

Thursday, December 27, 1984 O&E

## Falcons 11th in county meet

Nothing earth-shattering came out of the 25th annual Oakland County wrestling championships Saturday. As expected, perennial power Hazel Park ran away with the team title.

The Vikings, led by all-state heavyweight Tim Ridinger, captured the top spot with a meet record 260 1/2 points, eclipsing their own record set in 1982.

Millford finished second with 173 1/2 points, followed by Lake Orion (157 1/2), Brother Rice (136 1/2), Millford Lakeside (131 1/2), Rochester (122), Rochester Adams (121), Royal Oak Kimball (118), Royal Oak Dondoro (98 1/2), Oak Park (96), Farmington (90), Pontiac Northern (90 1/2), Avondale (88 1/2), Troy (88 1/2), Bishop Foley (87 1/2), Walled Lake Central (86 1/2), Madison (81 1/2), Walled Lake Western (80), Pontiac Central (77 1/2), Southfield-Lathrup (75 1/2), Troy Athens (69 1/2), Birmingham Groves (67 1/2), Waterford Kettering (64 1/2), Ferndale (63), Holly (53), Bloomfield Hills Lahser (52 1/2), Southfield (51), Oxford (50), Orionville-Brandon (44), Country Day (44), Warren Fitzgerald (42), Clarkston (42), South Lyon (41 1/2), Cranbrook (36), Berkley (36), North Farmington (35 1/2), Farmington Harrison (34), Madison Heights Lamphere (33), Pontiac Catholic (30), Bloomfield Hills Andover (28), Birmingham Seaholm (23 1/2), Waterford Mott (17), Orchard Lake St. Mary's (10) and Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes (6).

"WE JUST WENT in there figuring Hazel Park was the team to beat," Rice coach John Major said. "That's how we approached it. You just try to beat them, especially in head-to-head competition."

### wrestling

"I thought we wrestled well in the tournament," added Major, whose team was third last year. "It's always disap-

pointing unless you win, but I was happy with our performance."

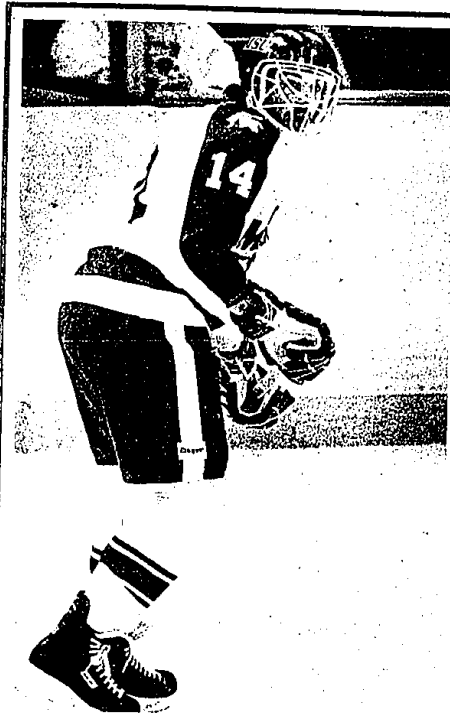
Observer & Eccentric area champions included Sol Cogan (Southfield-Lathrup), Terry Cornell (Brother Rice) and Kelley Lamb (Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook).

Lamb, a Class B state champion last year, pinned Oak Park's Tom Andrews in 3:20 of the 198 championship match.

Cogan, a 98-pounder, dethroned Brother Rice's Chris McDaniel, 9-2, in the title match, while Cornell dethroned Rochester's Alan Grana, 13-7, in the 132-pound finale.

SECOND-PLACE finishes from area wrestlers were recorded by McDaniel (Rice), Matt Bridges (Avondale) at 125, Grana, Tom Kopsch (Lathrup) at 145, Scott Isaacson (Lahser) at 155, Ab Hazen (Farmington) at 167 and Dominick Macreano (Brother Rice) at 185.

Troy's Bill Flynn (105) and Farmington's Dan Parillo (180) were third, while fourth-place finishes came from Joe Gi (Troy) at 98, Bob Gavigan (Rochester) at 155, Gordon Connor (Rochester) at 167 and Brad Mazzenga (Adams) at heavyweight.



DAN DEAN/Walt photographer

Livonia native Mike Donnelly is anxious for his MSU hockey team to compete in the Great Lakes Invitational Tournament this weekend at Joe Louis.

## MSU hungry for GLIT ice crown

By Scott Adler  
staff writer

It is perhaps an arguable point that the Michigan State Spartans play better hockey in Joe Louis Arena than the Detroit Red Wings, but . . . the Red Wings would probably be the only ones arguing.

For the past two years, the Spartans have dismantled opponent after opponent at Joe Louis, be it in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA) playoffs or the Great Lakes Invitational Tournament (GLIT) and this year appears to be no different.

MSU heads into the GLIT, Dec. 28-29, heavy favorites to win the title for the third straight year. The other teams in the four-team tourney are Michigan Tech, University of Michigan and Bowling Green.

The Spartans beat Michigan Tech in each of the last two finals. In 1983, MSU downed Tech, 6-2. In 1982, MSU took the title with a 5-3 win.

"I hope Tech makes it to the finals along with us," Spartan defenseman Don McSweeney said. "We haven't played Tech yet this year but we've beaten them 6 of the last 7 times we've played them."

McSweeney, a sophomore from Plymouth, said his Spartan teammates like to play in Joe Louis.

