North heavyweight OK to wrestle in state finals

Zaim Cunmulaj got some good news this weck when he was given the OK to compete in the state wrestling champlonships Friday and Saturday. North Farmington's heavyweight had to withdraw from the consolation final in the regional tournament when he stretched the ligaments in his left knee. Cunmulaj was ahead on points 2-1 in his match with Roman Rimmer of Temperance Bedford when he suffered the injury.

troman filmmer of Temperance Bedford when he suf-fered the injury.

He had to settle for fourth place but still qualified for the Class A finals in Battle Creek. The only question was whether or not he'd be able to wrestle.

"I didn't want to ruin him," said North coach Dick Cook, who had to convince a determined Cunmulaj it was in his best interest to consider the upcoming finals and pull out.

"IT ISN'T WORTH the kid's knee. He's got college coaches who want him. Even if he doesn't place in the state, he's going to go somewhere." Cunmulaj, 33-4, was illith among 198-pounders last year. As a heavyweight, he's in one of the most competi-tive. As a heavyweight, he's in one of the most competi-

year. As a neavyweight, ne's in one of the most competi-live divisions. The field includes Redford Catholic Central's Lee Krueger, the district and regional champ who won the 198 title a year ago: Cilo's Scott Brotherion and Romaius' Paul Nowicki, who were second and fourth among heavyweights in 1986; and Traverse City's Mike Nadlicki, who was sixth at 198.

Cunmulaj will face the Lansing regional winner in his first match and, assuming things go as expected, Nadlicki in the next round and Krueger after that.

Cunmulaj defeated Nadlicki twice last year. He lost a 2-1 decision to Krueger in the 198 semis a year ago and dropped a 4-2 decision to his CC rival in the district final carlier this month.

ruer this month.
"If he wrestles as he has been, he should be afi-state
jain," Cook said. "I wouldn't be surprised if he won it,
d I wouldn't be surprised if he didn't place. It that's
thi.

"KRUEGER WILL BE the only kid up there who can beat Zalm," he added. "He'll have to upset Krueger to beat bim, and someone will have to upset Zaim for him not to place."

Plymouth Salem sent seven wrestlers to the regional tournament, but only three — Steve Burlison (160), Brian Burlison (171) and Ed Barlage (140) — qualified for the state meet.

the state meet.

Craig Richardson (112), Julian Sell (125), Mike Shumate (130) and Pete Israel (152) lost their first matches and didn't survive the consolation rounds.

"I fell we could have had more," Salem coach Ron Krueger sald. "I would have liked to have gotten some of my other kids through, but it just wasn't to be."

North's Lucian Van Cleave (130) and Jeff Jacobs (171) and Farmington's Todd Jacobs (145) also lost in the first round and falled to survive to the consolation finals. Todd Jacobs Jacob the entire round survive to the consolation finals. Todd Jacobs Jacob the entire tour day the survive to the consolation finals. Todd Jacobs Jacob the entire truth winner, Jason Kopcak of Wayne Memorial, in his first match.



Jason Barringer had one of Harrison's success- individual medley and holped the Hawks ful swims Tuesday as he captured the 200-yard achieve victory in the medley relay.

Raiders improve to 9-0

A team effort Tuesday led North Farmington to a 101-70 win over nost Farmington Harrison, its ninth boys swimming dual meet victory in as many tries.

The Raiders are all alone in first place in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activitics Association at 4-0, with one division encounter remaining. North's six individual titles came from six different swimmers. The Raiders' foursome of Chuck Chuba, Danny Knipper, Rob Mehle and

Knipper, the 100 freestyle (53.90); Keith Lee, 500 freestyle (5:25.70); and Chris Knoche, 100 breaststroke (1:08.90). swimming

Steve Turney also won the 400-yard freestyle relay in 3:71.5.
Eric Maxon won North's first Individual title of the night, claiming the 200 freestyle (2:04-80). Other firsts went to Rob Kunzelman, who won the diving with 215.20 points; Turney, the 100 butterfly (53.90);

Harrison won the 200 medley re-iny, as Ed Serzo, Jason Barringer, Chad Hughes and Jeff Neikirk fin-ished the race in 1:50.60.

Barringer won the 200 individual medley (2:18.10); Nelkirk earned a title in the 50 freestyle (24.90); and Serzo won the 100 backstroke (1:02.20).

Area qualifies 16 in 'A'

have it pretty well together."
Matt Helm was second at 126
last year, Rodriguer fourth at 145
and Cumulaj fifth at 198, Jay
Helm, Woodbeck, Matigian, Will
and Steve Burlison also are veterans of state competition, though
they didn't place.

