gianessi (Weir) d. Perko (ScE) 12:0; Miller (Bar) p. Traina (Well) 2:54.

189 Pounds

Grear (Bar) d. Wolfe (Mead) 6:2; Kettlewell (WP) p. Campbell (Sha) 1:57; Sollick (BvL) p. Mankowski (Weir) 2:16.

215 Pounds

Springer (Well) p. Scott (CV) :59; Reasbeck (WC) p. Britnell (Camb) 3:15; Sawyers (Riv) d. Harton (Steub) 11:1; Hill (WP) p. Lillie (EL) :59.

275 Pounds

Parsons (WC) d. Kile (TC) 8:5; Wise (Bar) p. Kanizgig (Bea) 1:26; Clark (MF) p. Sonk (UL) 1:21.

Second Round

103 Pounds

Snyder (HC) d. Smith (Shen) 10:8; Faykus (Bell) p. Morgan (Cam) :45; Cavin (BSJ) d. Landefeld (MC) 4:0; Springer (EL) d. Thompson (BvL) 6:3; Ingram (JM) p. Gibbs (Well) 3:51.

112 Pounds

Brown (Cald) d. Neis (WC) 8:5; Potkrajac (Ed) d. Williams (BvL) 13:8; Morris (ScE) won by forfeit over Vrotsos (StC); McLaughlin (Brk) d. Heslop (Bell) 2:0; Ray (Cam) p. Taylor (JM) 2:38; Brown (Shen) p. Deem (Well) :57; Marling (Bea) d. Phillips (HC) 8:1; Andrews (OG) p. Glasure (Weir) 2:30.

119 Pounds

Gullen (Steub) d. Peck (TC) 11:0; Dimmerling (Cald) p. Minet (Bar) 1:22; Oberdick (StC) p. Seever (Bell) :21; Thomas (JM) p. Klug (Sha) 2:03; Beatty (Riv) d. Webb (CV) 20:11; Kilburn (MC) d. Delguzzi (Ed) 11:9; OT; McFarland (Brk) p. Dodd (Shen) 4:04; Moore (HC) p. Blake (BD) :25.

125 Pounds

Carosiello (Well) d. Sanders (Steub) 17:2; 5:00; Ray (Cam) p. Wilson (Riv) 3:56; Porter (Bell) p. Stoneking (Cam) 2:40; Harless (Mead) p. Pell (WC) 1:30; Hoover (Shen) d. Stoney (Bea) 7:4; Androsko (StC) won by forfeit over Reed (EL); Clendenin (Sha) d. Stenger (UL) 6:3; Tucker (MF) d. Widmann (Ed) 5:4.

130 Pounds

Kennedy (WP) p. Lucas (UL) 4:49; Yockey (StC) d. Tiziani (CV) 12:0; Pratt (HC) d. Rossiter (Shen) 4:2; Magers (Bar) p. Brancker (Ed) 2:12; Gust (Cald) p. Howard (JM) 1:29; Baker (OG) d. McCoy (BvL) 9:2; Hughes (Cam) d. Watson (Mead) 4:2; Green (Bell) d. Smith (Steub) 12:1.

135 Pounds

West (Mead) p. Hrinko (Shen) 4:17; Aberegg (Bea) p. Howell (HC) 2:54; Nelson (WP) p. Becca (BuL) 4:07; Teague (Camb) d. Frick (TC) 10:0; Horvath (Sha) p. Chris Di Palma (SCF) 2:28; Six (OG) p. Pell (WC) 4:24; Jones (MF) p. Sells (Bar) 1:40; Johnson (Bell) d. Cumpston (Cam) 5:2.

140 Pounds

Conklin (WP) p. Markakis (Steub) :39; Furry (Mead) p. Emery (IC) :44; Rebecca (UL) p. Peterson (Cam) 1:43; Helmick (Mag) d. Droginske (WC) 11:3; Corbin (Brk) p. Bertubin (Camb) 4:08; Skrypek (JM) d. Stacy (Well) 9:3; Stephens (Bar) p. DiPalma (ScE) 2:15; Weekly (TC) p. Haga (Cald) 2:11.

145 Pounds

Bowers (MF) p. Huff (Brk) 2:40; Starr (Riv) d. Beatty (Camb) 12:5; Perkins (UL) p. Sparkman (MC) 1:54; Best (JM) d. McKittrick (Steub) 5:3; Bayne (ScE) d. Timmons (OG) 5:3; Crock (Shen) p. Markos (WC) 2:47; Pettit (Cam) d. Campbell (BvL) 12:6; Woods (EL) d. Thorngate (WP) 6:4.

152 Pounds

Caneen (Riv) p. Neff (TC) 1:59; Miller (OG) d. Dunn (BvL) 2:1; Babel (BuL) d. Hirt (Well) 8:6; McShan (Steub) d. Donley (HC) 7:1; Ludwig (EL) p. Burke (MC) 3:48; Wetherell (Camb) p. Twarog (UL) :57; Rossiter (Mead) d. Potenza (ScE) 11:4; Rossiter (Shen) p. Walters (StC) 2:20.

160 Pounds

Druschel (JM) p. Vincent (CV) 2:20; Snyder (Cald) d. McMillon (HC) 5:3; OT; Monahan (MC) p. Hanselman (Well) 2:35; Lowery

(Camb) p. Van Camp (Riv) 4:59; Love (Mead) d. Mitchell (StC) 12:4; Jones (MF) p. Glendenning (Mag) :45; Kale (BvL) d. Carl Ware (Steub) 9:0; Ingram (Ed) d. Compston (UL) 4:2.

171 Pounds

Mallerna (HC) d. Campbell (Brk) 7:1; Foltz (OG) p. Witzberger (WC) 1:42; Provenzano (MF) d. Roberts (TC) 10:2; McVay (UL) p. Garvin (Camb) 4:20; Gianessi (Weir) p. Mayfield (Mag) :28; Ogle (Cald) p. Keyser (Mead) :51; Zerkle (Shen) d. Stevens (MC) 10:5; Miller (Bar) d. Lyons (Cam) 5:3.

189 Pounds

Ross (Steub) won by forfeit over Hughes (Cam); Rickman (JM) p. Miller (EL) :55; Burdette (StC) d. English (MC) 12:4; Grear (Bar) p. Benitz (Well) 2:10; Kettlewell (WP) p. Gossett (UL) :51; Scurlock (Camb) p. Cline (Shen) :17; Ruskowski (Lin) p. Minor (ScE) 2:19; Thompson (Ed) p. Sollick (BvL) 4:37.

215 Pounds

Springer (Well) d. Pernel (Weir) DO; Blake (Cam) p. Neilly (IC) 3:27; Nice (HC) d. Wade (Mag) 5:3; Reasbeck (WC) p. Haberfield (Mead) 3:11; Hastings (Bar) d. Sawyers (Riv) 5:1; Habig (BSJ) p. Gummers (UL) :55; Mosti (ScE) p. Lemasters (TC) 2:24; Potts (JM) d. Hill (WP) 5:4.

275 Pounds

Stevenson (Bell) p. White (Mead) :07; Nicolozakes (Camb) d. Rowland (OG) 9:2; Hvizdak (Brk) p. Singleton (MC) 3:25; Parsons (WC) p. Malone (Well) 4:20; Hooker (JM) p. Wise (Bar) 1:53; Dishman (Cam) p. Calvin (Weir) 2:27; Adams (Mag) p. Klingsmith (ScE) 2:38; Clark (MF) p. McElfresh (Cald) 3:00.

Third Round

103 Pounds

Springer (EL) p. King (Mag) 1:42; Boyd (Ed) d. Snyder (HC) 7:0; Border (Cald) p. Ingram (JM) 4:03; Faykus (Bell) d. Cavin (BSJ) 5:1.

112 Pounds

Morris (ScE) d. McLaughlin (Brk) 7:5; Potkrajac (Ed) p. Brown (Cald) 5:3; Marling (BvL) d. Andrews (OG) 7:3; Ray (Camb) d. Brown (Shen) 7:2.

119 Pounds

Oberdick (StC) d. Thomas (JM) 2:0; Dimmerling (Cald) d. Gullen (Steub) 3:2; Kilburn (MC) p. Beatty (Riv) :39; McFarland (Brk) d. Moore (HC) 4:3.

125 Pounds

Androsko (StC) p. Hoover (Shen) :27; Ray (Camb) d. Carosiello (Well) 4:2; Tucker (MF) d. Clendenin (Shad) 2:0; Porter (Bell) d. Harless (Mead) 2:1.

130 Pounds

Kennedy (WP) p. Yockey (StC) :58; Hughes (Cam) d. Green (Bell) 6:5; Magers (Barn) p. Pratt (HC) 4:10; Gust (Cald) d. Baker (OG) 17:6.



SPORTS

Tuesday
January 25, 2005

Caldwell wins 2-A OVAC mat ti

Michel wins heavyweight crown as No. 7 seed; Seebach claims 130

DARREN McCULLOCH
THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

WHEELING, W.Va. — Two local individual wrestlers — Caldwell's Justin Seebach and Shenandoah's Lucas Michel — claimed individual championships while the Caldwell wrestling team celebrated by winning its class in the 52nd Annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament at WesBanco Arena on Monday night.

Caldwell claimed the team championship in Class 2-A. Other class champs were Oak Glen (Class 3-A); Wheeling Park (Class 4-A); and Cameron (Class 1-A).

Caldwell head coach Daulton Summers was happy his team accomplished its goal of winning the 2-A OVAC title.

"I'm extremely pleased," Summers started. "Our goal coming in was to win it (2-A

title). I was hoping we were going to place in the top 10 too. Everybody did an excellent job..the whole team. Cory (Lemaster) wrestled good. However, Rush is a good wrestler. Justin had a great weekend.

"Our five seniors took a lot of leadership this weekend. Four years ago, when they were freshmen, we came down here and didn't score a point. I told Hesson he can now longer use the excuse that he is a freshman now that he placed in the OVAC. He wrestled some really tough kids," he added.

Oak Glen also secured the overall championship with 220.5 points. Martins Ferry was second (198); and Wheeling Park finished third (189). Rounding out the team scoring

were: 4. Brooke (134.5); 5. Cambridge (124.5); 6. John Marshall (121.5); 7. Indian Creek (114); 8. Beaver Local (112); 9. Cameron (110.5); 10. Edison (110); 11. Caldwell (105.5); 12. Bellaire (99); 13. Barnesville (90); 14. Shenandoah (81); 15. River (76.5); 16. East Liverpool (72); 17. Buckeye Local (71); 18. Meadowbrook (70); 19. Union Local (68.5); 20. Harrison Central (60); 21. Bellaire St. Johns (55); 22.



Steubenville (49); 23. Shadyside (48); 24. Monroe Central (45); 25. Beallsville (44.5); 26. Steubenville Catholic Central (37); 27. St. Clairsville (35); 28. Wheeling Central (30.5); 29. Wellsville (26.5); 30. Weir (17); 31. Magnolia (16); 32. Tyler

Consolidated (11); 33. Linsly (6); 34. Bishop Donahue (1); 35 (tie) Conotton Valley and Weirton Madonna (0).

Michel, who entered the event as the No. seven seed, surprised a few people by posting a 6-2 decision over River's Wesley Haslem in the heavyweight championship bout. Michel (24-3) was the highest seeded wrestler to win his weight class.

Seebach, the No. 1 seed in his class, picked up a 3-0 decision over Beaver Local's Luke Hopple to earn the 130-pound championship. Seebach improved his record to 23-2 on the year.

Despite not winning an individual championship, Meadowbrook's Mike Lehotay and Cambridge's Sean Mahley finished runner-up in their respective weight classes. East Liverpool's Anthony Duffield got an 18-2 technical fall on Lehotay (28-3) in the finals at

112 while Bellaire St. John's Mick Nicola won a 5-2 decision over Mahley (27-5) in the 130-pound championship.

Other championship winners were: Brooke's Daniel Felton carded a 7-6 decision over Wheeling Park's Ronell Green in 103; Wheeling Park's Ronnie Green got a 4-3 decision over Indian Creek's James Myers in 119; Wheeling



Michel

Park's Abbie Rush posted a 3-0 decision over Oak Glen's Brandon Miller in 125; Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker claimed a 15-4 major decision over Beaver Local's Shawn Dunn in 140 (this was Tucker's fourth consecutive OVAC wrestling championship and he is only the fifth person every to accomplish the feat); Buckeye Local's Zack Schuller pinned Harrison Central's Brad Brooks in 4:26 at 145; John Marshall's Dustin Richey recorded a 13-2 major

decision over Cumpston in 1: Rhett North Brooke's Dana I 15 decision in Mitch Costa clai sion over Bucke



Seebach

overtime decisio Ferry's Elijah Z Cambridge's P suffered his fir the year in his fi of the event, fall time to Oak Gl and getting Beallsville's Jir fifth-place match Despite sufferi overtime loss 1 125-pound semi

See OVA



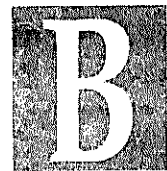
Janell Tedrick/The Daily Jeffersonian

The 2005 Caldwell High School varsity wrestling team is, l to r, front row, Justin Seebach, Jared Border, Lee Dimmerling, Michael Hedges, Corey Lemaster, Josh Gust, Mrian McElfresh; second row, head coach Daulton Summers, Jeremy Brown, Derick Snyder, Corey Archer, Derick Hesson, Chris Triplett, Matt Ogle and assistant coach Dustin Robinson.

SPORTS

Tuesday
January 25, 2005

Section



ell wins 2-A OVAC mat title

heavyweight crown as No. 7 seed; Seebach claims 130 class

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human now that he placed in the OVAC. He wrestled some really tough kids," he added. Oak Glen also secured the overall championship with 15.5 points. Martins Ferry was second (198); and Wheeling Park finished third (189). Rounding out the team scoring

were: 4. Brooke (134.5); 5. Cambridge (124.5); 6. John Marshall (121.5); 7. Indian Creek (114); 8. Beaver Local (112); 9. Cameron (110.5); 10. Edison (110); 11. Caldwell (105.5); 12. Bellaire (99); 13. Barnesville (90); 14. Shenandoah (81); 15. River

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decision over Cameron's Jeff Cumpston in 152; Oak Glen's Rhett Northcraft topped Brooke's Dana Davis with a 21-15 decision in 160; Edison's Mitch Costa claimed a 7-4 decision over Buckeye Local's Josh

Cologie at 171; Martins Ferry's Chas Yoder pinned Oak Glen's Chris Stevens in 5:54 at 189; and Oak Glen's Cody Potts carded a 2-1 double overtime decision over Martins Ferry's Elijah Zeyer at 215.

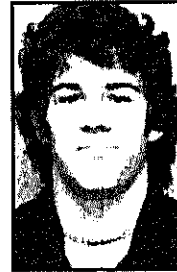
Cambridge's Paul Rose (24-2) suffered his first two losses of the year in his final two matches of the event, falling 5-3 in overtime to Oak Glen's Ethan Dray and getting pinned by Beallsville's Jimmy Reisz in the fifth-place match at 103.

Despite suffering a 3-2 double overtime loss to Rush in the 125-pound semis, Caldwell's

See OVAC page B-3



Michel



Seebach



Janel Tedrick/The Daily Jeffersonian

ity wrestling team is, l to r, front row, Justin Seebach, Jared Border, Lee Dimmerling, Michael Brian McElfresh; second row, head coach Daulton Summers, Jeremy Brown, Derick Snyder, Triplett, Matt Ogle and assistant coach Dustin Robinson.

Local pair wins respective OVAC wrestling titles

OVAC from page B-1

Lemaster (24-1) rebounded to defeat John Marshall's Logan Hartle, 1-0, to take third.

Like Lemaster, Barnesville's Buddy Hines (24-6) and Kyle Smith (27-3) lost the champion of their respective weight classes. Hines, who lost to Richey, fought back to finish third overall by posting a 3-1 decision over Martins Ferry's Luke Warren at 152. Smith, who lost to Northcraft, won a 2-0 decision over Cameron's Adam Cooper at 160.

Cambridge's Bobby Scurlock (23-5) finished fourth in the 189-pound class. Brooke's Nathan Loughran posted a 6-4 decision over Scurlock to earn third.

Shenandoah's John Horn (26-3) placed fourth in the 215-pound division. Horn suffered a 8-0 setback to Beaver Local's Jimmy Bowersock in the third place bout.

Cambridge's Dustin Daugherty (25-5) and John Nicolozakes (23-11) each finished seventh in their weight class. Daugherty pinned Meadowbrook's Justin Rossiter (26-6) in 4:07 at 119 and Nicolozakes won 2-1 in overtime over Harrison Central's Andrew Corder for seventh in the heavyweight division.

Barnesville's Ryan Stephen (18-4) knocked off Cambridge's Jon Ray (27-9) in the seventh-place bout in 112 via a 1-0 decision.

Meadowbrook's Marvin Benson (24-6) finished seven in the tournament by pinning St. Clairsville's Bryan Scammell in 2:10 in the 103-pound division.

Caldwell's Corey Archer (20-7) and Derick Hesson each finished seventh to help their school to the 2-A title. Archer claimed a 4-0 decision over Buckeye Local's James Harris in the 189-pound division while Hesson pinned Edison's John Grim in 2:53 in 215.

Barnesville's Brett Stephens (18-13) finished eighth in the 140-pound class after Bellaire's Nick Perko pulled out an 9-8 decision.

Tucker earned "Most Valuable Wrestler" for the tournament while Schuller was given the Hercules award for the most pins in the shortest time and Indian Creek earned the Bob Sadler Sportsmanship award for the tournament.

Also, former OVAC and West Virginia state champion and current Noble Local Schools Superintendent Dan Doyle was given the Mr. Mat Award.

(Editor's Note: All pictures that ran in Sunday's edition of *The Daily Jeffersonian* were taken by staff photographer Sean Scott).



Eight local grapplers headed to OVAC semis

OVAC from page B-1

OVAC event. "Rose and Mahley have been dominating to this point," Moore said, "and we've had a lot of others wrestling very well. We knew going in that Oak Glen, Wheeling Park and Martins Ferry were all solid, but we are happy with where we are right now and we just want to do something Cambridge has never done in this tournament and try to bring home a banner."

Like Cambridge, Caldwell has two wrestlers who are 3-0 and in the championship semifinals. Top-seeded Justin Seebach has notched a trio of pins at 135 pounds, with the end coming in 32 seconds, 5:30 and 37 seconds; and fourth-seeded Corey Lemaster in the 125-pound division, with a 24-second pin and two major decisions (8-0 and 14-0).

Still in the running to capture a spot on the podium are fourth-seeded Corey Archer, who has won three of four bouts at 189; and Derick Hesson, who has won two of three at 215.

Caldwell wrestlers ousted include fourth-seeded Derick Snyder at 160 (3-2); Lee Dimmerling at 119 (3-2); Matt Ogle at 171 (3-2); Josh Gust at 130 (2-2); Jared Border at 103 (0-2); Michael Brown at 112 (0-2); Chad Haga (0-2) and Brian McElfresh at 275 (0-2).

Barnesville also has two in the semis with 3-0 marks — third-seeded Kyle Smith at 160 pounds, with a 6-1 decision, a 3:47 pinfall and a 5-1 decision; and fourth-seeded Bud Hines at 152 pounds with a pin in 1:07, a 13-3 major decision and a 5-0 decision to his credit.

Also advancing with 3-1 marks for the 'Rocks were fifth-seeded Ryan Stephen at 112 and Brett Stephens at 140.

Shamrocks ousted include Daniel Magers at 130 (3-2); Brian Grear at 189 (3-2); eighth-seeded Josh Smith at 145 (2-2); Cory Hastings at 215 (2-2); Mike Minet at 119 (0-2); Mike Sells at 135 (0-2) and Ben Wise at 275 (1-2).

Shenandoah had 11 of its 13 wrestlers ousted, but the two who remain are 3-0 and in the semis.

Second-seeded John Horn owns three pins at 215 pounds, the falls coming in 0:26, 0:34 and 3:17 while seventh-seeded Lucas Michel has three wins at 275, including pins in 46 and 58 seconds and a 2-1 decision over second-seeded Maurice Hines of Indian Creek.

Zeps eliminated after Friday's action include Jacob Zerkle at 171 (3-2); Jesse Brown at 112 (2-

2); Joey Hoover at 125 (2-2); Robbie Rossiter at 152 (2-2); Chris Crock at 145 (2-2); Justin Rossiter at 130 (1-2); Cody Smith at 103 (0-2); Richie Dodd at 119 (0-2); Nathan Hrinko at 135 (0-2); Adam Spencer at 160 (0-2) and Brad Cline at 189 (0-2).

Just three wrestlers from Meadowbrook remain, headed by 112-pounder Mike Lehotay, the No. 3 seed who advanced to the semis with pins in 1:47 and 1:03 and an 11-7 decision.

Also advancing were Justin Rossiter, who won three of four bouts at 119 pounds; and eighth-seeded Marvin Benson, who is 2-1 at 103 pounds.

Colts ousted were Blake West at 135 (2-2); Nate Furry at 140 (2-2); Josh Rossiter at 152 (2-2); Travis Harless at 125 (1-2); Tyler Love at 160 (1-2); Jeremy Watson at 130 (0-2); Jared Carder at 145 (0-2); Jimmy Keyser at 171 (0-2); Christian Wolfe at 189 (0-2); Earl Haberfield at 215 (0-2) and David White at 275 (0-2).

Of the top three teams in the team scoring, both Oak Glen and Martins Ferry have 10 wrestlers still alive. Wheeling Park is next with eight, including seven who are 3-0 and in the semifinals.

Regarding the decision to delay the final day of action, meet director Ron Mauck said it was a tough call, but one that had to be made.

"We just weren't going to take any chances," he stated. "I'd rather have someone mad rather than have something bad happen. We had more teams stay overnight than ever, but there were still quite a few that had to travel Saturday morning.

"The weather is supposed to be much better Monday and we hope all of the schools will still be able to participate even though it's a school day," Mauck continued. "We've got a lot of mountains to climb between now and then, but we'll climb them and be ready to wrestle on Monday."

As for the wrestling itself,

Mauck looks forward to a good final day.

"We had more scratches than ever this year, but the wrestling has been pretty good so far and we expect more of the same Monday," Mauck said.

Several awards were presented on Friday, and more will be handed out Monday.

Kyle Rose of River received the "Assistant Coach of the Year" honor; Frank Crane of Oak Glen was named "Junior High Coach of the Year"; and Bill Foster of Moundsville was presented the "Dead Eye" Morris Sportsmanship Award.

Yet to be announced were the recipients of the Sid Stolz Award to honor a person who works the scorer's table; the Bob "Paris" Sadler Award given to a school for team sportsmanship; the Mr. Mat Award to a person who has played a major role in promoting the sport of wrestling; and the David Bierkorte Memorial Award to the most valuable wrestler of the tournament as voted on by the conference coaches.



