

Salem's matmen hope to keep title

By Bill Parker
staff writer

If you follow Cisarverland wrestling, you know it almost goes without saying that Plymouth Salem's favored to defend its crown when the 1987 Western Lakes Activities Association wrestling championships begins at 11 a.m. Saturday at Westland John Glenn High School.

Not only did the Rocks win the championship last year, but they have captured the WLAIA title each of the five years the league has been in existence. And on top of that, Salem is undefeated this year in dual meet competition and champion of the Lakes Division.

Despite those facts, Salem coach Ron Krueger isn't claiming the title quite yet.

"Everybody in the league has somebody (capable of winning an individual championship)," said Krueger. "I think everybody will be represented in the finals and that will make it tough for everyone. It won't be so much that you have to beat Salem but you'll have to beat everybody at the meet. I don't think the winners will be the team with the most champions so much as it will be the team that places the most wrestlers."

"JOHN GLENN will be in the thick of things. Walled Lake Central will have something to say, they've finished second the last two years. Plymouth Canton (Western Division champion) has also come a long way. They're a good team. I also see (Livonia) Churchill stirring things up. Each team in the league has a couple strong people. I don't see anybody being shut out."

Tom Bucklew, head coach at Westland John Glenn, has similar feelings about the meet.

"I'd say Krueger is the favorite and after that it's up for grabs. There are three or four teams that could jump out and bite you. A lot of teams have one or two outstanding wrestlers. The league is much more balanced than it was last year."

When the finals begin, around 6 p.m., there should be some great

wrestling

Matches lined up. Salem's Jeff Delbeke and Canton's Tom Flores will both be tough in the 96-pound division. Delbeke pinned Flores in dual meet competition earlier this season but Flores rebounded and earned a 4-2 decision over Delbeke at the North Farmington Invitational.

GLENN'S BRIAN KRAZEL, undefeated in league matches, will be hard to beat at 119 pounds. Livonia Churchill has high hopes riding on the shoulders of Mike Krause, a top contender at 132 or 138. (He has wrestled successfully at both weights this season). Brian Clemens also will be a favorite for the Chargers at 167.

At 155 pounds, look for Canton's Dan Dwyer and Salem's Lem Yeung. These two have squared off twice this year, and Yeung has won both times by a total of two points.

At 159 pounds, look for Canton's Dan Dwyer and Salem's Lem Yeung. These two have squared off twice this year, and Yeung has won both times by a total of two points. North Farmington's Paul Cook also could be a factor here.

In the heavyweight division, John Glenn's Chris Zimmerman is to be the favorite after placing third in the state meet last year.

Other favorites to claim WLAIA individual honors include Farmington Harrison's Cliff Alcantara (105) and Salem's Dennis Dameron (128).

"I think in order for us to repeat (as champions) we'll have to be at our best, which we aren't right now," said Krueger. "We've got some guys out sick and some injured. Others are just down. It's been a long season. I just hope we'll be able to put our full team on the mat Saturday. That's our number one priority. Number two, I hope we're ready to go."

Admission is \$1.50 for students and \$4.50 for adults.

Andover No. 1 in county?

By Marty Budner
staff writer

Mike Lane doesn't discount the importance of being county champion. It's just the veteran Bloomfield Hills Andover swim coach directs his tankers for the biggest meet of them all — the Class A state meet in early March.

"It's (the county meet) a fun meet . . . a chance to swim against competition you normally don't swim against," said Lane. "We don't put a lot of pressure on it. The last race of the year is the one we're really concerned with."

Andover, indeed a favorite to win the Class A state championship this year, should dominate the field at Saturday's county championships at Oakland University. Final swims for the approximate 25-team field begin at 1 p.m. and should conclude around 5 p.m.

While the Barons seem destined to defend their county title, the real competition should be the field at Saturday's county championships at Oakland University. Final swims for the approximate 25-team field begin at 1 p.m. and should conclude around 5 p.m.

