

# Wrestler reaches All-American goal

By G.A. Risak  
staff writer

"I went for a takeover," he said, "and (Monaco) stepped on me and put me on my back. He nearly pinned me."

Urso trailed 5-0 before rallying. With 20 seconds left in the match that was tied 5-0, and Urso decided to gamble. "I had taken him down two or three times and I thought I could do it again," he said. So he let Monaco escape, a move which scored a point for his opponent, then attacked and got a takedown, scoring two points for himself and earning an 8-7 victory.

IT WAS A risky maneuver, particularly after Monaco had nearly pinned Urso on his back. Urso attacked early in the match. "It was definitely a planned move," said Urso. "I thought he felt tired, I didn't think he was as strong as at the beginning of the match. My conditioning helped me a lot."

That proved to be the highlight of the tournament for Urso. In the semis, he faced eventual NCAA champion, Joyce Alger of Iowa. Alger took him down "maybe a dozen times," Urso said, recording a technical fall at 5:41.

"He's a machine," Urso said of Alger. "He is without a doubt the Mike Amin, 5-0."

Urso's next match, against Oklahoma State's Mike Farrell, was more painful. In the first minute both wrestlers went for a takedown and collided. Urso broke his palm and was forced to take a two-minute injury timeout. He continued the match, but "felt like I was in a daze," Farrell won 5-1.

Urso then forfeited his match for fifth-place with Craig Morton of Missouri because of his broken nose. "I'M HAPPY I made All-American," said Urso. "Everything I'd want for came true."

"I felt the same way this year as I felt going into my senior year (at CC). My junior year I had won the districts but wrestled horribly at the regional and didn't even qualify for the state meet. I was determined to make it my senior year, and I ended up winning the state title."

That's what it was like this year. I was obsessed with it. I couldn't sleep at night because it was always on my mind."

Urso's remaining goal is an NCAA title. But that may have to wait a year. Iowa's Alger, who was unbeaten in his career, is expected to win the state championship. Purdue's coaches are already considering red-shirting Urso a year.

Once his collegiate career is finished, Urso said, "I'll like to go to hang it up. I have no burning ambition to be an international star."

Olympic wrestling is freestyle, different than that in college. Mastering that style would take three or four years, said Urso, more time than he wants to dedicate.

# Glenn's Davis decides to ease into retirement

By Brad Emmons  
staff writer

Little did anyone know the final chapter in Gordie Davis' distinguished coaching career at Westland-John Glenn was written last week when a last-second dial by Detroit Chadey's Brian Diol in the second overtime knocked the host Rockets out of the Class A regional basketball tournament.

Davis told his team over the weekend that he was retiring from coaching after two successful stints at Glenn.

The easy-going Davis won quietly during his 15 years at Glenn, compiling a 215-112 record. He won seven league titles and three districts.

"I'm to the point where I'll be retiring from teaching in a couple of years and I just want to taper into it," Davis said. "I'll miss the association with the players and the competition. I had good kids to work with."

Ironically, Davis' most successful season in terms of wins and losses came this season when the Rockets won a school-record 21 games. Glenn tied Plymouth Salem for first place in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association with a 15-1 record, but missed playing Western Division champion Plymouth Canton for the WLAIA title, losing a tiebreaker on an usual coin flip to determine divisional champion.

THIS SEASON, the Rockets fell only to Salem, Rival Wayne Memorial and Chadey by a total of eight points.

"We had a great season, but you still look back and maybe a break or two and it could have been a super year and it's the retiring coach. "But this was a special group with Andy (Gramm) and Steve (Hawley). I had them as sophomores and I wanted to see them through."

Davis said he'll continue to work with the Glenn basketball program through the summer to help make the transition easier for the new coach.

A native of Wayne, Davis played sports at Truford State (Mo.) and Albion College. He taught school two years in Cadillac, joined the military, worked in the personnel department three years at General Motors before joining the Wayne-Westland School District as a physical education instructor.

"I had the urge to get back into teaching and I started coaching at the junior high level," Davis said. "I worked my way up and I also coached JV football at Glenn."

Davis spent two years as a JV coach under Chris Theodore at Glenn before becoming the varsity coach during the 1985-86 season.

DURING THE 1972-73 season, Davis won his first Northwest Suburban League title, beating Livonia

Franklin in the final regular season game on a three-point play by Dave Carlington in the final seconds.

"I'll always remember that first league championship — that always sticks out," Davis said, referring to the team made up of Carlington, Brian Kaluzny, Jim Khollman, J.P. McBride and the late Terry Johnson.

With guard Darin Armstrong leading the way, Glenn reached the regional final during the 1977-78 season before losing to Detroit Mackacum.

"That was another special group," Davis said.

Davis compiled a record of 153-91 when he retired in 1979, but he came back four years later, replacing Dan Henry, to compile a 69-27 record during his last four seasons. He won the Northwest Suburban League title in 1984, Western Lakes playoffs (1986) and district crown (1987). "I've been in physical education and have had contact every day with kids in sports," Davis said. "That really helps."

DAVIS BELIEVES the winning tradition can continue at Glenn.

"We lose four starters, but our JV team went 17-3 and we have two kids coming back who played quite a bit this year," he said. "So I'm not leaving the cookie jar empty."

Gordie Davis never did. It's time to sit up and take notice.