OVAC Mat Tourney Results

TEAM SCORING
1. Oak Glen 220.50 2. Martins Ferry 199.00 3. Wheeling Park 189.00 4. Brooke 134.50 5. Cambridge 124.50 6. John Marshall 121.50 7. Indian Creek 114.00 8. Beaver Local 112.00 9. Cameron 110.50 10. Edison 110.00 11. Caldwell 105.50 12. Bellaire 99.00 13. Barnesville 90.00 14. Shenandoah 81.00 15. River 76.50 16. East Liverpool 72.00 17. Buckeye Local 71.00 18. Meadowbrook 70.00 19. Union Local 68.50 20. Harrison Central 60.00 21. St. John 55.00 22. Steubenville 49.00 23. Shadyside 48.00 24. Monroe Central 45.00 25. Beallsville 44.50 26. Steubenville Central 37.00 27. St. Clairsville 35.00 28. Wheeling Central 30.50 29. Wellsville 26.50 30. Weir 17.00 31. Magnolia 16.00 32. Tyler Consolidated 11.00 33. Linsly 6.00 34. Bishop Donahue 1.00 35. Conotton Valley 0.00 (tie Weirton Madonna 0.00)

CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS
103 Pounds
Felton (Brk) d. Green (WP), 7-6
112 pounds
Duffield (EL) d. Lehotay (Mea), 18-2
119 pounds
Green (WP) d. Myers (IC), 4-3
125 pounds
Rush (WP) d. Miller (OG), 3-0
130 pounds
Nicola (BSJ) d. Mahley (Camb), 5-2
135 pounds
Seebach (Cald) d. Hoppel (BvL), 3-0
140 pounds
Tucker (MF) d. Dunn (BvL), 15-4
145 pounds
Schuller (BuL) p. Brooks (HC), 4:25
152 pounds
Richey (JM) MD Cumpston (Cam), 13-2
160 pounds
Northcraft (OG) d. Davis (Brk), 21-14
171 pounds
Costa (Ed) d. Cologie (BuL), 7-4
189 pounds
Yoder (MF) p. Stevens (OG), 5:54
215 pounds
Potts (OG) d. Zeyer (MF), 2-1 OT
275 pounds
Michel (Shen) d. Haslam (Riv), 6-2

THIRD PLACE
103 pounds
Clark (UL) d. Dray (OG), 7-1
112 pounds
Clark (UL) d. Jewell (WP), 16-4
119 pounds
Cumpston (Cam) d. Caudill (BvL), 3-1
125 pounds
Lemaster (Cald) d. Hartle (JM), 1-0
130 pounds
Shaw (Brk) won by default over Johnston (IC)
135 pounds
Jordan (IC) d. Stine (Ed), 9-1
140 pounds
Mahan (OG) d. Smithberger (MC), 10-2
145 pounds
McCort (Bell) d. Pettit (Cam), 2-1 OT
152 pounds
Hines (Barn) d. Warren (MF), 3-1
160 pounds
Smith (Barn) d. Cooper (Cam), 2-0
171 pounds
Wright (Riv) d. Foltz (OG), 5-4
189 pounds
Loughran (Brk) d. Scurlock (Camb), 6-4
215 pounds
Bowersock (BvL) d. Horn (Shen), 8-0
275 pounds
Staub (WP) d. Diagosta (EL), 4-0

FIFTH PLACE



103 pounds
Reisz (Beal) p. Rose (Camb), 4:36
112 pounds
Morris (Sce) tech fall Trigg (Sha), 17-0
119 pounds
Davis (OG) d. Holt (MF), 3-0
125 pounds
Skoff (BSJ) d. Androsko (StC), 7-4
130 pounds
Basick (WC) d. Furbee (Sha), 5-4
135 pounds
Doyle (JM) d. Jones (MF), 5-1
140 pounds
Skrypek (JM) d. Conklin (WP), 7-3
145 pounds
Pendleton (IC) d. Bowers (MF), 2-0
152 pounds
Frollini (Sha) d. Miller (OG), 9-2
160 pounds
Hill (WP) p. Jones (MF), 3:43
171 pounds
Gibson (WP) won by forfeit over Johnson (Bell)
189 pounds
Myers (Riv) d. Cowser (IC), 4-2, OT
215 pounds
Soland (Bell) d. Dulaney (Brk), 3-0
275 pounds
Hines (IC) d. Petrella (Steub), 3-2, OT

SEVENTH PLACE

103 Pounds
Benson (Mea) p. Scammell (St.C), 2:10
112 pounds
Stephen (Barn) d. Ray (Camb), 1-0
119 pounds
Daugherty (Camb) p. Rossiter (Mea), 4:07
125 pounds
Tucker (MF) p. Prickett (MC), 1:30
130 pounds
Ware (MF) d. Bortz (Sce), 11-2
135 pounds
Cataldo (Well) d. Six (OG), 10-6
140 pounds
Perko (Bell) d. Stephens (Barn), 9-8
145 pounds
Bayne (Sce) d. Bereschik (Well), 8-4
152 pounds
Stewart (Ed) p. Wetherell (Camb), 2:51
160 pounds
Sulek (Bell) d. Gianessi (Weir), 5-3
171 pounds
Beach (Steub) p. McVay (UL), 4:36
189 pounds
Archer (Cald) d. Harris (BuL), 4-2
215 pounds
Hesson (Cald) p. Grimm (Ed), 2:53
275 pounds
Nicolozakes (Camb) d. Corder (HC), 2-1

OVAC WRESTLING

52nd Annual OVAC Wrestling Tournament Team Scores

Overall
Oak Glen 220.5; Martins Ferry 199; Wheeling Park 189; Brooke 134.5; Cambridge 124.5; John Marshall 121.5; Indian Creek 114; Beaver Local 112; Cameron 110.5; Edison 110; Caldwell 105.5; Bellaire 99; Barnesville 90; Shenandoah 81; River 76.5; East Liverpool 72; Buckeye Local 71; Meadowbrook 70; Union Local 68.5; Harrison Central 60; Bellaire St. John's 55; Steubenville 49; Shadyside 48; Monroe Central 45; Beallsville 44.5; Steubenville Central 37; St. Clairsville 35; Wheeling Central 30.5; Wellsville 26.5; Weir 17; Magnolia 16; Tyler Consolidated 11; Linsly 6; Bishop Donahue 1; Conotton Valley 0; Weirton Madonna 0

Class AAAA
Wheeling Park 189, Brooke 134.5, Cambridge 124.5, John Marshall 121.5, Beaver Local 112, Edison 110, East Liverpool 72, Buckeye Local 71, Steubenville 49, Weir 17

Class AAA
Oak Glen 220.5, Martins Ferry 198, Bellaire 99, Meadowbrook 70, Union Local 68.5, Harrison Central 60, St. Clairsville 35, Magnolia 16, Tyler Consolidated 11

Class AA
Caldwell 105.5, Barnesville 90, Shenandoah 81, River 76.5, Monroe Central 45, Steubenville Central 37, Wheeling Central 30.5, Wellsville 26.5

Class A
Cameron 110.5, Bellaire St. John's 55, Shadyside 48, Beallsville 44.5, Linsly 6, Bishop Donahue 1, Conotton Valley 0, Weirton Madonna 0

CHAMPIONSHIPS
103 Pounds
Felton (Brk) d. Green (WP), 7-6
112 pounds
Duffield (EL) d. Lehotay (Mea), 18-2
119 pounds
Green (WP) d. Myers (IC), 4-3
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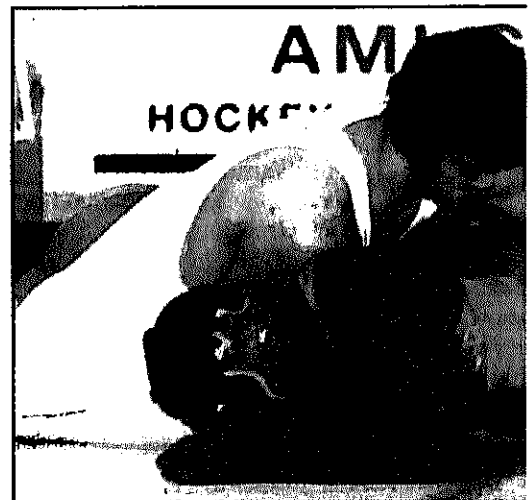
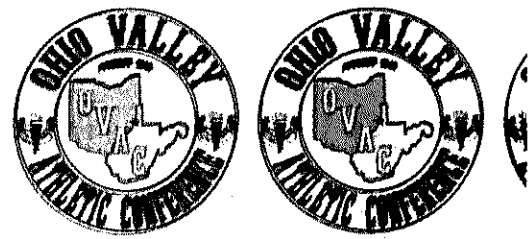
THIRD PLACE MATCHES
103 Pounds
Clark (UL) d. Dray (OG), 7-1
112 pounds
Clark (UL) d. Jewell (WP), 16-4
119 pounds
Cumpston (Cam) d. Caudill (BvL), 3-1
125 pounds
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130 pounds
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135 pounds
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215 pounds
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103 Pounds
Benson (Mea) p. Scammell (St.C), 2:10
112 pounds
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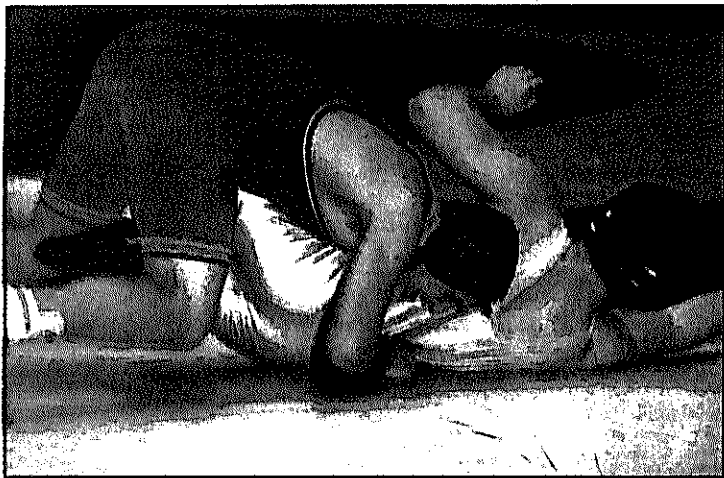


Shenandoah heavyweight wrestler Lucas Michel makes short work of his opponent — John Marshall's Nelson Hooker — during the second round of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday in Wheeling. Michel won the match by pinfall in 58 seconds and is 3-0 in the tourney. He will compete in the championship semifinals on Monday.

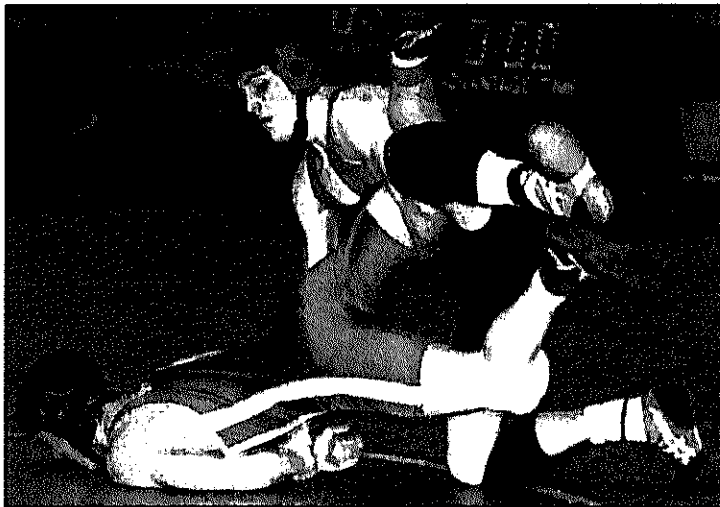


Barnesville's Kyle Smith works toward pinning Steubenville's Cal Ware in the 160-pound weight class during the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday. The third-seeded Smith is 3-0 and will compete in the championship semifinals on Monday. He pinned Ware.

52nd OVA Wrestling Tournament



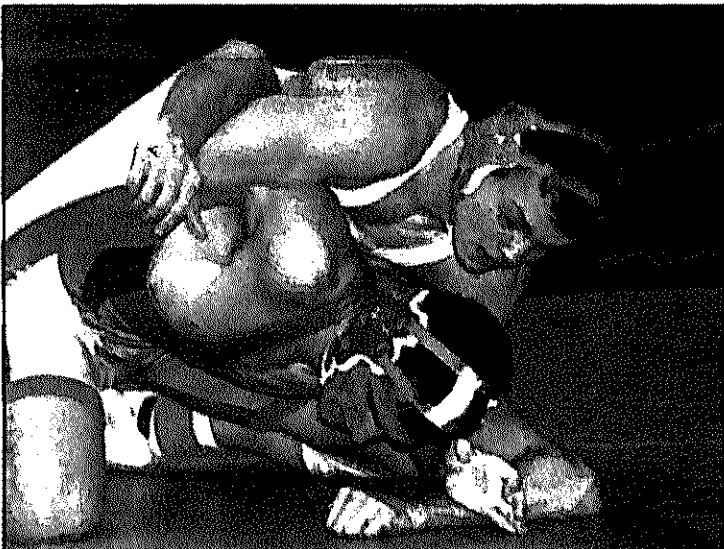
Cambridge 189-pound wrestler Bobby Scurlock tries to roll over Buckeye Local's James Harris during Friday's second round of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament at the Wheeling Civic Center. Scurlock, the second seed, lost the match on a 3-2 overtime decision. He is now 4-1 in the OVAC event and remains alive in the competition.



Caldwell 135-pound wrestler Justin Seebach tries to roll over Wheeling Park's Ronnie Nelson by his leg on Friday during the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Seebach is 3-0 with three pinfalls, including one over Nelson in 5:30. Seebach, the No. 1 seed, will compete in Monday's semis.



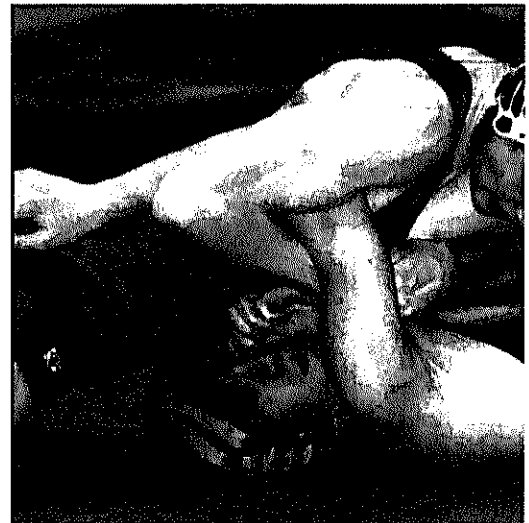
Shenandoah 112-pound grappler Jesse Brown is on top of Union Local's Chaz Clark during the second round of the 52nd Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday at the Wheeling Civic Center. Brown lost the match by technical fall at the 5:00-minute mark. He finished the match with a 3-1 record.



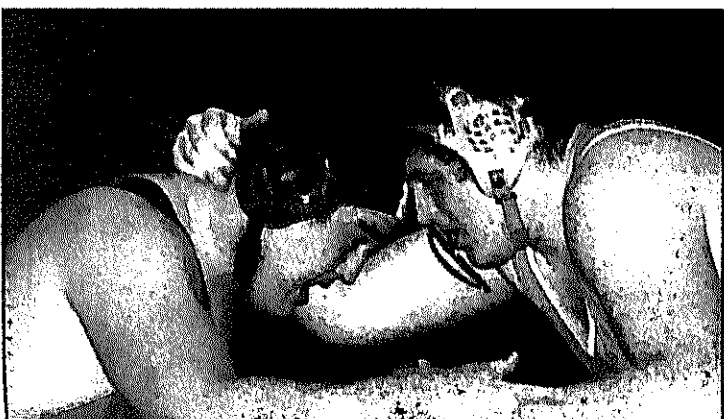
Barnesville's Brett Stephens grapples with Beaver Local's Shawn Dunn during 140-pound weight class action on Friday in Wheeling. After dropping his first match to Dunn by pinfall, Stephens has won three straight to remain alive in the tourney.



Barnesville's Bud Hines puts a hold on the arm of Oak Glen's Cody Miller on Friday during 152-pound action of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. The fourth-seeded Hines recorded a 13-3 major decision over Miller. Hines is 3-0 and will be in action Monday in the championship semifinals.



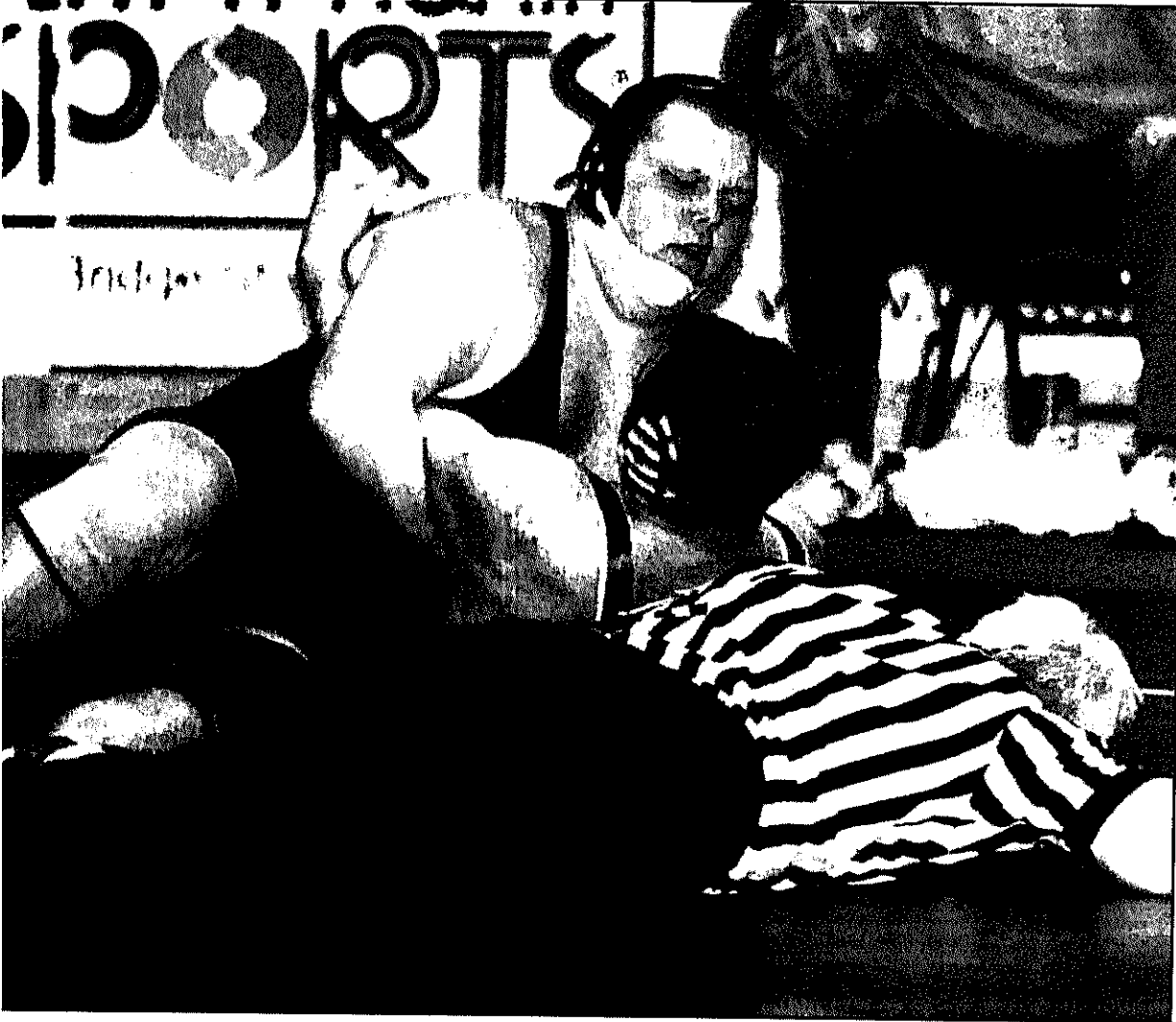
Cambridge's Paul Rose nearly has Magnolia's Matt King during their 103-pound match in Wheeling. King, the second seed, pinned Rose in 1:39 and will compete in the championship semifinals on Monday with a 3-0 record.



OVAC WRESTLING TOURNEY

JANUARY 23, 2004

THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN



Light wrestler Lucas Michel makes short work of his opponent — John Marshall's Nelson Hooker — during the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday in Wheeling. Michel won the match by pinfall and is 3-0 in the tourney. He will compete in the championship semifinals on Monday.

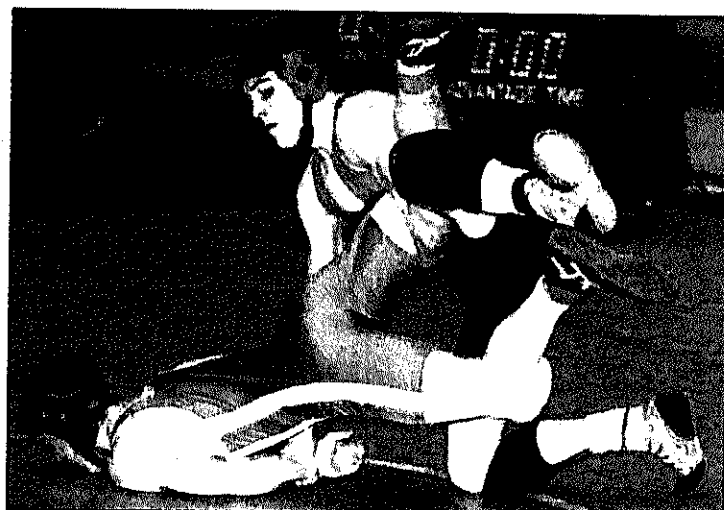


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52nd OVAC Wrestling Tourney



Light wrestler Bobby Scurlock tries to roll over James Harris during Friday's second round action of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament at the Wheeling Civic Center. Scurlock, the second seed, won the match by a 3-2 overtime decision. He is now 4-1 in the tourney and remains alive in the competition.