"It's our home away from home, so to speak," he said.

MSU JUNIOR MIKE Donnelly agrees. "I don't want to jinx myself," the Livonia native said, "but we seem to play awfully well down there. It's definitely one of the high points of the season."

Donnelly doesn't seem to think that

the increase in hometown fans from 5,200 at Munn Arena to 20,000-plus in Joe Louis has that great an impact on the Spartans.

"It's exciting (to play in front of 20,000 fans) but after the puck drops you don't think about all the fans," he said.

Despite the presence of defending national champ Bowling Green, which is struggling because of graduation losses, the Spartans are confident they'll emerge victorious.

"We're off to a good start," McSweeney said of the 16-3 Spartans. "At first we were living off of last year's glory, but now when we're playing well, no one can touch us."

MSU started out slowly, suffering early season defeats to Western Michigan and Ferris State, so the Spartans 16-3 record hasn't come as easy as it may seem, according to Donnelly.

"IT REALLY HASN'T been that easy," Donnelly said. "I think the thing that sets this (year's) team apart from last year is experience. Experience is the difference. We just wear teams down."

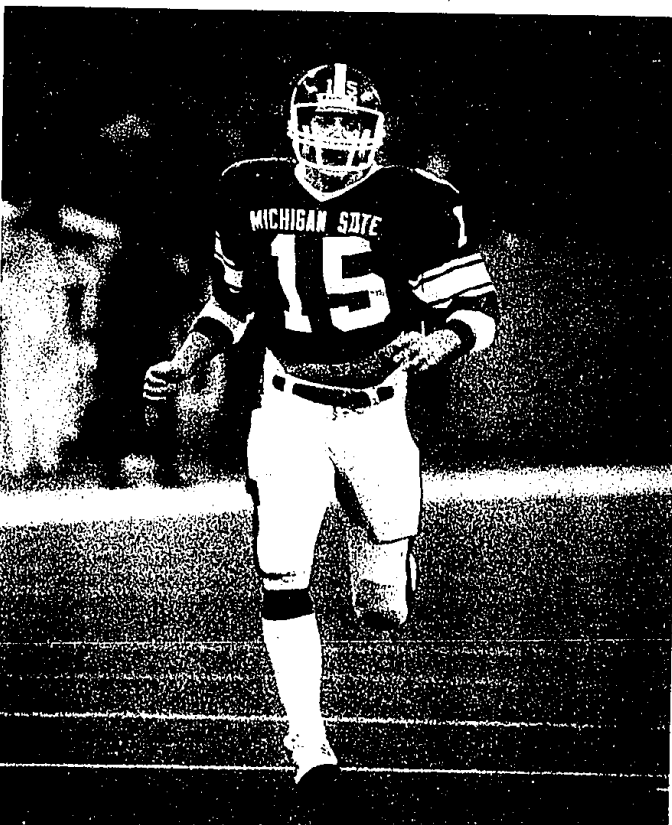
Both Donnelly and McSweeney are having good years, even if they, too, started a little slowly.

Donnelly has scored 11 goals so far this season, 7 in the last 6 games. He scored 18 goals last year.

McSweeney's goal production has been off from last year, but his point totals suggest he's avoiding the "sophomore jinx" so common after having an outstanding freshman year. He scored 12 goals last season and has netted only 1 so far, but he has totaled 12 points.

"I'm not worried about the goals," he said. "They'll come. What's important is that I'm playing good defense. And I think I am."

## Wasczenski TD catch in vain



JERRY ZOLYNSKY

By Marty Budner  
staff writer

Michigan State University didn't muster much offense in the first-ever Cherry Bowl Saturday at the Pontiac Silverdome.

So, it was with bittersweet consolation that Bob Wasczenski and Dave Yarema accepted the post-game ritual of meeting with the media.

Wasczenski, the freshman flanker from Farmington Hills, was happy to relive the heroics of scoring the Spartans' lone touchdown, but understandably was disappointed with the 10-6 loss. Yarema, who led Birmingham Brother Rice to the 1980 class A state championship, was simply dejected.

Wasczenski caught the 36-yard pass from Yarema at 10:41 of the fourth quarter. The 6-foot-4, 199-pound receiver darted down the left sideline, stepped back to catch the pass in front of two Army defenders, then lunged into the end zone.

It wasn't pretty, but it reduced the deficit and gave the Spartans some momentum.

UNFORTUNATELY, Michigan State, appearing in its first bowl game since a 14-12 loss to UCLA in the 1985 Rose Bowl, failed to generate any more scoring threats.

It was a contrasting game for the two fighting Spartans with strong Oakland County connections.

Yarema, a sophomore who started all 12 of MSU's games, certainly had better days this season. He completed 11 of 25 passes — most of them in the fourth quarter, but had three interceptions and was sacked six times.

Wasczenski was simply happy to play. And he made the most of it. Playing in place of a suspended teammate, Wasczenski doubled his season output for receptions.

He outmaneuvered Army defenders for two consecutive fourth-quarter receptions totaling 54 yards. Wasczenski's first grab was good for an 18-yard gain across the middle just prior to the touchdown catch.

"Dave and me were practicing all week, but we weren't planning any two-deep zone coverage. That's what they were giving us," said Wasczenski, who had caught only one other pass this season (good for 41 yards against Wisconsin).

"We couldn't get open down the middle and we were planning on more blitzes which they didn't do," he said. "We had to adjust to covering patterns and take different steps to attack their defense."

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