

### OBSERVERLAND TOURNAMENT

**11TH ANNUAL OBSERVERLAND WRESTLING TOURNAMENT**  
Jan. 28 at Livonia Churchil

**Team standings:** 1. Redford Catholic Central, 220.5; 2. Westland John Glenn, 210.3; Plymouth Salem, 200; 4. Livonia Churchil, 160.5; 5. Plymouth Canton, 144.5; 6. Wayne Memorial, 124; 7. Livonia Stevenson, 101; 8. Redford Union, 82; 9. Lutheran Westland, 68; 10. Garden City, 51.5; 11. Livonia Clarenceville, 51; 12. Livonia Franklin, 49.5; 13. North Farmington, 49; 14. Redford Thurston, 47.5; 15. Farmington, 43; 16. Farmington Harrison, 6.

**275 pounds:** 1. Jason LeDuc (RU) major decision over Nick Remton (WM), 28:17; 3. Tony Martinez (LF), major dec. over Patrick Clark (CC), 11:1; 5. Jeremy Walker (PS) overtime criteria dec. over Mike Robinson (LS).

**103:** 1. Matt Steintrager (CC) dec. Nick Naber (JO), 11:7; 3. Steve Hagg (PC) dec. Bryan Meynyn, 11:5; 5. Dan McArthur (LS) dec. Dan Moran (WM), 7:3.

**132:** 1. Parris Bajrami (HF) won by decision over Matt Kozlira (CC).

**151:** 1. Hefestus Mandras (JO) dec. Peter Bobee (PS), 11:6; 3. Craig LeBaron (RT) technical fall over Kader Al-Moushi (Clarenceville), 5:55; 5. Danny Clement (LC) dec. Brian Hoffmann (LS), 8:4.

**128:** 1. Mike Goethe (PS) dec. Brian Clement (LC), 8:4; 3. Shawn Parker (JG) dec. Jon Schwarz (F), 8:1; 5. Dustin Armer (PC) dec. Ben Slight (LF), 11:7.

**130:** 1. Jason Fischer (LS) dec. Rene Cox (JG), 8:6 in overtime; 3. Tim Hammer (WM) dec. Steve Lenhardt (LC), 8:6; 5. Brandon Sammut (PS) dec. John Gourlay (RU), 3:2.

**135:** 1. Phil Perry (JO) dec. Nathan Dilard (PS), 5:2; 3. Rich Russell (CC) dec. Richard Wentworth (CC), 9:7; 5. Derek Robinson (PC) tech. fall over Pete Daniels (LV), 2:35.

**140:** 1. Nate Rodriguez (CC) major dec. over Lev Merigan (LC), 11:2; 3. Chris Hoxey (PC) dec. John Dobbins (WM), 8:1; 5. Dan Baskley (LV) injury default over Sean O'Halloran (LS).

**148:** Trevor Stewart (CC) dec. Tony Kennard (PS), 5:4; 3. Greg Musser (PC) dec. Danton Crutchfield (JO), 6:5; 5. Jeremy Sparks (JG) pinned Dan Galfo (LC), 4:34.

**152:** 1. Bryan Marsh (WM) major dec. over Matt Radley (LS), 8:0; 3. Scott Schwartz (CC) major dec. over Brad Gregory (JO), 10:2; 5. Adam Schaefer (PS) dec. Mike Siegrist (PC), 6:2.

**160:** 1. Steve Wallace (WA) major dec. over Nick Wroblewski (JG), 12:0; 3. Brian Jones (LC) pinned Dan Haller (LV), 4:08; 5. Craig Blair (PS) major dec. over Darlo Mainella (LS), 12:4.

**173:** 1. Jay Abshire (LC) dec. Chris Crag, chiloia (CC), 3:1 in overtime; 3. Jack Sorez (JO) major dec. over Jake Bongoro (RU), 17:6; 5. Chris Hansen (PS) pinned Ryan Olschbach (Clarenceville), 2:35.

**189:** 1. Ryan Rogowski (CC) major dec. over Alex Murray (LC), 14:5; 3. Shaneli Rajae (PC) dec. Josh Harrington (RT), 8:6; 5. Ryan Smith (Clarenceville) major dec. over Ken Kemp (LV), 13:3.

**215:** 1. Phil Rothwell (PC) dec. Blaise Naysmith (CC), 3:2; 3. Zack Jensen (PS) dec. R.J. Ramsey (WM), 4:3; 5. Tomio Schembri (LS) major dec. over Eric Shapiro (HF), 19:6.

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over finish and was the runner-up with 210; Plymouth Salem, which also received a trophy, was a close third at 208.

"It was a lot harder (to win) than in past years," CC coach Mike Rodriguez said. "That goes to show the competition is getting tougher."

"Teams aren't staying in their own backyard; they're going out of the area to find tougher competition. The young men in our area will do well at state because of it."