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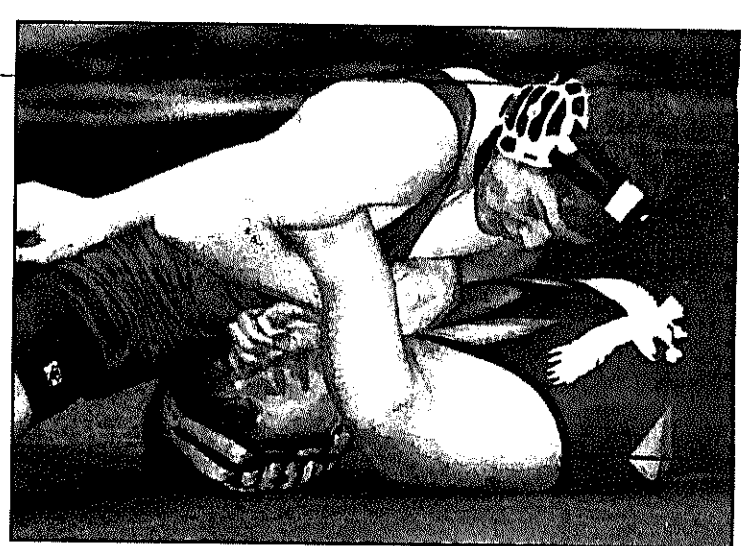
Shenandoah 112-pound grappler Jesse Brown attempts to stay on top of Union Local's Chaz Clark during second round action on Friday at the 52nd Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Brown lost the match by an 18-3 technical fall at the 5:00-minute mark. He finished 2-2 in the event.



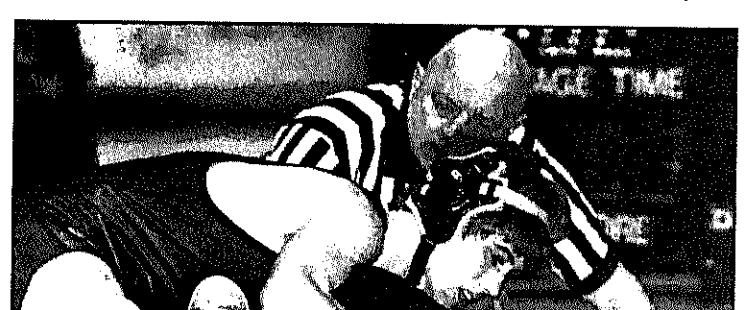
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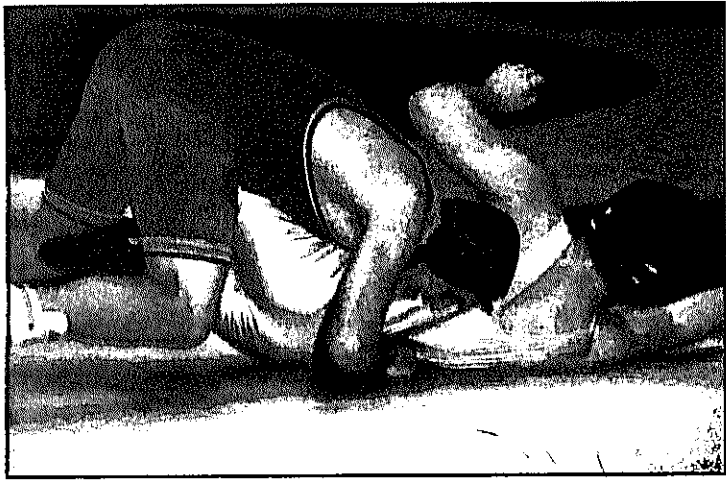


Cambridge's Paul Rose nearly has Magnolia's Ethan King pinned during their 103-pound match in Wheeling at the 52nd Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Rose, the second seed, pinned King in 1:39 and will compete in the championship semifinals on Monday with a 3-0 record in the tourney.

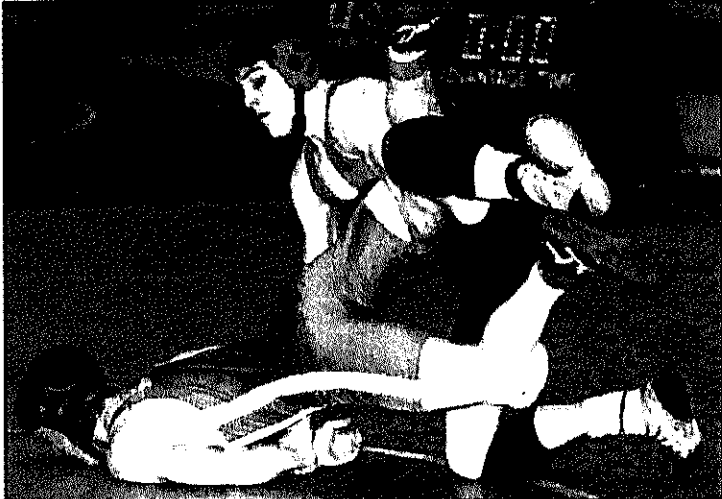


52nd OVA Wrestling Tou

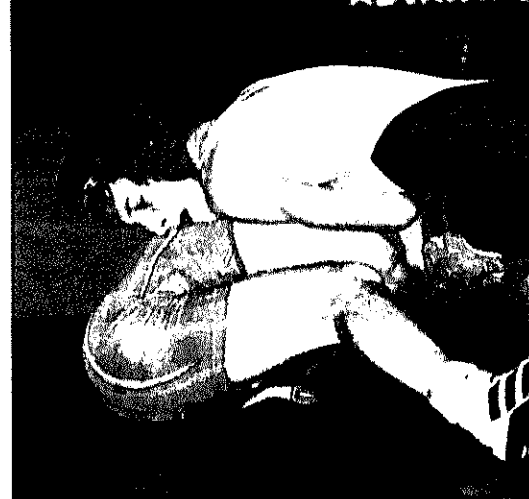
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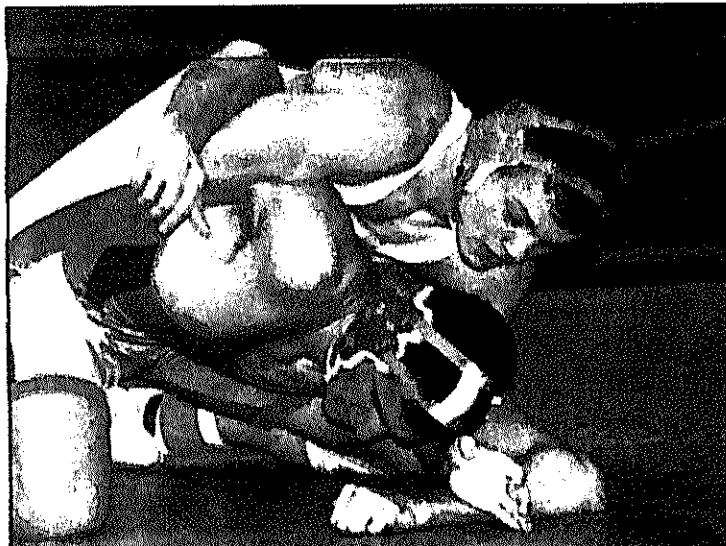
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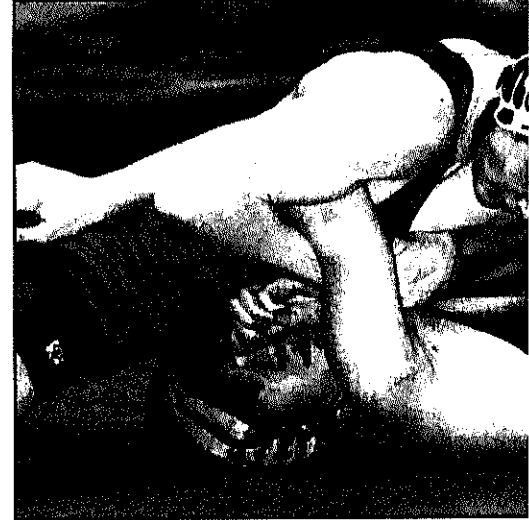
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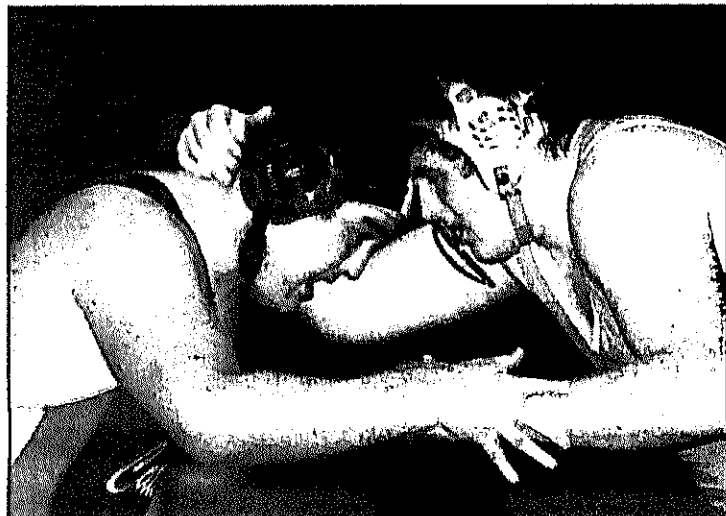
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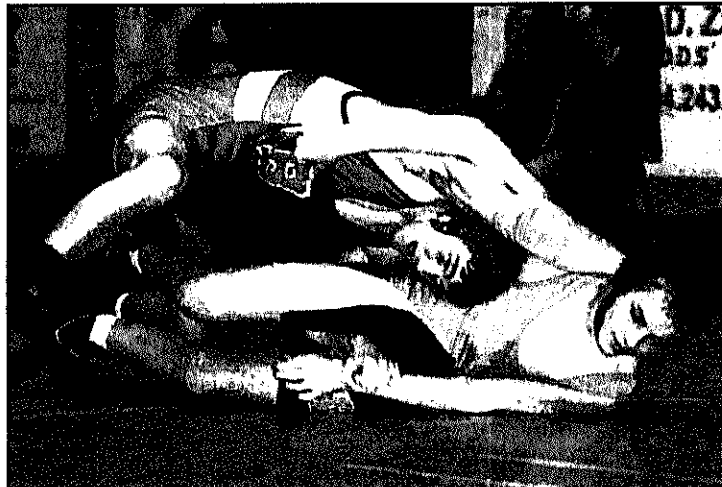
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Cambridge's Paul Rose nearly has Magnolia's [unclear] during their 103-pound match in Wheeling. [unclear] Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament [unclear] second seed, pinned King in 1:39 and will compete in championship semifinals on Monday with a 3-0 record.



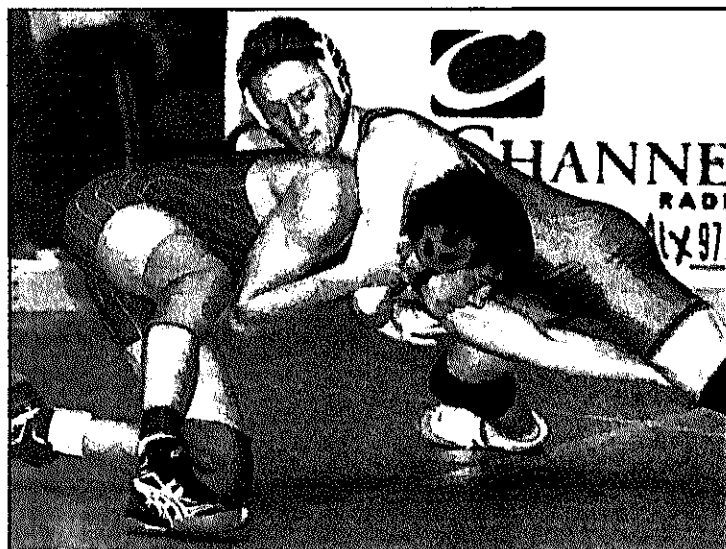
Cambridge heavyweight grappler John Nicolozakes, I, locks horns with Wheeling Park's Kevin Staub on Friday afternoon at the Wheeling Civic Center. Nicolozakes dropped a 1-0 decision in the match, but is still alive with a 4-1 record.



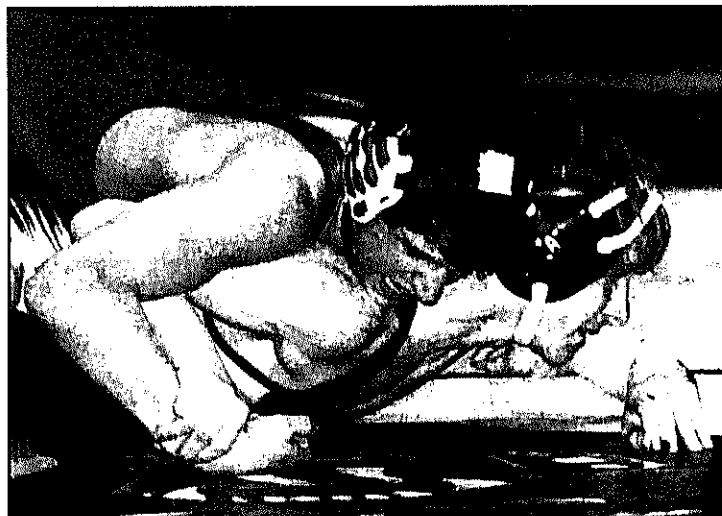
Barnesville's Ryan Stephen tries to get a Nelson on the arm of Weir's Josh Glasure during their 112-pound bout on Friday morning at the Wheeling Civic Center. Stephen pinned Glasure in 42 seconds. He is 3-1, with his only loss being to Meadowbrook's Mike Lehotay.



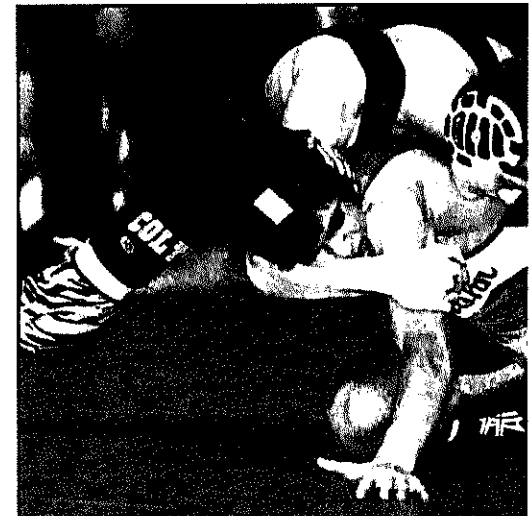
Meadowbrook's Justin Rossiter searches for a grip on Conotton Valley's Donnie Webb in 119-pound action on Friday in Wheeling. Rossiter recorded a pinfall in the match. He is 3-1 in the tourney and will wrestle



Barnesville's Josh Smith reaches for the leg of Steubenville's Sean McKittrick during their 145-pound match on Friday at the Wheeling Civic Center. Smith pinned McKittrick in 4:28, but was bowed out of the OVAC event with a 2-2 record.



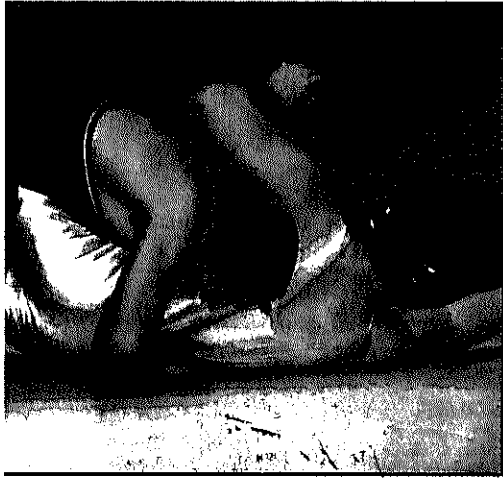
Cambridge 112-pound wrestler Jon Ray searches for a grip on Martins Ferry's Mike Shreve Friday during second round of the 52nd Ohio Valley Athletic Wrestling Tournament. Shreve posted an 18-11 decision, but Ray still remains alive and will compete Monday with a 4-1 mark in the event.



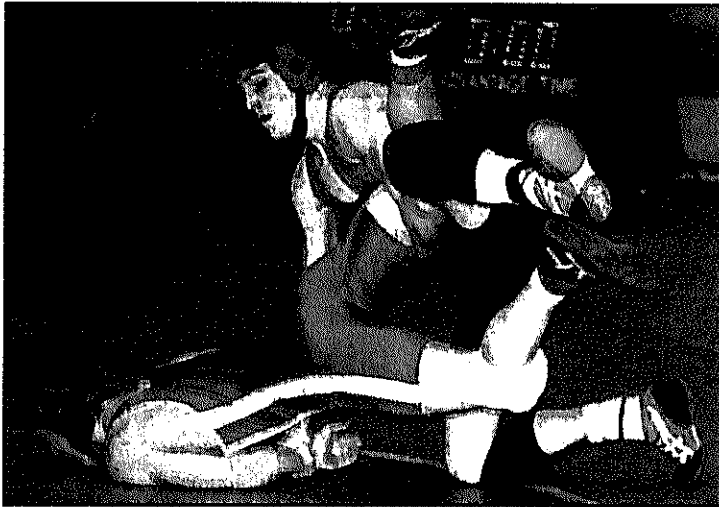
Meadowbrook 103-pound wrestler Marvin [unclear] St. Johns' Greg Civin down on the mat during the 52nd Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Civin was pinned at the 2:44 mark of the match. He is currently [unclear] Monday.

52nd OVAC Wrestling Tourney

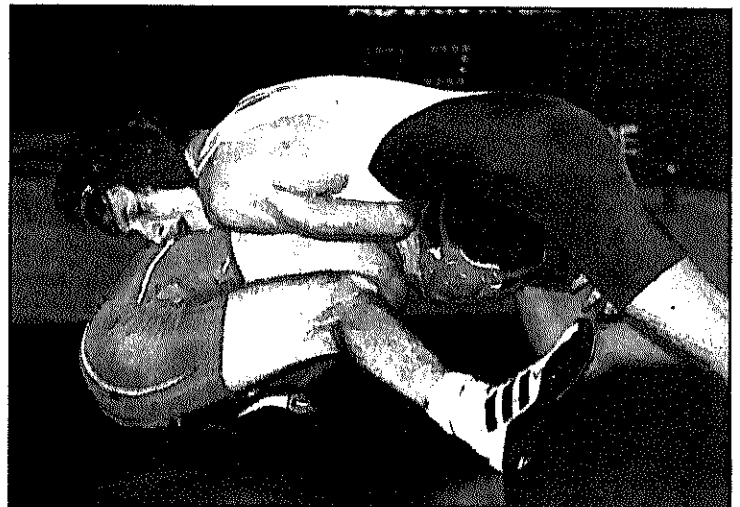
weight wrestler Lucas Michel makes short work of his opponent — John Marshall's Nelson Hooker — during the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on Friday in Wheeling. Michel won the match by takedown and is 3-0 in the tourney. He will compete in the championship semifinals on Monday.



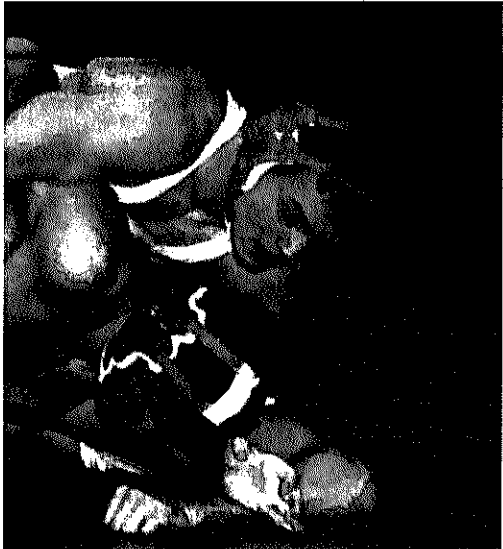
Wrestler Bobby Scurlock tries to roll over James Harris during Friday's second round action of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament at the Wheeling Civic Center. Scurlock, the second seed, won on a 3-2 overtime decision. He is now 4-1 in the tourney and remains alive in the competition.



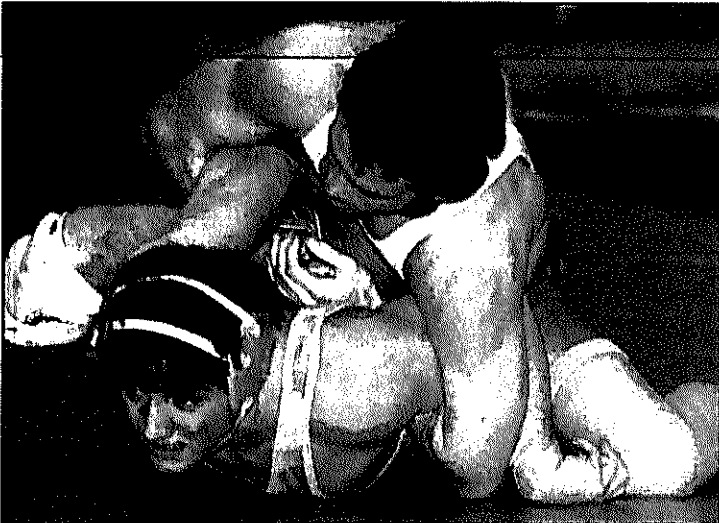
Caldwell 135-pound wrestler Justin Seebach tries to roll over Wheeling Park's Ronnie Nelson by his leg on Friday during the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Seebach is 3-0 with three pinfalls, including one over Nelson in 5:30. Seebach, the No. 1 seed, will compete in Monday's semis.



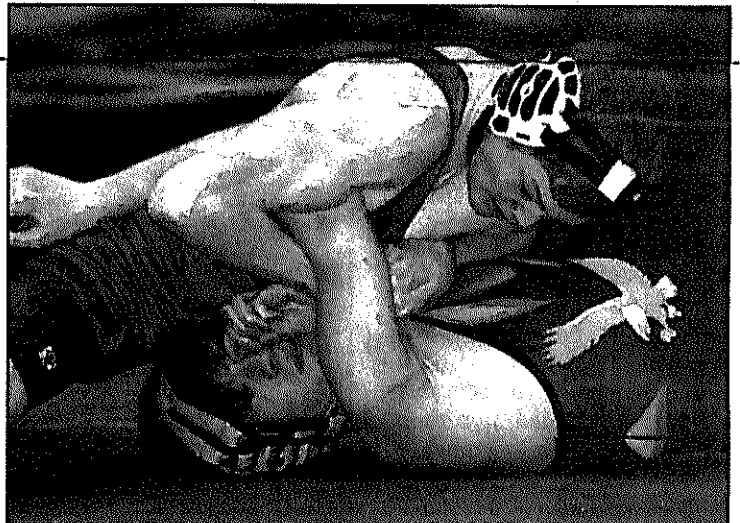
Shenandoah 112-pound grappler Jesse Brown attempts to stay on top of Union Local's Chaz Clark during second round action on Friday at the 52nd Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Brown lost the match by an 18-3 technical fall at the 5:00-minute mark. He finished 2-2 in the event.



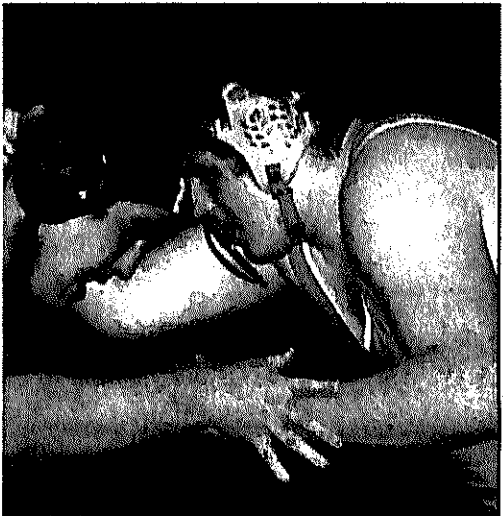
Wrestler Stephens grapples with Beaver Local's Kevin Dunn in 140-pound weight class action on Friday during the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Stephens won by pinfall, his first match in the tourney. He is now 3-0 and remains alive in the competition.