ANDOVER'S TOP swimmers figure to be senior Steve Pancratz in the distance freestyle and

swimming

senior Dave Lemkhuhl in the sprint freestyle events. Pancratz leads area swimmers in both the 200- (1:45.18) and 500-yard freestyle (4:44.93).

Senior Charlie Chung will vie for the IM and breaststroke crown while divers Tim LaClair and Jason Schliciano should provide Troy's Angus Barnhart with decent competition. Barnhart, El Eccentric's Prep Swimmer of the Week, leads all divers with 312.70 points while Schliciano (298.23) and LaClair (271.18) are right behind.

Laber's featured performer in defending state and county sprint champion Mark Landry — the top-seeded swimmer in both the 50- and 100-yard freestyles. Landry holds the county record of 21.7 in the 50-free and owns a time of 46.1 in the 100-free. He will be hotly dueted by Andover's Lemkhuhl.

Laber's medley relay of Derek Walter, Rob McElwain, Anthony Marchese and Landry also is seeded No. 1. McElwain is the top-seeded

swimmer in the breaststroke. Chip Dolliver will offer a stiff challenge in both the 100- and 200-yard freestyle events.

"We're looking to qualify our remaining group of kids who haven't qualified yet (for the state meet)," said meet director and Laber coach Mike Hato. "Our No. 1 goal is to qualify two breaststrokers (Pat Brooks and Mark Leonard) and a backstroker (Walter). Hopefully we can get second place and get our kids qualified at the same time."

BARNHART, freshman Dave Whitner and senior co-captain Matt Dalec should provide the Colts with some points. Diver Bruce Vickery, a transfer student from Brother Rice, hopes to contend in the diving competition.

"I think we should do fairly well," said Troy coach Tom Zuleh. "I'm hoping for a top-five finish depending on how well our relayers do." Southfield-Lathrup's Mike Vetter and Andy Spicer and North Farmington's Mike Tumey are a few of the other top individuals. Tumey owns a superb time of 22.6 in the 100-yard butterfly. Farmington Harrison's Scott Farabee is another swimmer hoping to land an individual medal.

Falcons dunk Central; Hawks win

The Farmington swim team settled a year-old debt to Walled Lake Central Thursday.

Central, a team that hasn't experienced many dual meet victories, routed the Falcons last season.

The Falcons evened the score Thursday with an 89-83 win. Adam Krause, G.T. Mell, Brad Moore and Scott Hawkins clinched the victory by winning the 400-yard medley relay in 4:40.52. They beat Central by six seconds.

Hawkins swam a personal best 1:02.0 and finished second in the 100 backstroke.

The Falcons are 3-6 on the season.

FARMINGTON HARRISON also needed a victory in the 400 freestyle relay to claim victory Thursday against Northville.

Jeff Bolla, Brian Fitzgerald, Scott Farabee and Jeff Nelkirk won the event in 3:35.7, eight seconds faster than Northville, to pull out an 87-84

victory. The Hawks had taken a slim lead after Scott Walock won the 100 breaststroke in 1:07.6.

Bolla won both the 200 free (1:56.5) and 500 free (5:28.5). Farabee won the 300 IM (2:08.5) and 100 butterfly (1:07.0).

John Ebach won diving (159.55) and Fitzgerald won the 100 backstroke (1:03.0).

The Hawks, 4-4 on the season, beat the Western Division lead in the Western Lakes with Plymouth Canton. The Hawks host second-place Livonia Churchill Thursday and travel to Canton a week from Thursday.

NORTH FARMINGTON swam with two of its frontliners out sick and with another at half-strength Thursday. As a result, Westland John Glenn upended the Raiders 89-84.

Andy Fretz and Keith Lee missed the meet and Terry Greenstein swam below his potential — all three were battling the flu.

Bruce Golts and Mike Tumey won two events each. Golts won the 50 free (23.32) and the 100 butterfly

(59.19). Tumey set a Glenn pool Tumey also won the 500 free record with a 2:01.37 in the 200 IM. (4:48.17).

That topped the old mark of 2:03.4. North (5-3) also won the 400 free-st in 1985 by Glenn's John Jensen. style relay in 3:39.55.

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