# C'ville club flourishes

Forty-six teams and 737 swimmers from across the state competed March 13-15 in the Michigan Junior Olympic Swim meet at Clarenceville High School in Livonia.

TOP CLARENCEVILLE FINISHERS

- Girls 10-and-under Nancy Harvey — first, 100 butterfly; second, 50 backstroke; Andrea Hoffman — second, 50 backstroke; Brenda Newton — first, 100 backstroke; Sheri Richardson — first, 100 butterfly; fourth, 100 backstroke.
- 11-12: Terri Yuhaz — first, 200 individual medley; 100 butterfly; sixth, 50 butterfly; Jennifer Knapp — sixth, 100 butterfly; Nancy Watson — first, 100 butterfly; Becky Weary — fourth, 200 freestyle.
- 13-14: Julie Farabee — third, 100 butterfly; fourth, 400 IM; Katie Holt — fifth, 50 freestyle; Megan Holmberg — third, 500 freestyle; fifth, 400 IM; sixth, 200 freestyle; Jill Murray — fifth, 100 backstroke; Mary Quinn — fifth, 200 butterfly; Liz Tucker — fourth, 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke.
- 15-16: Lisa Campore — second, 50 and 200 freestyle; fourth, 100 backstroke and 200 breaststroke; Angie Neville — first, 500 freestyle and 200 IM; third, 50 freestyle; fourth, 200 freestyle; Lauren Meyer — first, 200 IM; fifth, 200 freestyle; sixth, 100 freestyle and 200 breaststroke.
- Boys 10-and-under: Mike Schaner — first, 100 butterfly; Jeff Slaving — first, 100 butterfly; fourth, 100 backstroke; sixth, 50 freestyle.
- 11-12: Todd Farabee — second, 200 IM; Tony Gaiswood — 100 butterfly and 50 backstroke; second, 100 backstroke; fourth, 100 butterfly; Jon Karshaw — first, 200 IM; second, 50 butterfly; third, 100 IM; Wendel Tucker — second, 100 butterfly; sixth, 200 freestyle.
- 13-14: Mike Hostlein — second, 200 butterfly; fifth, 100 butterfly and 400 IM; sixth, 200 IM; Eric Newell — sixth, 50 freestyle; David West — third, 100 freestyle.

# Price of success

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Urso was determined to avenge that embarrassment. He did, winning his first three NCAA matches and eventually finishing sixth, beyond expectation. Urso, a stymied, but at the same time it created, new expectations of him for next season.

NORTH FARMINGTON'S gymnastics team won 10 titles, individual or team, at last week's state meet. So how did coach Jeff Dwyer feel about that?

"Happy, thank you. Dwyer figured his team had a shot at first, but it was a slim one. When the Raiders finished second, Dwyer was a bit surprised and definitely pleased — particularly considering no North

team member placed higher than a tie for third in any individual event. Of course, Dwyer's happiness was matched by Troy Athens coach Frank DiVito's. After all, the Rod Hawks won the state championship.

Being No. 1 is always No. 1 on an athlete's list of goals. It's even emphasis on realizing that goal intensifies that the role of sports, and its importance, distorts.

Climbing to the top is tremendous. It deserves recognition, particularly for the sacrifices earned along the way. But remember: There's room for just one up there. And second or third isn't all that bad, if effort isn't lacking.

The important thing, athletes, is not to let others set your expectations. Make your own goals, and make them reasonable.

# North places 2nd

Continued from Page 1

standings with a 17.05, which included a 9.25. Saturday's best score. In the team competition, Heller had an 8.16. Marilyn Dunn scored 8.10 and Karhu got a 7.75.

The all-around standings reflected how much North's depth of talent meant to its final finish. The top North all-around gymnast was Heller, who placed 10th (out of 28) with 34.95 points. Toroyan was 11th at 34.9. Freedom's Jermie Njeman won the all-around title with 35.65.

"Everyone hit for me after the beam," said Dwyer. "I wasn't one particular girl doing great, but four good scores. And in a meet like this where all four of your girls' scores count in your total, you can't afford a miss."

In baseball parlance, North didn't get a lot of big hits in the tournament, but the Raiders didn't make many errors, either.

SALEM DID NOT do as well as its competitors in any respect. The Rockets finished last in the team

standings and did not post a score in any event good enough to qualify someone for Saturday's individual competition.

The best for Salem came from Jackie Huff, who had team-high marks in three of four events. Huff recorded an 8.7 in the vault, an 8.8 in the beam and an 8.6 in the floor exercise and 7.8 on the bars. Second-highest for the Rockets, behind Becky Talbot's 8.4.

Huff was the only Rocket to compete in all four events and qualify for the all-around. Her 33.95 placed her 19th.

Talbot also had marks of 8.1 in the vault and 8.7 in the floor exercise. Other Salem scorers were Dana Holde, 8.5 on the vault and 7.8 on the bars; Sharon Vay, 6.10 on the floor exercise and 4.7 on the bars; Arny Patzert, 8.1 in the floor exercise and 6.95 in the beam; Jenny Byrta, 7.45 on the beam; Debbie Drabek, 6.95 on the bars; and Debbie Popp, 7.5 on the vault.

North ended its campaign with a 19-1 dual-meet record. Salem finished at 10-3.

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