Barnesville's Bud Hines puts a hold on the arm of Oak Glen's Cody Miller on Friday during 152-pound action of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. The fourth-seeded Hines recorded a 13-3 major decision over Miller. Hines is 3-0 and will be in action Monday in the championship semis.



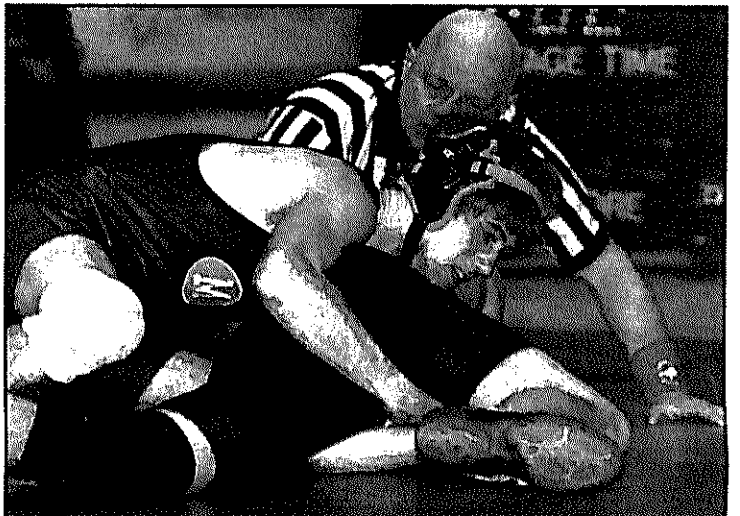
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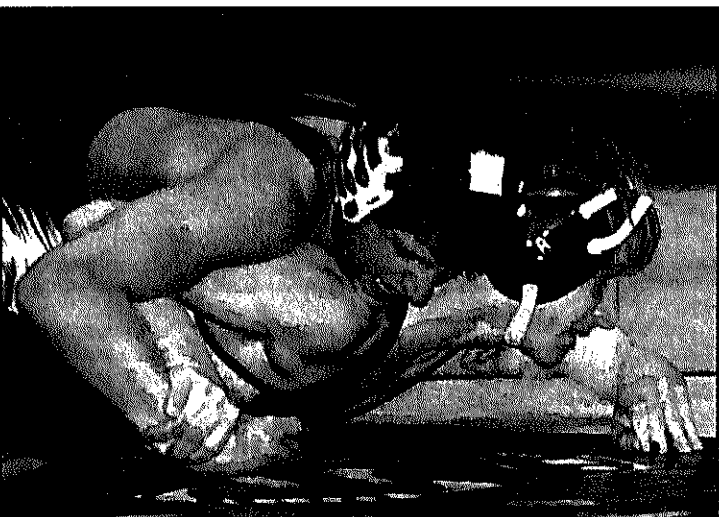
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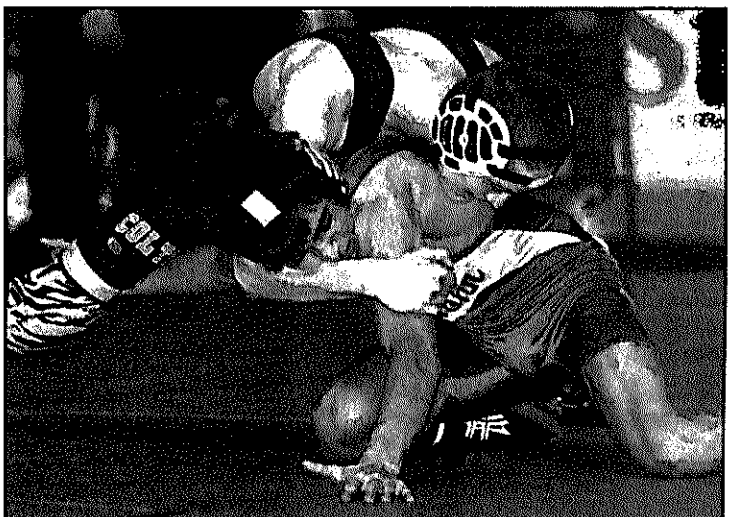
Meadowbrook's Justin Rossiter searches for a way to turn over Conotton Valley's Donnie Webb in 119-pound wrestling action on Friday in Wheeling. Rossiter recorded a pinfall at 3:25 in the match. He is 3-1 in the tourney and will wrestle Monday.



Wrestler Smith reaches for the leg of Steubenville's Mike Shreve during their 145-pound match on Friday at the Wheeling Civic Center. Smith pinned McKittrick in 4:28, but lost to Shreve. He will compete in the VAC event with a 2-2 record.



Cambridge 112-pound wrestler Jon Ray searches for a grip on Martins Ferry's Mike Shreve Friday during second round action of the 52nd Ohio Valley Athletic Wrestling Tournament. Shreve posted an 18-11 decision, but Ray still remains alive and will compete Monday with a 4-1 mark in the event.



Meadowbrook 103-pound wrestler Marvin Benson tries to get St. Johns' Greg Civin down on the mat during the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament. Benson pinned Civin at the 2:44 mark of the match. He is currently 2-1 and will compete Monday.



Twenty area wrestlers earn seeded berths for 52nd OVAC Wrestling Tournament

Cambridge has six seeds; Caldwell's Seebach gains No. 1 spot; event begins Thursday

JEFF HARRISON
THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

WHEELING, W.Va. — A total of 20 wrestlers from area schools received seeded berths for the 52nd annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament, which gets under way Thursday evening at WesBanco Arena.

Heading the list is Cambridge High, which was awarded six seeds for the OVAC extravaganza, which features nearly 500 wrestlers from 35 conference schools competing in the three-day tournament.

Three Bobcats earned No. 2 seeds in their respective weight classes, including freshman Paul Rose at 103 pounds (21-0); sophomore Sean Mahley at 130 (23-4); and junior Bobby Scurlock at 189 (18-3). Other seeded CHS grapplers include freshman Jon Ray, seventh at 112 (22-6); junior Dustin Daugherty, seventh at 119 (21-4); and freshman Chad Teague, eighth at 135 (16-11).

Three schools — Caldwell, Shenandoah and Beallsville — each had four seeded wrestlers.

For Caldwell, junior Justin Seebach (18-2) is the area's only No. 1 seed as he gained the top spot at in the 135-pound division (18-2). Other Redskin seeds are senior Derick Snyder, fourth at 160 (14-5); senior Corey Archer, fourth at 189 (16-5); and senior Corey Lemaster, fifth at 125 (19-1).

Shenandoah's quartet of seeds features junior John Horn, second at 215 (20-1); senior Corey Waite, fifth at 140 (11-4); senior Lucas Michel, seventh at 275 (19-3); and sophomore Richie Dodd, eighth at 119 (15-5).

The Barnesville contingent includes senior Kyle Smith, third at 160 (21-2); junior Bud Hines, fourth at 152 (15-3); junior Ryan Stephen, fifth at 112 (19-3); and sophomore Josh Smith, eighth at 145 (14-5).

Rounding out the local seeds are Meadowbrook senior duo of Mike Lehotay, third at 112 (24-2); and Marvin Benson, eighth

at 103 (21-4).

No less than eight of last year's champions return, with three of those looking to defend in the same weight class while the other five have moved up in weight.

That group includes James Myers of Indian Creek, last year's champion at 103 pounds (this year's No. 1 seed at 119); Abbey Rush of Wheeling Park, who won at 112 last year (seeded No. 2 at 125 this year); Willie Saxton of Buckeye Local, who looks to defend his title at 125 and is the No. 1 seed; Clay Tucker of Martins Ferry, last year's winner at 130 (this year's top seed at 140); Zack Schuller of Buckeye Local, the 2004 champion at 140 (this year's No. 1 seed at 145); Dana Davis of

Brooke, a defending champion and this year's top seed at 160; Chas Yoder of Martins Ferry, who captured last year's 170-pound title (No. 1 seed at 189 this year); and Cody Potts of Oak Glen, the defending champ and No. 1 seed at 215.

The event begins Thursday at 6 p.m. with the gala Olympic-style opening ceremony, following by the start

of wrestling action at 6:30.

On Friday, the first of two sessions begins at 11 a.m. and will feature second round matches. Later that day, starting at 5 p.m. will be quarterfinal bouts and early round consolations.

Saturday will also feature two sessions, the first beginning at noon featuring semifinal matches and more consolation rounds.

That sets the stage for the final session at 6 p.m., with a host of awards to be presented including the Mr. Mat Award; assistant and junior high coach awards; and the recognition of the 25th anniversary OVAC champions from 1980.

Wrestling action then resumes at 6:30 with the championship matches along with those to determine third through eight place in each division.

Oak Glen is the overall and Class 3-A defending champion. Other division winners last year were Buckeye Local in Class 4-A; Shenandoah in Class 2-A and St. John Central

in Class 1-A.

Tickets for the event are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students for the first four sessions, with single tickets for the final session costing \$7 for adults and \$4 for students. Ticket books for all five sessions are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students.

The championship bouts will be televised live Saturday night by WTOV-TV9.

Here's a look at the top eight seeded wrestlers in each weight class (name, school, grade, record):

103 — 1. Ronell Green (Wheeling Park), Sr., 24-3; 2. Paul Rose (Cambridge), Fr., 21-10; 3. Daniel Felton (Brooke), So., 20-3; 4. Jimmy Reisz (Beallsville), Fr., 20-1; 5. Chase Clark (Union Local), Fr., 24-3; 6. Ethan Dray (Oak Glen), Fr., 11-6; 7. Bryan Scammell (St. Clairsville), Sr., 19-7; 8. Marvin Benson (Meadowbrook), Sr., 21-4.

112 — 1. Anthony Duffield (East Liverpool), Sr., 25-2; 2. Chaz Clark (Union Local), Jr., 25-1; 3. Mike Lehotay (Meadowbrook), Sr., 24-2; 4. Stephen Jewell (Wheeling Park), So., 20-3; 5. Ryan Stephen (Barnesville), Jr., 19-3; 6. Bobby Morris (Steub. Central), Jr., 19-3; 7. Jon Ray (Cambridge), Fr., 22-6; 8. Rich Heslop (Bellaire), Jr., 20-8.

119 — 1. James Myers (Indian Creek), So., 20-4; 2. Ronnie Green (Wheeling Park), Jr., 29-1; 3. Tim Cumpston (Cameron), Sr., 21-3; 4. Derik Caudill (Beaver), Jr., 18-5; 5. Eric Moore (Harrison Central), So., 16-5; 6. Brandon Davis (Oak Glen), Jr., 14-6; 7. Dustin Daugherty (Cambridge), Jr., 21-4; 8. Richie Dodd (Shenandoah), So., 15-5.

125 — 1. Willie Saxton (Buckeye Local), Jr., 23-0; 2. Abbey Rush (Wheeling Park), Jr., 32-3; 3. Brandon Miller (Oak Glen), Sr., 20-1; 4. Logan Hartie (John Marshall), Sr., 29-2; 5. Corey Lemaster (Caldwell), Sr., 19-1; 6. Tony Carosiello (Wellsville), Sr., 9-1; 7. Corey Prickett (Moraine Central), So., 16-8; 8. Robbie Martin (Indian Creek), Sr., 11-3.

130 — 1. Nick Nicola (St. John's), Jr., 19-4; 2. Sean Mahley (Cambridge), So., 23-4; 3. Jared Shaw (Brooke), Sr., 20-5; 4. Craig Johnston (Indian Creek), So., 19-6; 5. KJ Furber (Shadyside), Jr., 23-6; 6. Zach Batich (Wheeling Central), Fr., 28-2; 7. David Bortz (Steub. Central), Sr., 19-3; 8. Chad Ware (Martins Ferry), Jr., 13-9.

135 — 1. Justin Seebach (Caldwell), Jr., 18-2; 2. Luke Hopple (Beaver), Jr., 15-5; 3. Andy Sine (Edison), Fr., 25-3; 4. Matt Aberreg (Beallsville), Sr., 17-2; 5. Clyde Jordan (Indian Creek), Jr., 17-4; 6. Lee Doyle (John Marshall), Sr., 21-8; 7. Justin Cataldo (Wellsville), Sr., 11-4; 8. Chad Teague (Cambridge), Fr., 16-11.

140 — 1. Clay Tucker (Martins Ferry), Sr., 20-1; 2. Jesse Mahan (Oak Glen), Jr., 19-3; 3. Shawn Dunn (Beaver), Sr., 18-4; 4. Tyler Prokopakis (Edison), So., 21-7; 5. Corey Waite (Shenandoah), Sr., 11-4; 6. Bryan Bilyeu (Beallsville), Jr., 17-3; 7. Justin Smithberger (Moraine Central), Sr., 15-7; 8. Matt Emery (Indian Creek), Jr., 10-5.

145 — 1. Zack Schuller (Buckeye Local), Jr., 21-2; 2. Zach Pendleton (Indian Creek), Jr., 10-4; 3. Jeff Pettit (Cameron), Fr., 23-2; 4. Brandon McCort (Bellaire), Sr., 26-4; 5. Brad Brooks (Harrison Central), Sr., 17-3; 6. Brad Bilyeu (Beallsville), Sr., 18-4; 7. Joel Timmons (Oak Glen), Jr., 12-9; 8. Josh Smith (Barnesville), Sr., 14-5.

152 — 1. Dustin Richie (John Marshall), Sr., 30-0; 2. Jeff Cumpston (Cameron), Sr., 14-0; 3. Billy Frolini (Shadyside), Sr., 25-2; 4. Bud Hines (Barnesville), Jr., 15-3; 5. John Perko (Bellaire), Sr., 21-3; 6. Luke Warren (Martins Ferry), Sr., 14-3; 7. Jonathan Stewart (Edison), So., 21-8; 8. Dan Dunn (Beaver), So., 4-2.

160 — 1. Dana Davis (Brooke), Sr., 25-0; 2. Rhett Northcraft (Oak Glen), Jr., 19-2; 3. Kyle Smith (Barnesville), Sr., 21-2; 4. Derick Snyder (Caldwell), Sr., 14-5; 5. Adam Cooper (Cameron), Sr., 17-5; 6. Luke Sulek (Bellaire), Sr., 24-6; 7. Donal Gianessi (Weir), Sr., 10-1; 8. Tyler Kinzy (Beallsville), Jr., 15-5.

171 — 1. Mitch Costa (Edison), Sr., 22-0; 2. Josh Cologie (Buckeye Local), Jr., 12-8; 3. Kyle Reeder (Beaver), Fr., 18-5; 4. David Fultz (Oak Glen), Sr., 16-5; 5. Artis Johnson (Bellaire), So., 26-6; 6. Jason Wright (River), Sr., 20-4; 7. Shawn Simmons (John Marshall), Sr., 21-8; 8. James Beach (Steubenville), Sr., 20-8.

189 — 1. Chas Yoder (Martins Ferry), Sr., 17-0; 2. Bobbie Scutlock (Cambridge), Jr., 18-3; 3. Chris Stevens (Oak Glen), Sr., 17-4; 4. Corey Archer (Caldwell), Sr., 16-5; 5. Nathan Loughran (Brooke), Sr., 23-4; 6. Luke Myers (River), Sr., 24-3; 7. Adam Cowser (Indian Creek), Sr., 15-10; 8. Mike Pratt (Indian Creek), Sr., 14-7.

215 — 1. Cody Potts (Oak Glen), Sr., 21-0; 2. John Horn (Shenandoah), Jr., 20-1; 3. Elijah Zeyer (Martins Ferry), Sr., 22-5; 4. Brandon Boyina (Indian Creek), Sr., 19-6; 5. Jimmy Bowersock (Beaver), 15-5; 6. Dirk Soland (Bellaire), Sr., 24-6; 7. Taylor Potts (John Marshall), Fr., 25-6; 8. Devin Dalaney (Brooke), Sr., 15-2.

275 — 1. Wesley Haslam (River), Sr., 25-0; 2. Maurice Hines (Indian Creek), Jr., 9-1; 3. Kevin Staub (Wheeling Park), Sr., 26-3; 4. Ralph Petrella (Steubenville), Jr., 26-3; 5. Jeremiah Hittnerman (Edison), Jr., 24-4; 6. Andrew Corder (Harrison Central), Jr., 16-3; 7. Lucas Michel (Shenandoah), Sr., 19-3; 8. Eric Diagosta (East Liverpool), So., 15-5.



Cambridge third after opening round of 52nd OVAC Wrestling Tourney

WHEELING, W.Va. — It was a good opening night for the Cambridge High wrestling squad which finds itself in third place overall after one round of the 52nd Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament at WesBanco Arena.

Defending overall champion Oak Glen is the first-day leader with 43.5 points. Wheeling Park is second with 36 points while Cambridge is third with 31.

Park leads in Class 4-A, with Cambridge second; Oak Glen is the frontrunner in 3-A, with Bellaire second with 30 points; Shenandoah leads in 2-A with 23 points, with Caldwell second with 20 points; and Cameron is first in 1-A with 28 points, with Beallsville second with 18 points.

Only four of the 112 seeded wrestlers were upended in the first round. Those matches included Shadyside's Jeff Trigg over sixth-seeded Bobby Morris of Steubenville Central, 5-2, at 112 pounds; Justin Rossiter of Meadowbrook over eighth-seeded Richie Dodd of Shenandoah by pinfall in 2:43 at 119 pounds;

Dean Hombeck of East Liverpool over seventh-seeded Matt Emery of Indian Creek, 5-2, at 140 pounds; David Gianessi of Weir over eight-seeded Dan Dunn of Beaver Local, 2-0, at 152 pounds.

First-day winners on the mat for Cambridge included Paul Rose at 103 pounds; Jon Ray at 112; Dustin Daugherty at 119; Dan Ray at 125; Sean Mahley at 130; Chad Teague at 135; Kirk Wetherell at 152; Bobby Scurlock at 189; and John Nicolozakis at 275.

Winners for Meadowbrook were Mike Lehotay at 112 pounds; Justin Rossiter at 119; Nate Furry at 140 and Josh Rossiter at 152.

Shenandoah grapplers posting wins on Thursday included Jesse Brown at 112 pounds; Justin Rossiter at 130; Chris Crock at 145; Jacob Zerkle at 171; John Horn at 215 and Lucas Michel at 275.

For Caldwell, first round winners included

Lee Dimmering at 119; Corey Lemaster at 125; Justin Seebach at 135; Derek Snyder at 160; Matt Ogle at 171; and Corey Archer at 189;

Barnesville wrestlers winning on the mat included Ryan Stephens at 112 pounds; Josh Smith at 145; Bud Hines at 152; and Kyle Smith at 160.

In a couple of tournament side-lights, Buckeye Local's Willie Saxton, the No. 1 seed at 125 pounds, failed to make weight; and Oak Glen's Ethan Dray registered a lightning eight-second pin in his first 103-pound bout.

NEXT—Action resumed today at 11 a.m. with second round bouts. A second session begins at 5 p.m. and includes quarterfinals and early round consolations. On Saturday, the first session at noon features semifinals and more consolations while the final round, which will determine the first through eighth place finishers in each division, begins at 6 p.m.



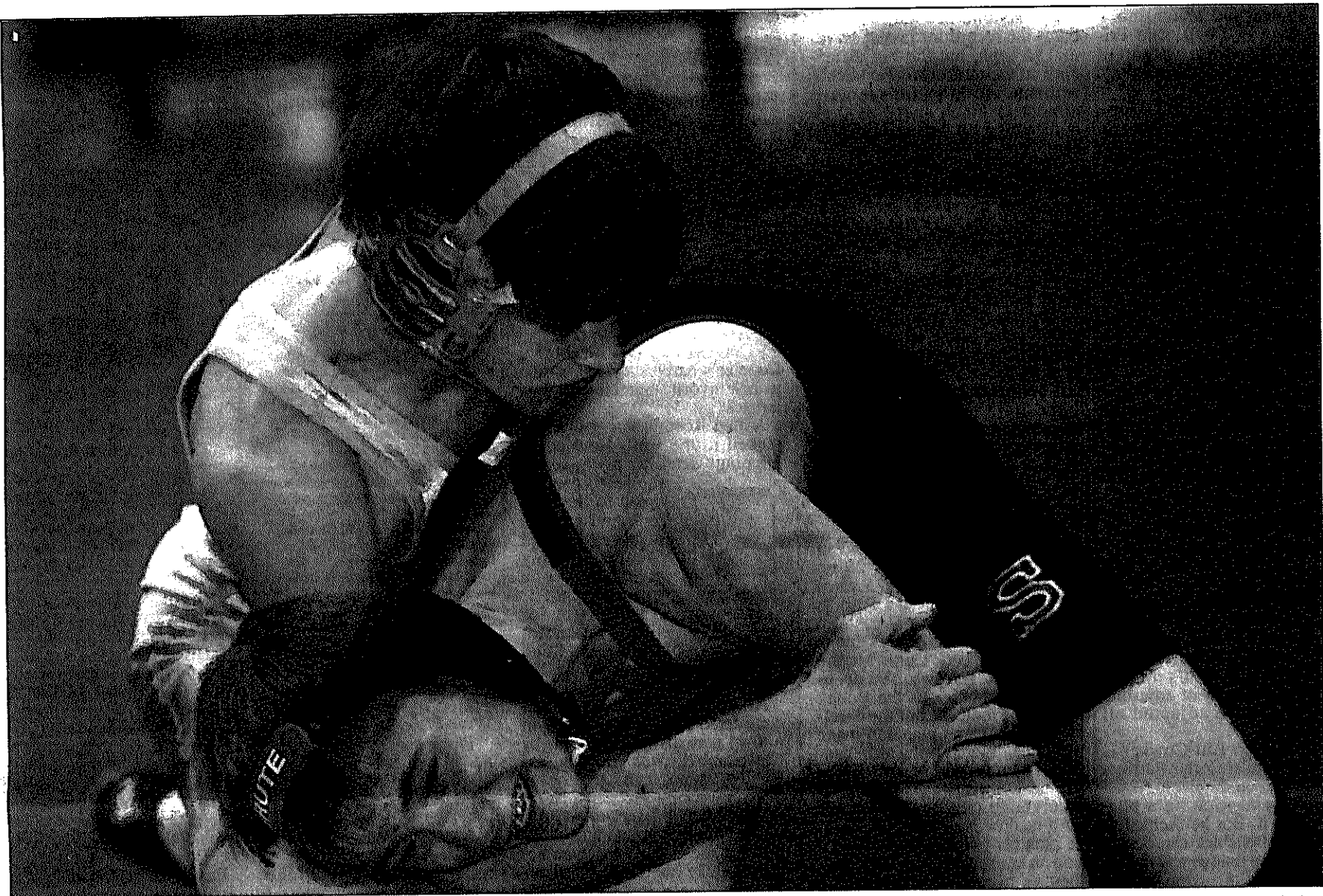


Photo by Scott McCloskey

Oak Glen's Dirk Baker, top, gains position over Steubenville's Bob Smlth during their 130-pound bout Thursday at the OVAC wrestling tournament at WesBanco Arena. Baker won the match by fall in the second period.