A good many of those wrestlers are Shamrocks, who had four individual champions and three overall finalists Saturday.

CC winners included Matt Steintrager (103), Nate Rodriguez (140), Trevor Stewart (145) and Ryan Rogowski (189) while Matt Kozlira (112), Chris Cracchiolo (171) and Blaise Naysmith (215) finished second.

"We've got young men who like to work hard and, in this day and age, that's difficult to find," Mike Rodriguez said. "They know when they (go to CC) they have to work. They can't just put on a suit and be on the team."

Salem had the tournament's two most valuable wrestlers, however. Mike Goethe was named MVW for the lower weights (103-140) and Tony Kennard the upper weights (145-275).

Goethe won the 125-pound title while Kennard lost a controversial, 5-4 decision to Stewart in the championship bout at 145. The awards are determined by a vote of the coaches.

"You never know what's going through their heads," Rodriguez said. "Whether it's Salem coach Greg Woocuk's kid or my kid, it's kinda degrading. You have to win to be the MVP."

Kennard rallied in the third period to gain a one-point lead over Stewart with a nearfall.

With little time remaining, Kennard was in the up position for a restart. The referee assessed a penalty point when he cautioned Kennard a third time for assuming an illegal stance.

That created a tie score, and Stewart escaped moments later to win the bout by a point, which brought a cascade of boos from the spectators in protest of the referee's decision to award the penalty point.

"That's all part of the sport;

everybody paid their money and are entitled to an opinion," Rodriguez said.

"It's not helping Kennard. It doesn't soothe (the pain of losing). He'll have a pain in his heart til he meets him again, and I'm sure we'll have that opportunity."

Kennard did handle the defeat and disappointment in a mature manner, according to Woocuk.

"Those things happen in life, and Tony handled it way beyond his years," he said. "He's a class act. That was pretty evident when he came off the mat."

"Most kids would have been throwing their head gear and had their heads down. He had his head up and walked off the mat."

"(The officials) have control out there. Sometimes they wield their power in unreasonable ways. It's his right to caution the kid out, I guess."

"That's all part of growing up, too. Tony is able to take that and understand. It doesn't make me any less of a person or a wrestler."

As did Stewart at 145, Goethe upheld his No. 1 ranking in the area, winning by pin and major decision before defeating Livonia Churchill's Brian Clement in the final, 8-4.

"He's right on course on what he's been doing all year long," Woocuk said. "Tony, too. Tony has been the MVP in four tournaments. They're working up to their potential."

Glenn figured to be CC's closest competition and was in the overall tally. The Rockets had a pair of champions — Kefestus Mandras (119) and Phil Perry (135) — and three runners-up.

"I think we did a pretty nice job," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "I think we had a legitimate chance at winning the tournament, but we had a couple let-downs throughout the day that kinda put a damper on our plans. But we finished off pretty strong."

"We expected (Mandras and Perry) to win it, not easily, but both did their jobs. A couple of the runners-ups, we feel, should have won the tournament."

"But they had some pretty tough competition, and those (other) guys showed they're not going to sit back and let them win it. It's good to see competition like that; it keeps you work-

ing hard."

CC's Steintrager won the 103 title by decision over Glenn's Nick Naber, avenging an earlier loss while handing Naber only his second defeat in 27 bouts. Naber was rated No. 1 in the area, Steintrager No. 2.

"He kinda specklegged us," Rodriguez said of Steintrager. "He started off winning and set the tone for the rest of the guys."

"(Nate Rodriguez) is starting to show his takedown ability. When he gets on the mats, you know things are going to happen."

Rogowski competed in only his second tournament and won his first title after a late start following football and minor surgery.

"Ryan is just starting to come around," Rodriguez said. "He's just starting to get his legs. He works very hard and it's just a matter of time."

Canton's Phil Rothwell defended his 215 crown. Rogowski and Livonia Churchill's Jay Abshire were the only other repeat winners among eight hopefuls.

Abshire, who won the 145 championship while wrestling for CC last year, transferred to Churchill and just became eligible last week.

He defeated former CC teammate Chris Cracchiolo in the 171 final, scoring a takedown with 26 seconds left in overtime and gaining control just as the two were going off the mat.

Salem also had three runners-up but was missing a couple wrestlers due to injury. Woocuk was still pleased to see the Rocks finish as well as they did.

"You can always whine and complain that you should've had a couple more kids in there," Woocuk said, "but that's woulda, coulda, shoulda. It doesn't get you any place. The same thing happened at Wyandotte; we were second there."

"The kids are pretty happy with what they've been doing. We're pretty happy as coaches, also."

The other champions were Redford Union's Jason LeDuc (275), North Farmington's Ramis Bajrami (112), Livonia Stevenson's Jason Fischer (130) and Wayne Memorial's Bryan Marsh (152) and Steve Wallace (160).

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