"I'M HOPING ALL three are going with the idea of doing something because they're capable," said Salem coach Ron Krueger, who also will have his son, Lee, to cheer on. "Stove was there as a sophomore, and this year he wants to get some hardware. "Having been there helps. That's why my son has so much success. When he was a little kid, he went every year with us and sat on the first-taid box. When be got there himself, it, was no big deal; he'd been there."

Lee Krueger defied the critics a

himself, it was no big deat her been there."

Lee Krueger defied the critics a second straight Saturday when he wen the regional title, defeating a much bigger opponent, Paul Nowicki of Romulus, 8-1.

Krueger literally had to wrestle and thus prove his skill to win the heavyweight division. He won both of his earlier matches in overtime, beating Carbon's Mike Mayville 7-4 and Lincoln Park's Tony Ruchle with a 2-2, criteria decision.

"I stayed laside of (Nowicki) and didn't let him lock up to throw me," said Krueger of his strategy in negating his opponent's size advantage.

Mrueger rates as one of the favorites along with Scott Brotherton of Cile, who was runner-up to Krueger's former teammate, Toby Heaton, at heavyweight last year.

"I'VE WRESTLED all the best," said Krueger, who is 42-2-1 and has tied Brotherton. "I'm confident but I know I'll have to wrestle. I think

wrestling

beating the Romulus kid gave me a lot of confidence." "He hasn't received the due cred-it he deserves," Rodriguez said. "I guess, when it comes down to it, his talents will come out.

"People thought because of his size and moving up he couldn't han-dle lt, but he's been doing well all year."

die it, but he's been dolng well all year."

Matt Helm, who eked out a 3-2 decision over Temperance Bed-ford's Drew Wing, and No. 1-ranked Brad Smith of Davison are the 130-pound favorites. Helm hopes to awage the memory of inat year's emotional loss to Royal Oak Kimball's Jeff Bedard.

In the only regional final pitting two Observerland wrestlers, Jay Helm won an 11-4 decision over Woodbeck in a match the "bed some controversy.

Helm lifted Woodbeck and took him to the mat for a legal take-down, but the official called the RU wrestler for an illegal stam when he did the same later. The call brought an negative response from the crowd. Instead of a possible five points that would have narrowed the score, Woodbeck got nothing.

"IT WAS KINDA close when Jay took him down," Rodriguez said. "If I'd been the official, I might have called a slam.

nave called a slam.

"The reason he didn't call it (against Helm) was because (Woodbeck) went instantly to his back. In Woodbeck's case, it looks more like a slam when you don't take him right to his back." a siam waw.
right to his back."

RU coach Jeff Fagan said the ofpoints.

ficiating was inconsistent on that point, and there was no intent on the part of Woodbeek to hurt his opponent. He added the call didn't directly affect the outcome, and he was pleased to see Woodbeek improve upon the technical fall (18-2) his CC rival scored in the district final.

"He came back and wrestled tougher against Helm and that's good," Fagan said. "He gets anoth-er shot at him, and that's all I'm concerned about.

"Chris has a lot less match experience, and he was just going to go for takedowns. Helm is a tough kid, and I don't know if (Woodbeck) could have beld him on his back. (Helm) deserved to win the match."

Rodriguez, who also won a one-point decision in the final, hopes to follow in the footsteps of older brothers Steve and Dave, who won state championships in 1971 and 1974, respectively.

"Having to live with the pressure of being the younger brother and son of the casch, he's handled it nil pretty well," the elder Rodriguez aid. "Ever since he was little, I told him 'Don't expect any Tavors or anybody to love you because of your brothers."

will, who needs one victory at state to become the first Stevenson wrestler to reach 100 during a ca-reer, made a comeback after fin-ishing fourth in the district.

He lost a 7-8 decision to Romulus' Ricky Champagne to start the day but won three straight in the consolation round and finished third.

With two seconds left in the first match, Will scored a two-point re-versal that would have won it, but the official claimed he made a had decision, according to Stevenson coach Don Berg, and took away the

RU, CC swimmers notch wins





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Hoeflein took the 50 freestyle (23.16) and 100 backstroke (58.03), while Shumate took the 200 and 500, freestyles with times of 1:49.08 and 4:50.37, respectively.

Blocks enforce absorption as of the University of Mospo, in Finand, have discovered (accidentaly) a new weight-loss, formula. The new discovery enables an ownered (accidentaly) a new weight-loss, formula, The new discovery enables and some of the control of the

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