Golden Bears on Top

By **JIM ELLIOTT**
Staff Writer

The Oak Glen Golden Bears had 12 wrestlers pull through unscathed, and they grabbed a lead over Wheeling Park in the first day of the 2004-05 OVAC wrestling tournament Thursday at WesBanco Arena.

It was a performance that left veteran Oak Glen head coach Larry Shaw with mixed emotions.

He thought his guys were a little sloppy, and he felt the Wheeling Park, the team he identified as one of the tournament's biggest threats, made a statement.

Heading into today's action, the Golden Bears have 43.5 points, followed by the Patriots (36), Cambridge (31), Bellaire (30), Edison (29), Cameron (28), Martins Ferry (27.5), Indian Creek (25), Brooke (23.5), and Shenandoah (23).

Action picks up today at 11 a.m. with championship second round and consolation action.



OVAC Report

"We showed either a little nervousness or we wrestled a little tight," Shaw said of his own group. "We might have been a little rusty, it's been a week since we wrestled a match. Hopefully, (Thursday) we got that out of the way and (today) we'll loosen up a little bit.

Shaw then offered up some praise for Gene Monteleone's Park squad.

"Wheeling Park's the big threat," Shaw said. "I've thought that for a while ... Park has four lightweights and a heavyweight that can go a long ways.

Please See **GOLDEN**, Page 14

JM's Richey guns for first title

John Marshall's Dustin Richey has accomplished a lot in his high school wrestling career.

He's a two-time W.Va. state champion. He recently recorded his 100th career win. He ends matches before the first bead of sweat even thinks of surfacing on his skin.

But he's never been an OVAC champion.

And that kinda bothers him. Richey has been real close a couple of times and appears to be on a mission this weekend.

"I was runner-up two years in a row," he said. "I want to win it now."



JIM ELLIOTT
Wrestling Notebook

Richey is a thinker and a finisher. "I have a plan before I go in," he said. "And I try to finish everything I had planned going into a match."

Please See **ELLIOTT**, Page 14

Golden

(Continued from Page 13)

"And they've got a lot of other guys that can score for them."

That was certainly the case Thursday as the Patriots' Ronnell Green (103), Stephen Jewell (112), Ronnie Green (119), and Abbie Rush, who moved up one spot to the top seed at 125 when Buckeye Local's Willie Saxton failed to make weight, all recorded falls. The combined time elapse on those four matches was less than 4 minutes. Park had nine wrestlers win a match Thursday.

Monteleone said Shaw approached him with similar words.

"He said, 'you're the team to beat.' I said, 'that's nice' because I respect Larry and his program. If we can get to that level, we can be OK."

Oak Glen is still the defending champ, though. And it's still out in front.

"We're going to have to wrestle really hard," Shaw said. "(Thursday) was about our seeds getting those bonus points,

getting those falls, those tech falls, things like that. We accomplished that for the most part."

Ethan Dray, at 1:03, recorded an 8-second fall over Tyler Morgan of Cameron for Oak Glen, quite a tone-setter. Other Bears recording falls were: Brandon Davis (119), Dirk Baker (130), Zack Six (135), Jesse Mahan (140), Rhett Northcraft (160), David Foltz (171), Chris Stevens (189), and Cody Potts (215). Brandon Miller added a tech fall over Edison's Blake Widmann at 125.

Indian Creek, which came into Thursday's action tied with Oak Glen for the most seeded wrestlers had the type of day their coach, Mike Blackburn, expected.

Wrestling without entrants at 103 and 112, the Redskins didn't figure to make a big first-day splash. They sit in eighth place after defending champion James Myers got them off to a good start by recording a fall over Weir's Wesley Barnes in 1:43 in their 119-pound bout. Robbie Martin (125), Clyde Jordan

(135), Adam Cowser (189), and Maurice Hines (HWT) all added falls for the Redskins.

"We won't be real high in the standings (Thursday)," Blackburn correctly predicted. "But we'll gradually make up the points as long as our guys keep winning."

Leading the way for third-place Cambridge was unbeaten 103-pounder Paul Rose, who recorded a fall over John Marshall's Skip Ingram in just 54 seconds.

Artis Johnson, Bellaire's 171-pounder, had a lot of points racked up against Meadowbrook's Jimmy Keyser before pinning him at 3:34. Mitch Costa, the top seed at 171, helped Edison off to a fast start, as he pinned Harrison Central's Kevin Mallernee at 2:56.

Tim Cumpston helped Cameron get off on the right foot with a fall over John Marshall's P.J. Thomas in bout at 119 pounds. Both of Martins Ferry's top seeds Clay Tucker at 140 and Chas Yoder at 189, breezed through the opening round.

Weather delays OVAC Wrestling Tournament

Oak Glen overall leader; Cambridge fourth; Caldwell leads Class 2-A

JEFF HARRISON
THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

WHEELING, W.Va. — Although Mother Nature and Jack Frost put the 52nd annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference on a 48-hour delay, the action has been fierce and local teams are making a pretty impressive showing.

Saturday morning's snowfall forced OVAC officials to push the final day of action back to Monday, with the same schedule expected to be followed. That means weigh-ins at WesBanco Arena will be at 10 a.m., with championship semifinal bouts as well as more consolation round action starting at noon.

That will set the stage for the final round of wrestling action

at 6 p.m. when the first through eight place finishers in each of the 14 weight classes will be determined.



In the overall team scoring after Friday's action, defending champion Oak Glen is on top with 130.5 points, but both Wheeling Park (124) and Martins Ferry (123.5) are on the Golden Bears' heels.

Cambridge High is in fourth position with 99.5 points while John Marshall (92.5) rounds out the overall top five.

Oak Glen, of course, sets the pace in Class 3-A with Martins Ferry in close pursuit; Wheeling Park leads the Class 4-A division, with Cambridge currently second; Caldwell has moved on top in Class 2-A with 79.5 points, with Barnesville (73) and Shenandoah (61) next in line; and Cameron leads Class 1-A with 73.5 points, well ahead of second place Beallsville (40.5).

Cambridge has seven of its 14 wrestlers still alive, including a pair who are unbeaten so far and in the championship semifinal round. Second-seeded Paul Rose has three wins at 103 pounds, including pins in 54

seconds and 1:39 and an 18-3 technical fall while second-seeded Sean Mahley is 3-0 at 130 pounds, including a 59-second pinfall and technical falls won by 16-0 and 16-1 scores.

Also in the running to place for coach Tom "Tank" Moore's Bobcats is second-seeded Bobby Scurlock, who has won four of five matches at 189 pounds but suffered the tournament's biggest upset so far when he dropped a 3-2 overtime decision to James Harris of Buckeye Local in the second round.

Other Bobcats who have posted four wins in five matches and are still wrestling are seventh-seeded Jon Ray at 112; Kirk Wetherell at 152 and John Nicolozakes at 275. Seventh-seeded Dustin Daugherty joins that group with a 3-1 mark at

119.

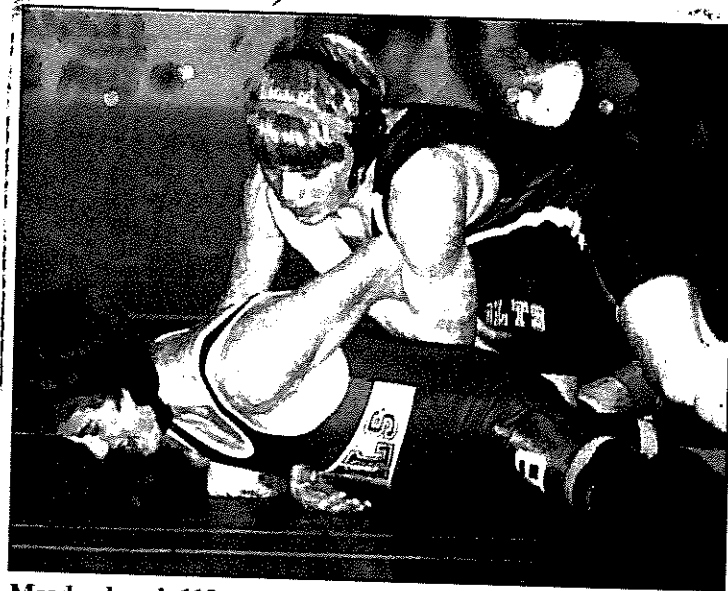
Bobcat grapplers eliminated include Dan Ray at 125 (3-2 in the tournament); eighth-seeded Chad Teague at 135 (2-2); Jamaal Lowery at 160 (2-2); Jake Garvin at 171 (1-2); Brad Bertubin at 140 (0-2); James Beatty at 145 (0-2) and Justin Britnell at 215 (0-2).

"As young as we are, this team is far exceeding my expectations," Cambridge's Moore offered. "We had one bad round

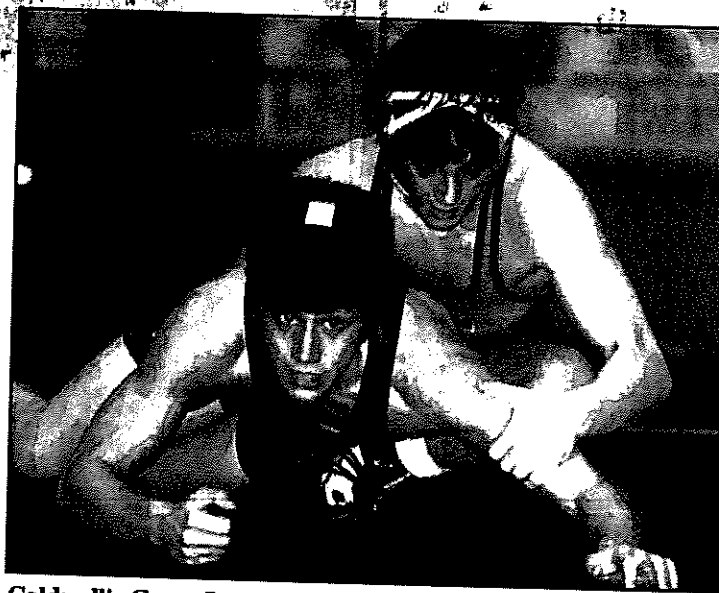
yesterday (Friday) morning, but the kids came back and wrestled their butts off in the evening. We had some momentum going, but the weather intervened so we'll have to get back in the groove for Monday. We'll probably work out Sunday and get them mentally ready to go."

Moore & Co. have their sights set on achieving the best-ever finish for Cambridge at the

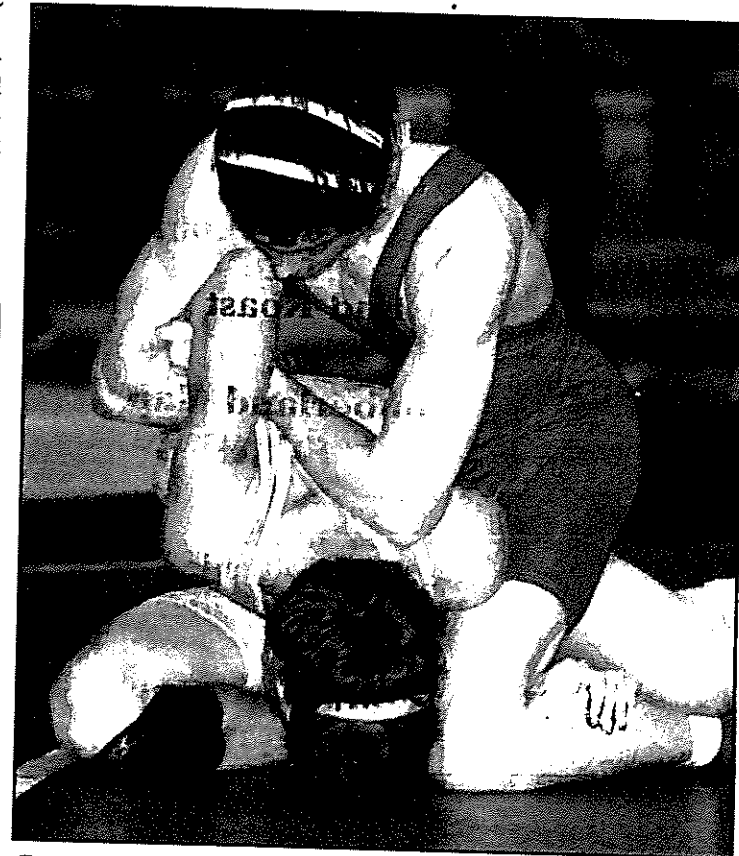
See OVAC page B-3



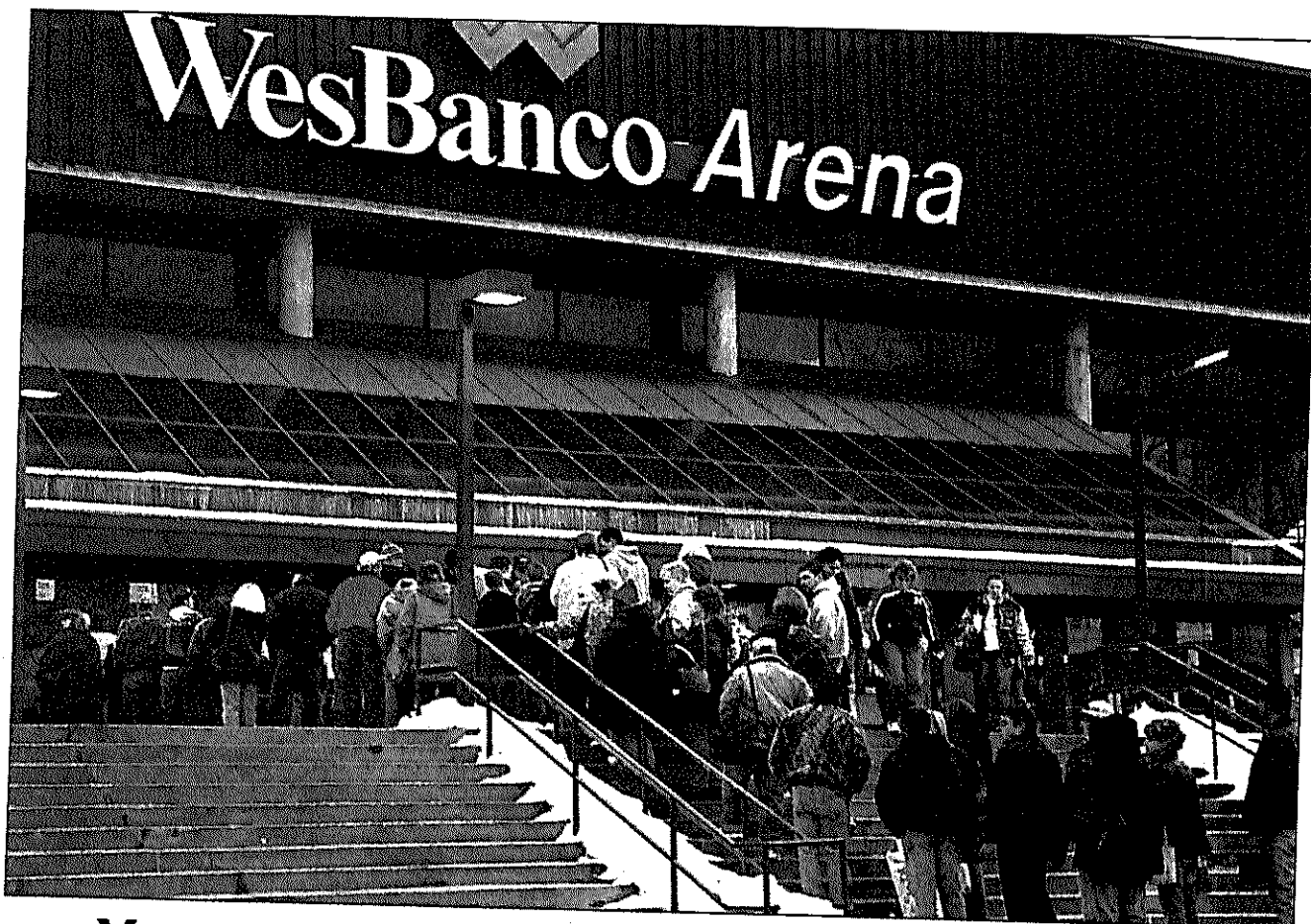
Meadowbrook 112-pounder Mike Lehotay keeps a firm hold on the arm of Beallsville's Jed Marling on Friday morning in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament in Wheeling. The third-seeded Lehotay won the match with a pinfall at 1:03. He is 3-0 and will participate in the championship semifinals on Monday.



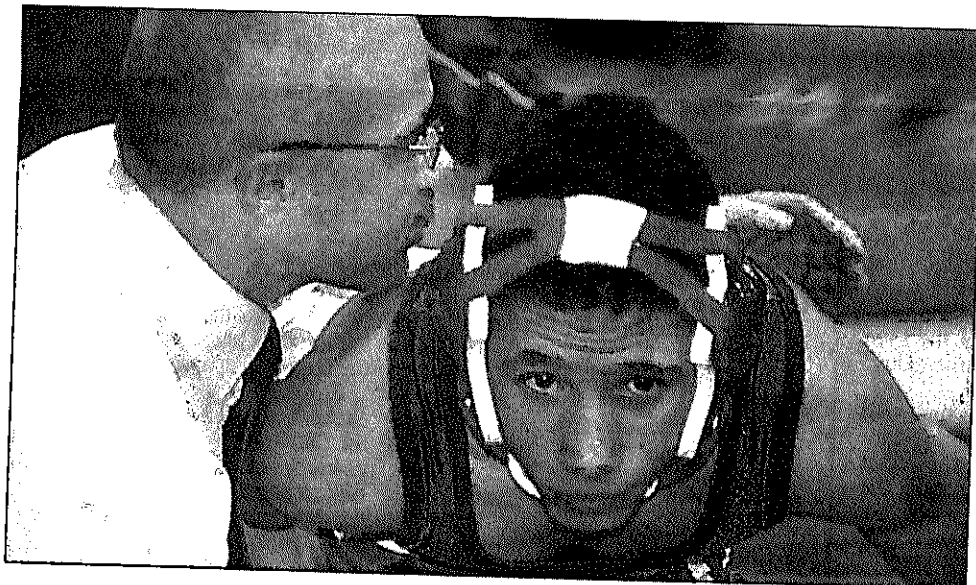
Caldwell's Corey Lemaster, top, and Cambridge's Dan Ray met in 125-pound second round action at the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament in Wheeling on Friday. Lemaster carded an 8-0 major decision. Ray bowed out of tournament action with a 3-2 mark. Lemaster, the fourth seed, is still alive at 3-0 and will compete in the semifinals on Monday.



Cambridge's Sean Mahley puts an arm bar on Oak Glen's Dirk Baker during their 130-pound match on Friday at the Wheeling Civic Center. Mahley and Baker were two of hundreds of grapplers competing in the 52nd Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tournament. Mahley, the second-seeded wrestler in his class, pocketed a 16-0 technical fall in the match. He is currently 3-0 and will be in action on Monday.

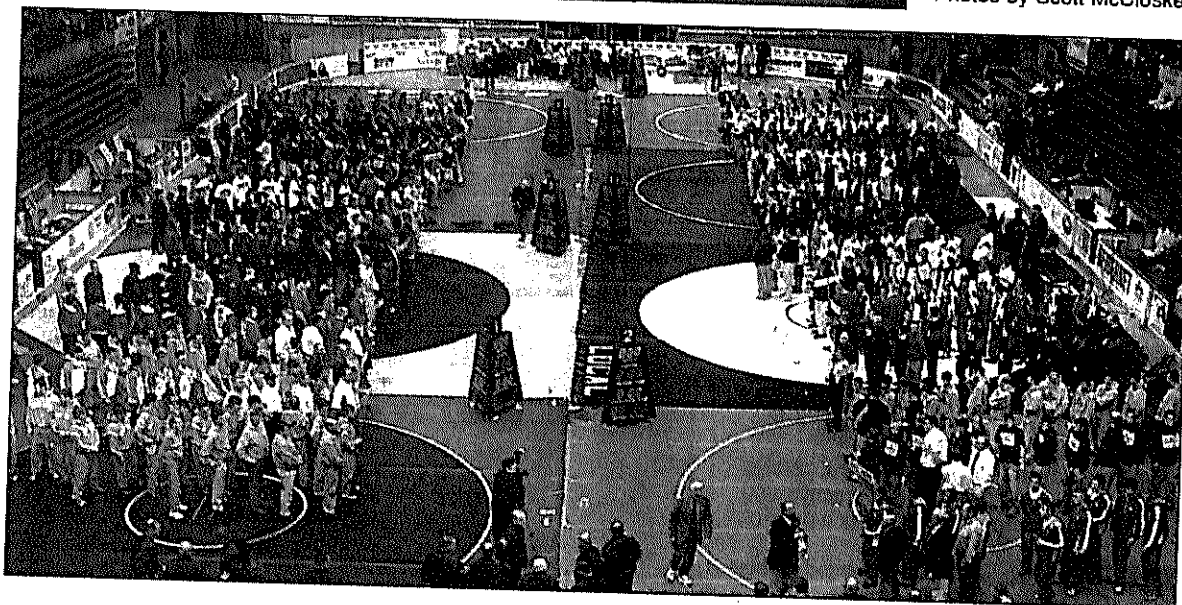


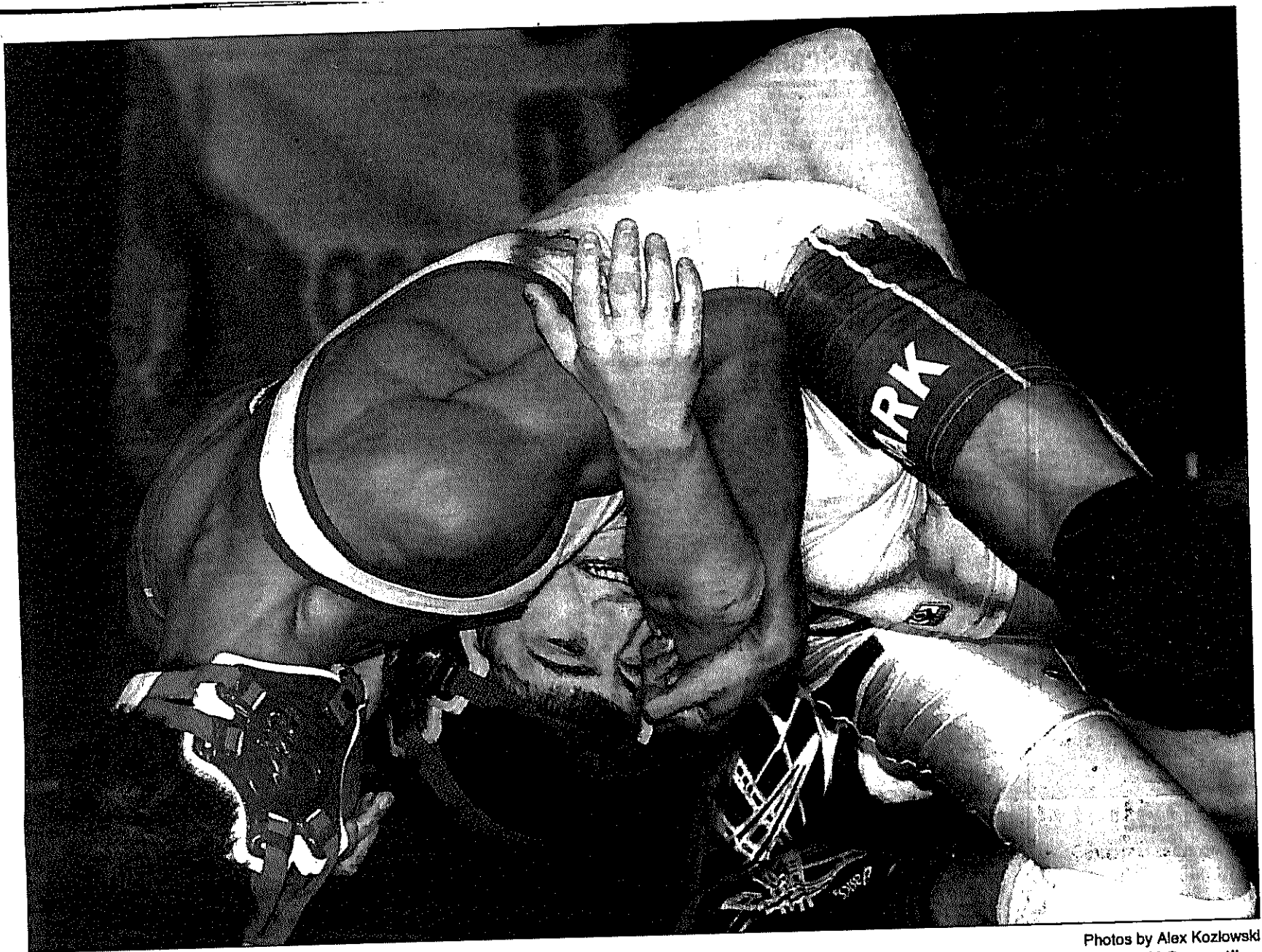
YOUNG ATHLETES CONVERGE ON WHEELING



TOP: Thousands of fans wait in line for the annual OVAC wrestling tournament at WesBanco Arena in Wheeling.
MIDDLE: Ronnel Green, who wrestles in the 103-pound weight class at Wheeling Park High School, receives instructions from coach Gene Monteleone prior to his opening match at the tournament.
BOTTOM: Wrestlers from the high schools participating in the tournament take part in the opening ceremonies for this year's event.

Photos by Scott McCloskey





Photos by Alex Kozlowski

Wheeling Park's Ronell Green and Brooke's Daniel Felton get tangled up during their 103-pound championship bout in the OVAC wrestling tournament Monday at WesBanco Arena. Felton came away with a 7-6 decision.

Bears Take Title

Oak Glen holds off Ferry, Park; Riders' Tucker grabs solo spotlight

By JIM ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

Larry Shaw and the Oak Glen Golden Bears stole the team spotlight and Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker grabbed the individual limelight Monday, as the 52nd annual OVAC wrestling tournament came to a close at WesBanco Arena.

The Golden Bears wrapped up their second consecutive title — and third in the last four years — as they piled up 220.5 points, 22.5 more than second-place Martins Ferry (198) and 31.5 more than third-place Wheeling Park (189).

"I had said the first two days that I felt

we'd wrestled pretty tight and just didn't get after it," Shaw said. "(Monday) we came right out and got right after it. It seemed like our kids just relaxed."

Tucker, meanwhile, was wrestling at 140 pounds, but proved to be in a class of his own.

The crowd rose to its feet as Tucker became just the fifth wrestler in the 52-year history of the OVAC tournament to win four titles when he recorded a major decision (15-4) over Shawn Dunn of Beaver Local.

"I started when I was a freshman," Tucker said. "After I won it then, it was a goal of mine that I set and wanted to keep going. It feels good to get a

lot of pressure off and get that goal accomplished."

Looking on during the match was another member of the exclusive group, Mark Emmerling. Emmerling is Beaver Local's head coach and was the first to congratulate Tucker (now 23-1).

Tucker was named as the David Bierkorte Award winner, given annually to the tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler.

"I really wanted that," Tucker said. "I wasn't too sure coming in, but I set my mind on it, and it feels really good to get it."

Please See BEARS, Page 18



Tucker



Shuller



Potts



Northcraft

(Continued from Page 15)

Dunn, a No. 3 seed who earlier in the tournament picked up his 100th career victory, was third in last year's tourney at 135.

For Oak Glen, which had two individual champions — junior Rhett Northcraft at 160 and senior Cody Potts at 215 — it was business as usual.

As much as anything else, Shaw said, maybe Saturday's postponement of the tournament helped.

"Getting away from this for a day gave them a chance to relax a little bit mentally and refocus," Shaw said.

The Bears probably locked things up during Monday's early action, when they won four of five semifinal matches and advanced in four of five consolation matches.

"That round was huge," Shaw said. "Advancing four into the finals gave us some distance between Ferry and Park — it wasn't over — but it made it tough for them to catch up at that point."

The Bears also had two OVAC runners-up in Chris Stevens at 189 and Brandon Miller at 125.

Shaw said this isn't getting any easier, even if it looks that way.

"Being the favorite brings with it its own price," he said. "The stress levels are up, the target is on our back. The kids seem to take it better than I do, but the good thing about high school sports is they have their time and they move on, and new kids come along and they want to accomplish good things."

"It's exciting of course. I'm proud of our team and it was a super team effort. I can't say enough about the kids."

Wheeling Park and Martins Ferry each had two individual champions.

The winners of the individual OVAC classes were: Wheeling Park in Class AAAA (189); Oak Glen in Class AAA (220.5); Caldwell in Class AA (105.5); and Cameron in Class A (110.5)

Individual championships

■ At 103, Brooke's Daniel Felton, now 25-3 on the season, recorded a 7-6 decision over Wheeling Park's Ronnell Green (28-4), the top seed going in. Green tied the match with a reversal with just 30 seconds remaining, but Felton pulled ahead with a reversal of his own 11 seconds later.

Green's furious rally in the last 10 seconds resulted in one point (an escape), but wasn't enough. It was Felton's first OVAC victory after placing sixth in last year's tournament.

■ East Liverpool coach Ken Parker had a feeling Anthony Duffield wouldn't have much trouble winning the 112-pound weight class — and he didn't.

Duffield, an OVAC runner-up last year and two-time state tournament qualifier, improved his record to 30-2 with a tech fall (18-2) over Meadowbrook's Mike Lehotay.

Lehotay, the No. 3 seed coming in, fell to 28-3 on the season.

■ At 119, top seed Ronnie Green of Wheeling Park had a little payback for Indian Creek's James Myers. The two met in last year's final at 103, and again a year and 16 pounds later.

This time, Green was able to claim a 4-3 decision over Myers.

Green, now 31-1 on the season, is a defending W.Va. Class AAA champion.

Myers, who finished fifth in last year's Ohio state tournament, is now 24-5 on the season.

■ Wheeling Park's Abbie Rush, the top seed at 125, made it two in a row for the Patriots as he secured his third consecutive OVAC title with a 3-0 decision over Oak Glen's Miller. Rush, a junior who won the title at 112 last year, improved to 37-3 on the season.

Miller, the second seed coming into the tournament, is now 23-3 on the season, one year after winning an individual state championship for the nine-time defending W.Va. Class AA-A state champions.

■ Bellaire St. John's junior Mick Nicola claimed his second OVAC championship and stayed



Costa



Green



Michel



Nicola



Richey



Rush



Seebach



Yoder



Felton



Duffield

unbeaten on the season with a 5-2 decision over Sean Mahley of Cambridge in their 130-pound championship bout.

Nicola, a 2002 OVAC champion as a freshman at 112, finished third last year. His emphatic takedown of Mahley with 13 seconds left proved how happy he was to be back on top.

Mahley, now 27-5, was fifth in last year's tourney at 112.

■ Caldwell's Justin Seebach picked a special way to deliver career victory No. 99 as he lived up to his billing as the top seed at 130 with a 3-0 decision over Beaver Local's Luke Hoppel.

Seebach, now 23-2 on the season, finished fifth in last year's tournament at 125.

Hoppel, now 22-6, was the No. 2 seed coming in after finishing third at 119 last year. He's a four-time place-winner in the OVACs.

■ Buckeye Local's Zack Shuller (now 26-2) flexed his arms and let out a big sigh of relief after he finally got the pin he'd been working for against fifth-seeded Brad Brooks of Harrison Central at 4:26 of their 145-pound bout.

It was the third consecutive OVAC title for the Buckeye Local's top-seeded junior, who was named as the Hercules Award winner, given to the wrestler with the most — and the fastest — pins in the tourney. Shuller breezed through the event pinning every wrestler he faced. Brooks fell to 21-4.

■ John Marshall's Dustin Richey not only got the proverbial monkey off his back, but also Cameron senior Jeff Cumpston as he won his first OVAC title at 152.

Richey, a two-time W.Va. state champion who is now 36-0 on the season, had been a runner-up twice in the OVAC tournament before recording a major decision (13-2) over Cumpston, now 18-1.

It was the only matchup in the finals that featured two unbeaten wrestlers.

Cumpston, a sixth-place finisher in the OVAC tournament last year, won a W.Va. state title as a

junior. ■ Oak Glen's Northcraft put an end to the unblemished season of defending OVAC champion Dana Davis at 160, as he was able to record a wild 21-14 decision.

Davis, who had an inspiring run through last year's OVAC tourney as he went from sixth seed to champion, could never get the fall he was looking for.

Northcraft weathered many of Davis' shots, and often times worked them into reversal and escape points as he grabbed a lead down the stretch.

Northcraft, Oak Glen's first individual champion of the evening, is now 24-3 on the season. He was a W.Va. State champion last year. Davis is now 27-1.

"What can you say about that match," Shaw said. "It was I'm sure very pleasing to the crowd and it was for us too. Rhett's a guy who is never out of it. He got down early, but he just kept battling. His style is a lot of flurries and flipping around. While it might look like he's out of control, I see that every day in the practice room. That's just the way he wrestles, the higher the tempo, the more points, the more activity, the more it's going to favor Rhett."

"He's got fabulous balance, he's got good wrestling smarts, good wrestling sense, and he sure showed us all of that tonight."

■ At 171, Edison's Mitch Costa, the top seed, claimed his first OVAC title as he held off Josh Cologie of Buckeye Local by a 7-4 count.

Costa, still unbeaten, had never finished higher than sixth in the tourney (last year at 160).

It was the third time Costa and Cologie had met in high school competition with Costa coming away victorious in all three of them.

Cologie, a junior, improved on his seventh-place finish of a year ago, when he was a 160-pounder. He's now 16-9 on the season.

■ For the second straight year, Chas Yoder joined Tucker as an OVAC champion from Martins Ferry.

Yoder, a two-time OVAC champion and three-time placer, was able to record the pin with just 6 seconds left in the match after a series of takedowns left few things in doubt in their bout at 189. That lifted his record to an unblemished 22-0.

Stevens, the No. 3 seed coming in who finished fourth in the OVAC tourney a year ago, is now 21-5 on the season.

■ Oak Glen's Potts was able to escape — literally — with his second consecutive OVAC championship. Potts, on bottom in a sudden-death overtime situation, easily escaped a hold from third-seeded Elijah Zeyer of Martins Ferry.

The win was the 26th of the season vs. zero defeats for Potts, who raised his arm in celebration just as the referee did the same, awarding the escape point after Potts quickly twisted and turned to his feet.

"It went about like Cody wants to go," Shaw said. "He's tremendously talented and has been tremendously successful in the program."

Zeyer is now 25-6 on the season.

■ Shenadoah's Lucas Michel, the seventh-seeded heavyweight, was able to upset top-seeded Wes Haslam of River, as he handed Haslam, a three-time OVAC place-winner, his first loss of the season.

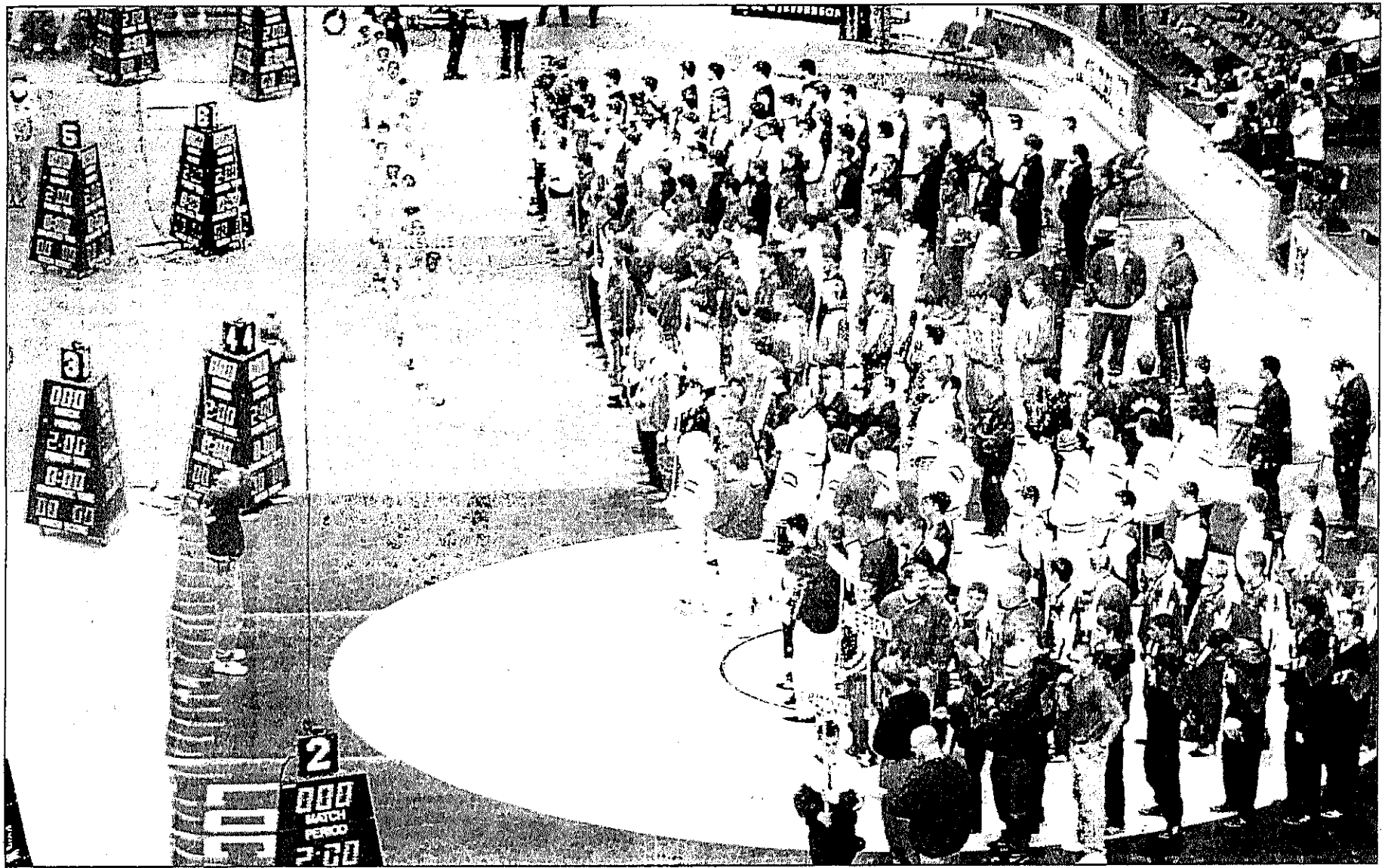
Michel (29-3) is now a two-time OVAC place-winner.

Notes

■ Indian Creek's wrestling team was honored with the Bob Sadler Sportsmanship Award, an award given to the team that displays the true spirit of OVAC wrestling sportsmanship. The Redskins are coached by Mike Blackburn.

■ Ray Marling of Bellaire was named the Official of the Year by the OVAC.

He was presented with the award by Bill Welker.



Oak Glen leading OVAC tourney

• Park sitting in second

By RICK DeLUCA
Times Leader Sports Writer

Any year on any day of the OVAC Wrestling Tournament there are surprises. Some big ones and some not so big.

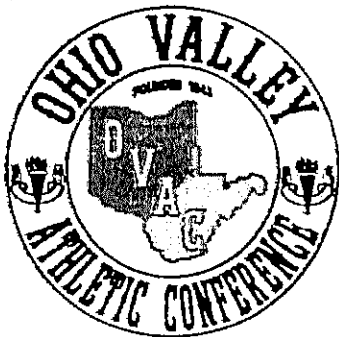
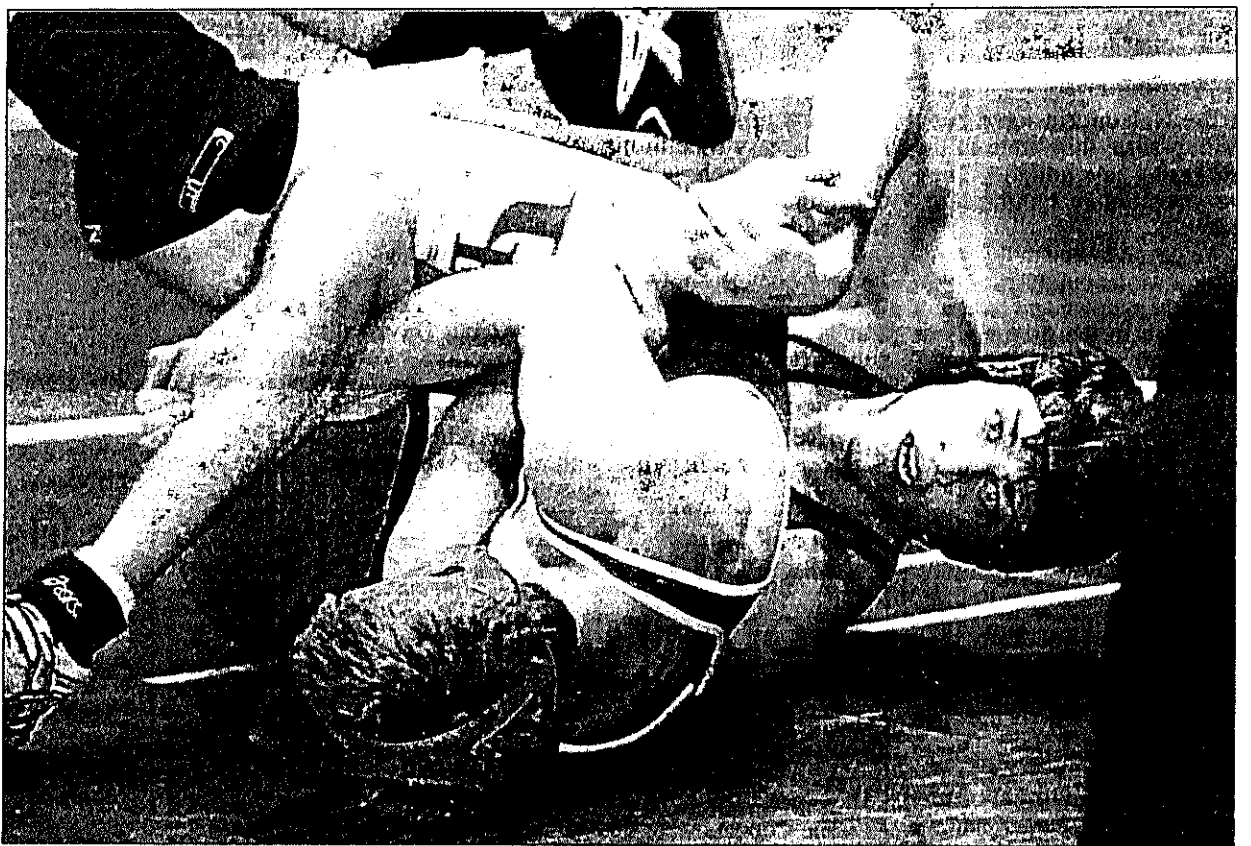
It is certainly no surprise that coach Larry Shaw's defending OVAC and West Virginia state champion Oak Glen Golden Bears are riding atop the leader board after one day of the OVAC tourney.

It is somewhat of a surprise that Wheeling Park is deep in the thick of things and an early threat to possibly dethrone the Bears after an impressive first day.

It is also somewhat of a surprise that Indian Creek, matching Oak Glen with seeded wrestlers and on the heels of a very strong showing in the first half of the season, is just fourth in Class 3-A and eighth overall after the first day.

Then again the biggest surprise is the number of wrestlers that failed to make weight and how much of an impact it had on last year's runnerup, Buckeye Local.

"The lightweights have been carrying us all year, now we need some of the bigger guys to step up," a



T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH

TOP PHOTO: The Olympic-style opening ceremonies at the 52nd Annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament take place Thursday night at WesBanco Arena. The event continues throughout today and will conclude tomorrow night with the finals.

ABOVE: Monroe Central's Justin Smithberger (back) is in control of Union Local's Jake Rebecca during action Thursday night in the 140-pound weight class. Smithberger posted a 15-0 victory in the match.

● OVAC

Continued from Page B1

cautiously optimistic Wheeling Park coach Gene Monteleone said after the first day of wrestling in the OVACs. "I'm very satisfied with our aggressiveness so far."

"So far, I think every guy that has won and I think that we have had eight guys win, that have won by pin," the Patriots' coached pointed out. "I think we lost three in the first round, but we'll be OK in the wrestle back with those guys."

"You get that the domino effect. When guys start winning, winning takes care of itself. They go back and pat each other on the back and that helps us get out to a really good start," he added.

"I don't know Oak Glen or anyone else did, but in a tournament you can't worry about everybody else, you just go out and wrestle one match at a time and hopefully that will be enough," Monteleone said.

Park stayed on the heels of the Golden Bears through the first night and finished with 36 points, just 7.5 points behind the leaders, but five ahead of third place Cambridge with 31.

With their quick jump out of the blocks, the Patriots were able to take the lead in Class 4-A over Cambridge and Edison (29) and Brooke (23.5).

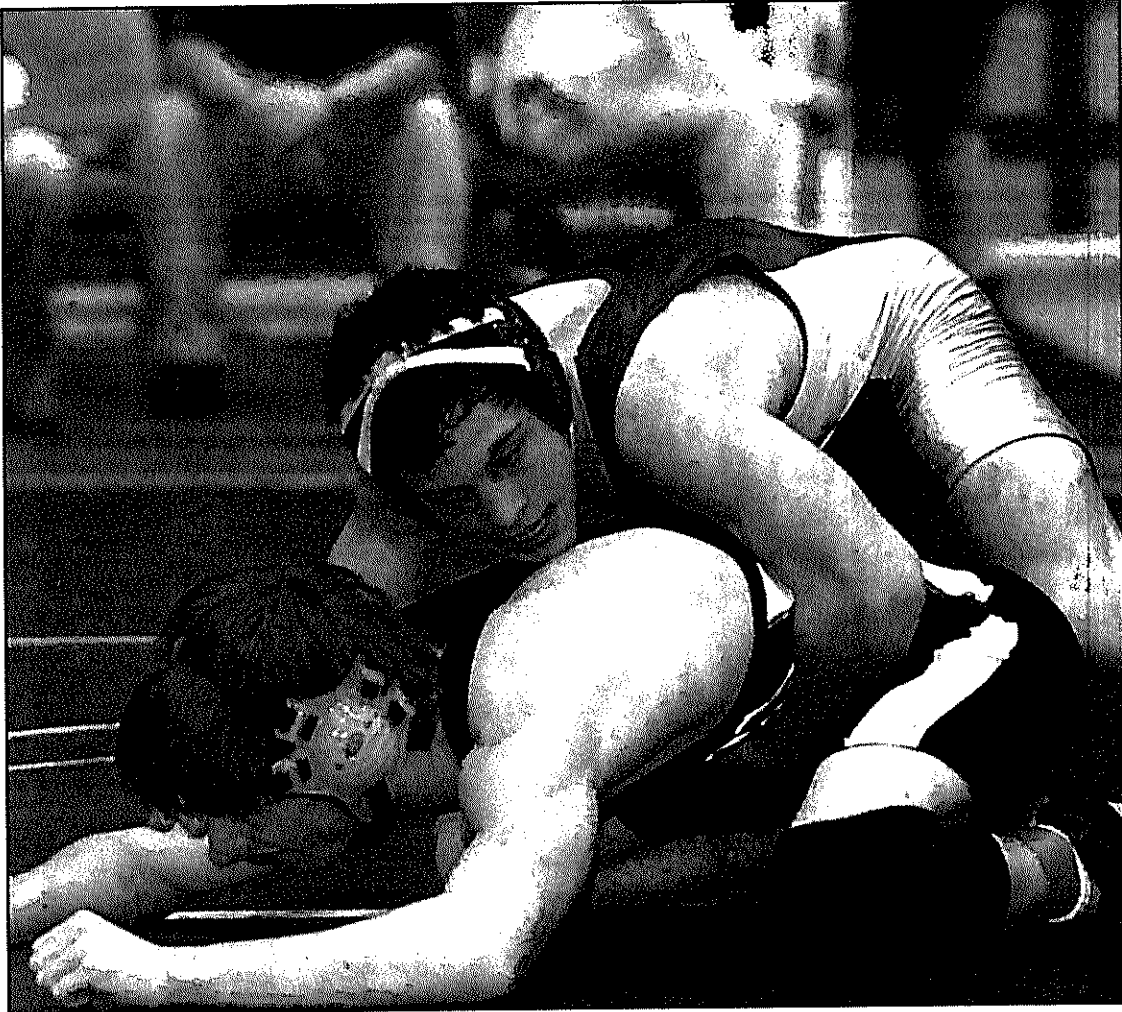
Oak Glen, a team that has dominated West Virginia state wrestling more than it has dominated the OVAC, has a big lead over Bellaire (30) and Martins Ferry (27.5) and Indian Creek (25) in the Class 3-A battle.

Shenandoah, who has developed in to one of the better Class 2-A wrestling programs in the conference, has built a slim lead over second place Caldwell, 23-20. River and Monroe Central are next with 13.5 and 13 points, respectively.

To no one's surprise, coach Jim Potts' Cameron Dragons hold a 10-point lead in Class 1-A, amassing 28 points and leading Beallsville. Cameron is in sixth place overall, just three points from third.

"Coming back from third or four years ago, we had six or seven kids in the program, we've come a long way," Monteleone added about his Patriot squad. "We've had a pretty good year, we've only lost two dual meets, won one tournament and finished third and fourth in the other two tournaments that we have been in."

"The Rushes and the Greens



T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH
TOP PHOTO: Martins Ferry's Derrick Holt (top) battles Edison's Zach Delguzzi during action in the 119-pound weight class Thursday night at WesBanco Arena. Holt won, 10-5.

LEFT: Beallsville's Matt Aberegg (top) is in control of Tyler's Mason Frick during action in the 135-pound weight class Thursday night.

and the Nelson kid have been wrestling since they were in the third grade," he added. "They have wrestled in hundreds of matches."

"We haven't been in this position for a while, but what we will do is sit them down and tell them that we are in the driver's seat and we control our own destiny," he said. "All we have to do is continue to be aggressive and things will take care of themselves."

Park's top two seeds had a relatively easy time in the opening round. Sophomore Ronell Green pinned Harrison Central's Kevin Snyder in 1:28 to advance into the second round at 103. Junior Abbey Rush, who came to WesBanco Arena as the second seed at 125, jumped into the top-seed after top-seeded Willie Saxton of Buckeye Local failed to make weight. Rush stopped his first round opponent Carlo Sanders of Steubenville with a

1:01 fall.

Saxton and three other Panther wrestlers failed to make weight, throwing the Buckeye Local hopes into a tailspin.

"We had four wrestlers not make weight and obviously that hurts," a dejected Panther coach Brian Davis about the turn of events. "We always make it a point to weight our kids before we get on the bus to check their weight and we had a few guys that were close. Three of the

guys just missed it by two-tenths of a pound."

Saxton, unbeaten and coming in as the top seed at 125, is the defending champ at that weight. Buckeye was already starting the tournament without a wrestler in three of the four heavy weights.

"We told our kids that what's done is done. It's over with and all we can do now is go out there and forget about it and do our best with the seven guys we have left," Davis added.

Last season, Buckeye finished second overall and had three individual champs for the first time in school's history. Now, they will attempt to do the same, but short-handed.

Top-seeded and two-time defending champ Zack Schuller moved on to the next round as expected with a pin of Brooke's John Huff in 1:21 in the Panther's 145-pound bout. Second-seeded Josh Cologie won his match at 171 and 189-pounder James Harris was also a winner for the Panthers.

As the tournament moves on, eyes will be trained on Martins Ferry's ultra-talented Clay Tucker in the 140 pound bracket. Tucker also scored a quick pin in 1:11 beating Steubenville's Mark Markakis. Tucker, an Ohio state champion last March, is heading toward a fourth OVAC title, a very rare feat in the conference.

It also came to no one's surprise that 13 of the 14 top-seeded wrestlers took their opening round match by fall. The lone exception was Martins Ferry's Chas Yoder who won his opening round match over Cameron's Mark Hughes by default. Yoder entered the tourney with a 17-0 record and as a defending champ.

St. John Central's Mick Nicola battled Magnolia's Donnie Burgey before registering the pin at 3:01. Nicola placed third last season, but came into this year's event with a sparkling 19-0 mark.

River's Wesley Haslam, the top-seed at heavyweight after finished eighth last season, extended his season record to 26-0 with a quick 22-second pin of Meadowbrook's David White.

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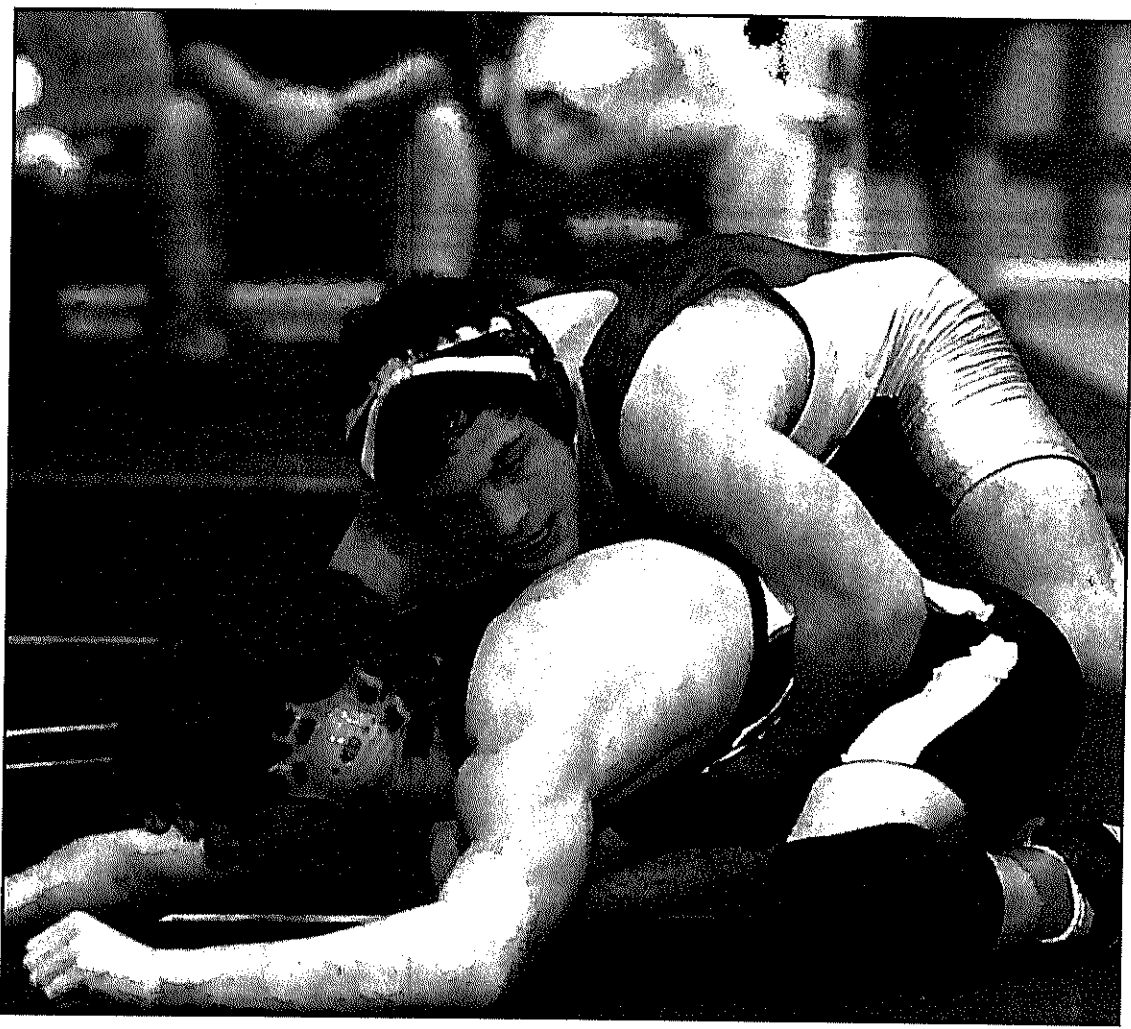
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A bright spot for Indian Creek was top-seed James Myers pinned of Weir's Wesley Barnes in 1:43 in their 119-pound match. Myers, the 103 pound champion last season as a freshman, improved his season record to 21-4.

Caldwell's Justin Seebeck, a placefinisher at 125 a year ago, quickly pinned Big Red's P. J. Ware in 32 seconds. The top-seed at 135, Seebeck improved to 19-2.

In one of the toughest weight classes in the tourney, top-seeded Justin Richey of John Marshall pinned Sean Neff of Tyler Consolidated in 26 ticks. Richey improved to 31-0. Also at 152, second-seeded and unbeaten Jeff Cumpston of Cameron pinned Creek's Shane Walters in 3:12 and third-seeded Billy Frollini of Shadyside scored a 27-2 tech fall over Monroe Central's Zach Burke. All three winners have more than 100 career mat wins each.

Brooke's top-seeded Dana Davis, just a sixth-seed last year en route to winning the OVAC title in an overtime match at 160, boosted his record to 26-0 win a 1:15 pin of JM's Tyler Druschel in their 160-pound match.

Edison's Mitch Costa, unbeaten at 22-0 coming in and a sixth place finisher last season at 160, was successful in his debut as a top-seed at 171. Costa pinned Harrison Central's Kevin Mallarnee in 2:56.

Oak Glen's lone top-seed, defending champion Cody Potts, pinned Conotton Valley's Zach Scott in 1:37 to advance in the winners' bracket at 215. The Golden Bears advanced 12 of 14 wrestlers in the winners' bracket.

Action continues today with second round and first and second round consolations starting at 11 a.m.

The third session gets under way at 5 p.m. with quarterfinals and third and fourth round consolations.

T-L Photos/JOEL JOSEPH
TOP PHOTO: Martins Ferry's Derrick Holt (top) battles Edison's Zach Delguzzi during action in the 119-pound weight class Thursday night at WesBanco Arena. Holt won, 10-5.



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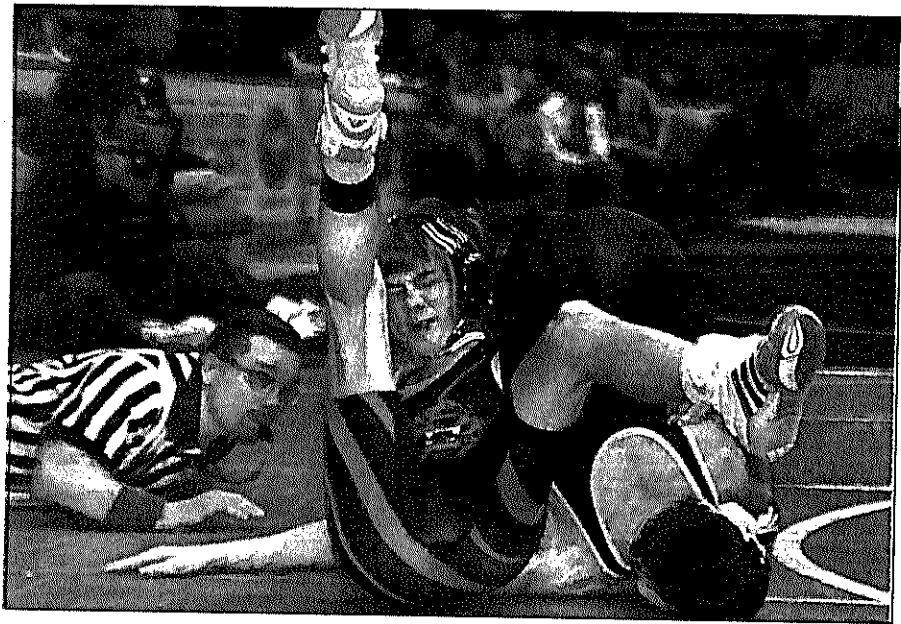
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Park's top two seeds had a relatively easy time in the opening round. Sophomore Ronell Green pinned Harrison Central's Kevin Snyder in 1:28 to advance into the second round at 103. Junior Abbey Rush, who came to WesBanco Arena as the second seed at 125, jumped into the top-seed after top-seeded Willie Saxton of Buckeye Local failed to make weight. Rush stopped his first round opponent Carlo Sanders of Steubenville with a

1:01 fall. Saxton and three other Panther wrestlers failed to make weight, throwing the Buckeye Local hopes into a tailspin.

"We had four wrestlers not make weight and obviously that hurts," a dejected Panther coach Brian Davis about the turn of events. "We always make it a point to weight our kids before we get on the bus to check their weight and we had a few guys that were close. Three of the



Brooke's Jim McFarland, green, locks up with Wellsville's Sean Collins at the OVAC wrestling tournament Thursday at WesBanco Arena. McFarland won their 119-pound bout by fall in 1:32.

Photo by Scott McCloskey

OVAC Mat Tournney Postponed

By MIKE HUGHES Staff Writer

The final day of the 52nd OVAC Wrestling Championships was postponed Saturday because of the snow storms that afflicted the Ohio Valley.

With semifinal matches slated to begin Sunday afternoon, tournament officials decided to stay on the safe side and move the final day of competition back to Monday at WesBanco Arena.

Tournament director Ron Mauck explained that although the actual amount of snowfall was less than predicted, that he had a small window of opportunity in which to make a decision.

"We wanted to look out for the safety of the kids and the fans," Mauck said. "And in this day and age, with the type of accumulation they were calling for, it would have looked bad if we were the only thing not canceled in town."

"We have a lot of work to do to put this back were we need it to be, but we'll be ready."

And Mauck and his meet workers have approximately one day to do it in, as the semifinals are slated to get underway Monday at noon at WesBanco Arena. Championship matches should begin around 6:30 p.m..

Defending overall and Class AAA champion Oak Glen held a slim lead heading into the



final day of competition with 130 1/2 points but two teams are nipping at the Bears' heels.

Wheeling Park currently sits in second place with 124 points while Cambridge is right behind the Patriots in third with 123 1/2 points.

John Marshall and Edison round out to current top five in the team standings with 99 1/2 and 92 1/2 points respectively.

Rarely has the OVAC wrestling tournament been pushed back or postponed in its lengthy history.

The most recent was during the flood of 1996 when the Ohio River crested at 46.1 feet on Friday, Jan. 21.

Mauk said in that year, the tournament was postponed early Friday afternoon because of the rising waters and was held a week later.

Prior to that, all other tournaments held in Wheeling have gone off without a hitch, although Mauk did recall a similar situation dealing with snow when the tournament was held in Steubenville.

"Most of the times, we're already in the (arena) when the snow comes," Mauk said.

"But this time we had a warning, and taking the safety of the kids into consideration and with everything else in Wheeling closing, it seemed like the most logical thing to do."

2005 OVAC Tournament Results

OVERALL TOP TEN: 1. Oak Glen, 220.5; 2. Buckeye Local, 182.5; 3. Brooke, 179.5; 4. Beaver Local, 161; 5. Wheeling Park, 150; 6. Indian Creek, 137; 7. John Marshall, 120; 8. Shenandoah, 116.5; 9. St. John Central, 116; 10. Martins Ferry, 114.5.

4-A: 1. Buckeye Local, 182.5; 2. Brooke, 179.5; 3. Beaver Local, 161; 4. Wheeling Park, 150; 5. John Marshall, 120; 6. Steubenville, 71; 7. Cambridge, 63.5; 8. East Liverpool, 34.5; 9. Edison, 33; 10. Weir, 21.

3-A: 1. Oak Glen, 220.5; 2. Indian Creek, 137; 3. Martins Ferry, 114.5; 4. Harrison Central, 102.5; 5. Union Local, 76.5; 6. St. Clairsville, 62.5; 7. Bellaire, 53; 8. Meadowbrook, 53; 9. Tyler Consolidated, 21; 10. Magnolia, 12.

2-A: 1. Shenandoah, 116.5; 2. Monroe Central, 92; 3. Barnesville, 91.5; 4. Caldwell, 79; 5. Wellsville, 38.5; 8. River, 32; 7. Steubenville Central, 30.5.

1-A: 1. St. John Central, 116; 2. Shady-side, 107.5; 3. Cameron, 90; 4. Beallsville, 17.5; 5. Weirton Madonna, 17; 6. Linsy, 12; Conotton Valley, 10.

CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS
103 - James Myers (IC) dec. Ronnie Green (WP), 1-0.

112 - Abbie Rush (WP) dec. Anthony Duffield (EL), 3-1.

119 - Brian Humphrey (WP) dec. Joe Skoff (SJC), 3-1.

125 - Willie Saxton (BL) dec. Jonathan McFarland (Brk), 6-4.

130 - Clay Tucker (MF) tech failed Mike Durbin (Brk), 17-1.

135 - Braden Shaw (Brk) dec. Aaron Brown (MC), 6-5.

140 - Zach Schuller (BL) dec. Ryan Ferguson (MC), 6-3.

145 - Casey Hughes (Cam) dec. Dustin Richey (JM), 10-5.

152 - Brock Bowman (BL) dec. Rhett Northcraft (OG), 7-4.

160 - Dana Davis (Brk) dec. Chris Case (SJC), OT Criteria.

171 - Chas Yoder (MF) dec. Luke Burkhardt (Shady), 7-2.

189 - Cody Tominack (WP) dec. Bobby Samsa (SHAD), 3-1 (OT).

215 - Cody Potts (OG) dec. Codey Leach (SHEN), 4-3.

275 - Adam Hoppel (BEAV) dec. Koel Davia (UL), 7-3.

CONSOLATION FINALS
103 - Mike Lehotay (Meadow) dec. Dustin Daugherty (Camb), 6-2.

112 - Brandon Miller (OG) dec. Corey LeMaster (Cald), 1-0.

119 - Luke Hoppel (Beaver) dec. Anthony Valles (WM), 3-2.

125 - Mickey Nicola (SJC) dec. Shane Wright (OG), 9-3.

130 - Jesse Emery (HC) dec. Jessie Mahan (OG), 5-3.

135 - Shawn Dunn (Beaver) dec. Matt Saxton (BL), 2-1.

140 - Alex Lee (JM) dec. Luke Warren (MF), 2-1.

145 - Todd Hunkler (SJC) dec. David Babel (BL), 5-4.

140 - Grant Hoppel (Beaver) won by default over Jeff Cumpston (Cameron).

145 - Billy Frollini (Shady) dec. Joe Bellanca (Beaver), 9-1.

152 - Clayton Benedict (MC) dec. Bud Hines (Barnes), 6-3.

180 - Garrett Railing (OG) dec. Mitch Costa (Ed), 4-2.

171 - Jacob Zerkle (Shen) pinned Shawn Simmons (JM), 4:20.

189 - Josh Ewing (JM) dec. David Foltz (OG), 6-0.

215 - Cole Bowersock (BEAV) dec. Andrew Corder (HC), 2-1 (OT).

275 - Lucas Michel (SHEN) dec. Eric Wagner (BL), 3-2 (2OT).

SEVENTH-EIGHTH PLACE
103 - Derik Caudill (Beaver) dec. Brian Scammell (SLC), 4-1.

112 - Logan Hartle (JM) dec. Robbie Martin (IC), 4-2.

119 - Torey Prickett (MC) dec. Daniel Magers (Barnes), 6-7.

125 - David Blawut (HC) dec. Kelly Hughes (Cam), 9-3.

130 - Kayne Meiko (SJC) pinned Shane Nickerson (BL), 1:51.

135 - Josh Wheeler (Steub) maj. dec. Brandon Ritchie (JM), 13-3.

140 - Tom Carpenter (SJC) pinned Brandon McCort (Bell), 1:27.

145 - Luke Bumbico (MF) dec. Alan Buzzard (Wells), 8-4.

152 - Matt Hannas (Shen) won by default over Corey Adkins (JM).

160 - Josh Cologie (BL) dec. Mike Hepburn (Bell), 6-5.

171 - Nathan Loughman (Brk) pinned Dusty McVay (UL), 28.

189 - James Beach (STEUB) dec. Mike Pratt (HC), 4-2.

215 - Dirk Soland (BELL) won by injury default, Jim Compston (UL).

275 - Andrew Fagal (WEIR) dec. Wesley Haslam (RIV), 10-8.

CHAMPIONSHIP SEMIFINALS
103 - Ronnie Green (WP) dec. Dustin Daugherty (Camb), 10-4; James Myers (IC) pinned Mike Lehotay (Meadow), 1:30.

112 - Abbie Rush (WP) dec. Corey LeMaster (Cald), 4-3; Anthony Duffield (EL) dec. Brandon Miller (OG), 3-2.

119 - Brian Humphrey (WP) dec. Anthony Valles (WM), 3-2; Joe Skoff (SJC) dec. Matt Smith (Brk), 8-6.

125 - Jonathan McFarland (Brk) dec. Mickey Nicola (SJC), 3-1, OT; Willie Saxton (BL) dec. Shane Wright (OG), 8-2.

130 - Clay Tucker (MF) dec. Jessie Mahan (OG), 7-1; Mike Durbin (Brk) dec. Jesse Emery (HC), 5-2.

135 - Braden Shaw (Brk) pinned Ben Phillips (HC), 1:40; Aaron Brown (MC) dec. Shawn Dunn (Beaver), 12-8.

140 - Zach Schuller (BL) won by default over Jeff Cumpston (Cameron), 12:7; Ryan Ferguson (MC) dec. Grant Hoppel (Beaver), 13-8.

145 - Dustin Richey (JM) dec. Todd Hunkler (SJC), 8-1; Casey Hughes (Cam) dec. David Babel (BL), 3-1.

152 - Brock Bowman (BL) dec. Thad Crosier (Steub), 2-1; Rhett Northcraft (OG) maj. dec. Jesse Irwin (Shady), 12-2.

160 - Dana Davis (Brk) dec. Kellen Hughes (IC), 6-4; Chris Case (SJC) dec. Jason Bahmer (Barnes), 4-2.

171 - Chas Yoder (MF) maj. dec. David Ross (Steub), 15-6; Luke Burkhardt (Shady) tech failed Shawn Simmons (JM), 3:14.

189 - Bobby Samsa (Shady) dec. Josh Ewing (JM), 3-2; Cody Tominack (WP) dec. David Foltz (OG), 7-4.

215 - Cody Leach (Shen) dec. Jim Bowersock (Beaver), 11-1; Cody Potts (OG) dec. Brad Hannas (Barnes), 3-2; 275 - Koel Davia (UL) pinned Maurice Hines (IC), 3:37; Adam Hoppel (Beaver) tech failed Eric Wagner (BL), 15-0.

2005 OVAC Tournament Seeds

The 52nd Annual OVAC Wrestling Tournament seeded wrestlers:

103 POUNDS

- Ronnell Green (WP)
- Paul Rose (Camb)
- Daniel Felton (Brk)
- Jimmy Reisz (Beal)
- Chase Clark (UL)
- Ethan Dray (OG)
- Bryan Scammell (StC)
- Marvin Benson (Mead)

112 POUNDS

- Anthony Duffield (EL)
- Chaz Clark (UL)
- Mike Lehotay (Mead)
- Stephen Jewell (WP)
- Ryan Stephen (Barn)
- Bobby Morris (Sce)
- Jon Ray (Camb)
- Rich Heslop (Bell)

119 POUNDS

- James Myers (IC)
- Ronnie Green (WP)
- Tim Cumpston (Cam)
- Derik Caudill (BvL)
- Eric Moore (HC)
- Brandon Davis (OG)
- Dustin Daugherty (Camb)
- Richie Dodd (Shen)

125 POUNDS

- Willie Saxton (BuL)
- Abbie Rush (WP)
- Brandon Miller (OG)
- Logan Hartle (JM)
- Corey Lemasters (Cald)
- Tony Carosiello (Well)
- Torey Prickett (MC)
- Robbie Martin (IC)

130 POUNDS

- Mick Nicola (BSJ)
- Sean Mahley (Camb)
- Jarrod Shaw (Brk)
- Craig Johnston (IC)
- K.J. Furbee (Shad)
- Zach Basich (WC)
- David Bortz (Sce)
- Chad Ware (MF)

135 POUNDS

- Justin Seebach (Cald)
- Luke Hoppel (BvL)
- Andy Sine (Ed)
- Matt Aberegg (Beal)
- Clyde Jordan (IC)
- Lee Doyle (JM)
- Justin Cataldo (Well)
- Chad Teague (Camb)

140 POUNDS

- Clay Tucker (MF)
- Jesse Mahan (OG)
- Shawn Dunn (BvL)
- Tyler Prokopakis (Ed)
- Corey Waite (Shen)
- Bryan Bilyeu (Beal)
- Justin Smithberger (MC)

145 POUNDS

- Zack Shuller (BuL)
- Zach Pendleton (IC)
- Jeff Pettit (Cam)
- Brandon McCort (Bell)
- Brad Brooks (HC)
- Brad Bilyeu (Beal)
- Joel Timmons (OG)
- Josh Smith (Barn)

152 POUNDS

- Dustin Richey (JM)
- Jeff Cumpston (Cam)
- Billy Frollini (Shad)
- Bud Hines (Barn)
- John Perko (Bell)
- Luke Warren (MF)
- Jonathan Stewart (Ed)
- Dan Dunn (BvL)

160 POUNDS

- Dana Davis (Brk)
- Rhett Northcraft (OG)
- Kyle Smith (Barn)
- Derick Snyder (Cald)
- Adam Cooper (Cam)
- Luke Sulek (Bell)
- Donald Gianessi (Weir)
- Tyler Kinzy (BvL)

171 POUNDS

- Mitch Costa (Ed)
- Josh Cologie (BuL)
- Kyle Reeder (BvL)
- David Foltz (OG)
- Artis Johnson (Bell)
- Jason Wright (Riv)
- Shawn Simmons (JM)
- James Beach (Steub)

189 POUNDS

- Chas Yoder (MF)
- Bobbie Scurlock (Camb)
- Chris Stevens (OG)
- Corey Archer (Cald)
- Nathan Loughran (Brk)
- Luke Myers (Riv)
- Adam Coswer (IC)
- Mike Pratt (HC)

215 POUNDS

- Cody Potts (OG)
- John Horn (Shen)
- Elijah Zeyer (MF)
- Brandon Bovina (IC)
- Jimmy Bowersock (BvL)
- Dirk Soland (Bell)
- Taylor Potts (JM)
- Devin Dulaney (Brk)

275 POUNDS

- Wes Haslam (Riv)
- Maurice Hines (IC)
- Kevin Staub (WP)
- Ralph Petrella (Steub)
- Jeremiah Hinerman (Ed)
- Andrew Corder (HC)
- Lucas Michel (Shen)
- Eric Diagosta (EL)





Photo by Scott McCloskey

Martins Ferry's Elijah Zeyer, left, and Caldwell's Derick Hesson lock up during their bout at 215 pounds in quarterfinal action of the 52nd annual OVAC Wrestling tournament Friday at WesBanco Arena. Zeyer won by major decision, 13-5 to advance to today's semifinals.

'A Race of Attrition'

Oak Glen still on top, but Park and Martins Ferry lead late charge

By **JIM ELLIOTT**
Staff Writer

Defending champion Oak Glen was able to maintain a lead after two days of the 52nd annual OVAC wrestling tournament, but it's a shaky one.

"For the fans, this has to be really exciting," said Oak Glen coach Larry Shaw.

It certainly is for the Bears' veteran coach.

Oak Glen, with 130.5 points, sat on top of the standings after Friday's action, just ahead of Wheeling Park (124), Martins Ferry (123.5), Cambridge (99), and John Marshall (92.5).

All of that means this thing is far from over.

The Bears have 10 wrestlers remaining, with an even split of five still alive for semifinal action when things pick up at noon today at WesBanco Arena, and five still alive in the consolation rounds.



**OVAC
Report**

Wheeling Park has eight wrestlers remaining. Seven of them, including two unseeded wrestlers, are still competing for individual OVAC titles.

That's news, as five years ago, the Patriots had just seven wrestlers on the team.

"We came back from being almost a down-and-out program to having seven

kids in the semis," said Wheeling Park coach Gene Monteleone. "We're making a run for the overall. If you'd have told me that, realistically I didn't know. We're stepping it up and wrestling well. That's nice to see."

The two unseeded Wheeling Park wrestlers to advance to the semis are Dusty Hill at 160 and Adam Gibson at 171.

"Both of those guys are good wrestlers in their own right," Monteleone said. "There just happened to be some guys with better records in the tournament that got seeded ahead of them."

Martins Ferry has three wrestlers still alive in the semifinals — Chas Yoder, Clay Tucker, and Elijah Zeyer — and

seven in the consolation rounds.

Yes, the race is on.

"In the consolation rounds, if guys don't win (today) coming in, they're done for the day and won't be able to score any more points," Shaw said.

"We have to win those consolation matches and then get our guys through the semis. If we do that, we'll be OK. Obviously, that's a tall order, but that's where it is right now. Park's in the same situation, so is Ferry."

Despite holding onto the lead and resting in a good situation, Shaw still holds his kids to the highest standard possible.

Please See **RACE**, Page 22



**JIM
ELLIOTT**
Writer
No

Tucker takes best s

Martins Ferry's Clay Tucker wins away from home, joining a group of wrestlers in OVAC tournament.

Tucker, the top seed at 171 pounds, has already won the OVAC individual title a match with sixth-seeded Justin Smithberger of Central a short time ago today, to decide who he'll make it to the final the fourth consecutive year.

If he's able to get it done today, he'll face either Local's Shawn Dunn or Glen's Jesse Mahan, serious OVAC history line.

Should Tucker win today's matches, he'll join Bobby Douglas (1987), Liverpool's Mark Erwin (1989), Edison South Shields (1993), and Local's Adam Hopp as the only four-time winner in the 52-year history of the tournament.

Not to overstate it, but not one of those guys has won a match in the OVAC tournament.

"I just have to keep my eye on one match at a time," said Tucker. "That's all you can do."

He knows there's a lot of sure there.

"It's very tough because people just expect so much from me, and I don't want to let anybody down," he said. "It really means a lot to my family and all the coaches who want to do it for all of us."

His coach, Babe Smith, says Tucker's got what it takes to win this situation with his prized wrestler.

"All the great wrestlers win one match at a time," said Smith. "He's staying focused on what he's got to do in each match."

Please See **ELLIOTT**



Photo by Scott McCloskey

's Elijah Zeyer, left, and Caldwell's Derick Hesson lock up during their bout at 215 pounds in quarterfinal action of the 52nd annual wrestling tournament Friday at WesBanco Arena. Zeyer won by major decision, 13-5 to advance to today's semifinals.



JIM ELLIOTT
Wrestling Notebook

Tucker takes his best shot

Martins Ferry senior Clay Tucker is two wins away from joining an exclusive group of wrestlers in the OVAC tournament.

Tucker, the top seed at 140 pounds, has already won three OVAC individual titles. He has a match with sixth-seeded Justin Smithberger of Monroe Central a short time after noon today, to decide whether or not he'll make it to the finals for the fourth consecutive season.

If he's able to get there and win, he'll face either Beaver Local's Shawn Dunn or Oak Glen's Jesse Mahan, with some serious OVAC history on the line.

Should Tucker win both matches, he'll join Bridgeport's Bobby Douglas (1961), East Liverpool's Mark Emmerling (1989), Edison South's Kelly Shields (1993), and Beaver Local's Adam Hoppel (2004) as the only four-time winners in the 52-year history of the tournament.

Not to overstate anything, but not one of those guys ever lost a match in the OVAC tournament.

"I just have to keep taking it one match at a time," Tucker said. "That's all you can really do."

He knows there's some pressure there.

"It's very tough because people just expect so much out of me, and I don't want to disappoint anybody," he said. "It really means a lot to me, my family and all the community. I want to do it for all of them."

His coach, Babe Sidon, knows Tucker's got what it takes. He says this situation won't get to his prized wrestler.

"All the great wrestlers take it one match at a time," Sidon said. "He's stays focused on what he's got to do for that match."

Please See ELLIOTT, Page 22

'Race of Attrition'

Oak Glen still on top, but Park and Martins Ferry lead late charge

JIM ELLIOTT
Staff Writer
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That's news, as five years ago, the Patriots had just seven wrestlers on the team.

"We came back from being almost a down-and-out program to having seven

kids in the semis," said Wheeling Park coach Gene Monteleone. "We're making a run for the overall. If you'd have told me that, realistically I didn't know. We're stepping it up and wrestling well. That's nice to see."

The two unseeded Wheeling Park wrestlers to advance to the semis are Dusty Hill at 160 and Adam Gibson at 171.

"Both of those guys are good wrestlers in their own right," Monteleone said. "There just happened to be some guys with better records in the tournament that got seeded ahead of them."

Martins Ferry has three wrestlers still alive in the semifinals — Chas Yoder, Clay Tucker, and Elijah Zeyer — and

seven in the consolation rounds. Yes, the race is on.

"In the consolation rounds, if guys don't win (today) coming in, they're done for the day and won't be able to score any more points," Shaw said. "We have to win those consolation matches and then get our guys through the semis. If we do that, we'll be OK. Obviously, that's a tall order, but that's where it is right now. Park's in the same situation, so is Ferry."

Despite holding onto the lead and resting in a good situation, Shaw still holds his kids to the highest standard possible.

Please See RACE, Page 22



OVAC Report

Elliott

(Continued from Page 17)
 "That's an outstanding feat."
 Emmerling, now the head wrestling coach at Beaver Local, could help out here.
 Last year, as an assistant with the Beavers, he watched Hoppel finish off an amazing run. It brought back a few memories.
 "I enjoyed it," Emmerling said. "I don't think Adam will enjoy it until down the road like I did. When I was in high school, I thought it was a good accomplishment, but never really thought about in terms of me being the second one to do it."
 Does he think the club's ready for a fifth member?
 Absolutely.
 "I know he's a pretty good wrestler," Emmerling said of Tucker. "He's got to be nervous about the fourth time a little bit. But by that time, you've wrestled in three of them so he's probably not too nervous."
 "You just prepare for every match the same way. It probably put a little more pressure on me, but I still knew what I had to do."
 Tucker is not a pinner, he's what's known in the wrestling world as a 'technician.'
 "It comes down to working hard in the practice room," he said. "Conditioning and all that

"It comes down to working hard in the practice room."

**Clay Tucker
 Ferry wrestler**

pays off. You just go 100 miles per hour the whole 6 minutes."
 In that case, Tucker could be 12 minutes and about 20 miles away from history.

Even more seeds
 Heading into today's semifinal action, seven weight classes proved to be right on in terms of seeding. The coaches were especially in tune with the light-weights, as classes 103, 112, 119, 125, and 130 all have the top four seeds remaining.
 Fifty-four of the 56 wrestlers still alive for an individual championship were seeded coming into the tournament. Wheeling Park's Dusty Hill (160) and Adam Gibson (171) were the two wrestlers stealing those spots.

Awarding
 Oak Glen Middle School wrestling coach Frank Cain was named the OVAC Jr. High Coach of the Year.

Cain, a 1986 graduate of Oak Glen, was a three-time place-winner in the OVAC tournament for the Golden Bears. He also placed in the state his senior year, when the Golden Bears won a state title.

Cain, in his third year coaching at the middle school, is enjoying quite a year.

His team's dual-meet record is 20-2, and it has claimed titles in several tournaments (Canfield Duals, East Liverpool Classic, Buckeye Mountaineer Athletic Conference Tournament, and the Ohio Valley Wrestling Tournament).

Oak Glen High School head wrestling coach Larry Shaw presented Cain with the award Friday.

Marshall County resident Bill Foster was presented with the "James Deadeye Morris" Award, giving annually to the Morris family to a fan who is dedicated to the sport of wrestling.

Rich McCardle was awarded the Sydney A. "Sid" Stoltz Memorial Award, an award bestowed on table workers at the OVAC tournament whose work is behind the scenes, but important and appreciated.

Jim Elliott can be reached at elliott@theintelligencer.net

Race

(Continued from Page 17)

"I still haven't been real thrilled with our wrestling," he said. "I still think we're very tight, very conservative. I don't know if the pressure is bothering the kids. Or is it that the old target's on our back, and in reality the other kids are just stepping up and competing extra hard against our kids?"
 That's the competitive side of Shaw.

There's a nice guy, too.
 "Our kids have persevered," he continued. "Five and five, I can't complain about that, we've got 10

OVAC place winners. That's certainly a good day's work."

Those in the semis for Oak Glen are: Brandon Miller (125), Jesse Mahan (140), Rhett Northcraft (160), Chris Stevens (189), and Cody Potts (215).

The Park Seven consists of: Ronell Green (103), Stephen Jewell (112), Ronnie Green (119), Abbie Rush (125), Hill, Gibson, and Kevin Staub (HWT).

"Having seven in the semifinals really exceeds our expectations," Monteleone said. "We knew we could push some through, but

having seven is marvelous. They're really stepping it up.

"It now becomes now a race of attrition. Our eight guys have to place higher than (Shaw's) 10 in any way shape or form. If we can't get a guy in the finals, we have to make sure we do well in the wrestlebacks and get a guy third or fourth and not fifth or sixth."

The leaders of the respective classes are: Class AAAA, Wheeling Park (124), Class AAA, Oak Glen (130.5), Class AA, Caldwell (79.5), and Class A, Cameron (73.5).

2005 OVAC Officials

The 2005 OVAC Mat Tournament Officials:

Paul Coffland -- Cadiz
 Lou Coffland -- Cadiz
 Jim Copney -- Wheeling
 Larry Deaton -- Martins Ferry
 Barry Gashel -- Claysville, Pa.
 Rich Heavlin -- Cadiz
 John Holliday -- Clarington
 Ray Jefferis -- Barnesville
 Shane Kildow -- Bethesda
 T.J. King -- Cambridge
 Steve Kish Jr. -- Nashport
 Ray Marling -- Martins Ferry
 Jake Regis -- Martins Ferry
 Mike Stalknaker -- Fairmont
 Ken McWilliams -- Cannonsburg
 Ron Tschantz -- Carrollton
 Dr. William Welker -- Wheeling
 Ray Anthony -- Columbia Station

The 52nd annual OVAC wrestling tournament set

• Tourney begins Thursday at 6 p.m. at WesBanco

The 52nd annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference wrestling tournament will be launched at 6 p.m. Thursday and approximately 850 bouts will be run off before the last buzzer on Saturday night sounds.

There will be eight mats running at one time for most of the tournament.

The tournament will bring to the Wheeling Civic Center some 470 matmen from 35 high schools. Only 14 of these will be crowned as Champions at Saturday evening's finals.

The opening ceremonies will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday followed by wrestling at 6:30 p.m. The Friday morning session will begin at 11 a.m. and highlights second round matches. Quarterfinals and consolation matches are on tap for Friday night starting at 5 p.m. Semifinals and consolations get under way at noon on Saturday.

All pre-tournament festivities will begin at 6 p.m. on Saturday. The championship matches along with bouts to determine third, fifth and seventh places will begin at 6:30 p.m. along with the

championship finals. Four mats will be used Saturday evening.

An added feature to the tournament has been a program initiated by the Ohio Valley Wrestling Coaches Association to honor past conference champions observing their 25th anniversary will be the 1980 tournament champions.

The 1980 champions and the coach of the team will be recognized before Saturday's finals and will be seated in a special area on the main floor.

The Mr. Mat Award will be presented to the person who has made valuable contributions to the sport in the Ohio Valley Saturday before the championship finals.

The Assistant and Junior High Coaches award will be presented on Thursday and the Coaches Service Award will be presented on Friday evening.

Tickets for the tournament are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students per session.

The championship finals will cost \$7 for adults and \$4 for students.



Bierkorette Winners

Past Dave Bierkorette Wrestling Award winners.

1971 -- Don Blum, Martins Ferry.
 1972 -- Art Jones, Bellaire.
 1973 -- Dan Claugus, Barnesville.
 1974 -- Shelden Grace, Weirton.
 1975 -- Mike Kovalick, Bellaire.
 1976 -- Randy Davia, Cadiz; Ed Covey, Bridgeport.
 1977 -- Rich Davis, Jefferson Union.
 1978 -- Carl Stanley, Wheeling Park.
 1979 -- Randy Pryor, Weirton.
 1980 -- Trent Iachini, Steubenville.
 1981 -- Mike Tinchowski, Steubenville.
 1982 -- Larry Iselman, Toronto.
 1983 -- Brian Miller, Barnesville.
 1984 -- Heath Beadmore, Cambridge.
 1985 -- Tim Moxley, Barnesville.
 1986 -- Sean Murray, Oak Glen.
 1987 -- Mark Mylnek, Bellaire.
 1988 -- Rick Burlenski, Bridgeport.
 1989 -- Mark Emmerling, East Liverpool.
 1990 -- Babe Sidon, Martins Ferry.
 1991 -- Douglas Knight, Steubenville.
 1992 -- R.C. Anderson, Cameron.
 1993 -- Kelly Shields, Edison.
 1994 -- Dustin Harris, Beaver.
 1995 -- Justin Ewing, St. Clairsville.
 1996 -- Eric Anderson, St. John Central.
 1997 -- Ryan Muldrew, John Marshall.
 1998 -- Chad Pratz, Linsly.
 1999 -- Jose Smith, Cambridge.
 2000 -- Scott Roth, Martins Ferry.
 2001 -- Cole Bowersock, Beaver Local.
 2002 -- Derek George, John Marshall.
 2003 -- David Bertolino, Buckeye Local.
 2004 -- Adam Hoppel, Beaver Local

'05 OVAC Schedule of Events

The Schedule of Events for the 2005 OVAC Wrestling Tournament:

THURSDAY

6 p.m. -- Opening Ceremony
 6:30 p.m. -- Prelims and First Round on eight mats. Approximately 304 matches in four hours.

FRIDAY

11 a.m. -- Second round, first and second round consolation on eight mats. Approximately 4 1/2 hours.

5 p.m. -- Quarterfinals, third and fourth round consolations on eight mats. Approximately four with 168 matches.

SATURDAY

12 p.m. -- Semifinal, fifth round

consolations and semifinal consolations on four mats. Approximately 3 1/2 hours with 84 matches.

6 p.m. -- Introduction/Opening Ceremonies

6:30 p.m. -- Championship and consolation finals. First, third, fifth, seventh place matches. Approximate time four hours.