

Thursday, February 25, 1982

8 area wrestlers earn regional berths

By Tom Baer
Staff writer

Four Falcons, three Raiders and a Hawk.
That's the breakdown of the Farmington-area survivors in the high school state wrestling tournament, which advances to the regional level Saturday.
The four Farmington Falcons — Mark Denny, Bill Anglin, John Steinkopf and Lenny Pitel — wrestled well enough in last Saturday's district at

Trenton to earn spots in the upcoming Hazel Park regional.
North Farmington will be represented at the Ann Arbor Huron regional by Raiders Matt Gasser, Dan Orr and Paul Cotter. Dave Blackner, the only Harrison Hawk to advance, will compete in the same Ann Arbor tournament. Both North and Harrison wrestled in the Walled Lake Western district.
Farmington's Denny, a senior with a lofty 24-4 record, pulled off perhaps the

biggest tournament surprise when he defeated Southfield-Lathrup's Chris Parent with an 8-4 decision in the finals of the 132-pound event at Trenton.
Parent, a junior, had lost only once in 34 bouts previous to Saturday's action.
"Mark took away what Parent does best," said Farmington coach Barry Walsh. "Parent's a pinner — when he's in control, he's always going for the fall."
"Mark took that away from him by keeping his head up and his elbows in."

Earlier in the district, Denny recorded pins over Redford Bishop Borgess' John Bouse (34 seconds) and Livonia Bentley's Mark Bincat (3:05).

ANGLIN BOOSTED his record to 35-3 en route to a first-place finish in the 126-pound competition.
The Farmington senior logged a 24-7 decision to Redford Thurston's Mark Byrne in the 126 final after deciding Lincoln Park's Russ Smith (10-0) and pinning Redford Union's Mike Blackburn (2:42).
Steinkopf, another senior, finished third at heavyweight. He decided Trenton's Brian McCall (10-4) and pinned Thurston's Tom Berardo (1:11) before losing to RU's Pat Pello on a pin in 3:31.

Survivors!

Following are the Farmington-area wrestlers who'll be trying to stay alive in Saturday's state high school regional tournament at Ann Arbor Huron.

FROM FARMINGTON: Lenny Pitel (119 pounds), Bill Anglin (126), Mark Denny (132), John Steinkopf (heavyweight).

FROM N. FARMINGTON: Matt Gasser (98), Dan Orr (132), Paul Cotter (145).

FROM HARRISON: Dave Blackner (167).

In the consolation final, Steinkopf pinned Dearborn Fordson's William Ali in 1:55.

Pitel, a junior, finished third in the 119-pound class with a 10-4 decision over Dearborn's Mark Osterhoff in the consolation final. In earlier matches, Pitel decided Catholic Central's Steve McCormack (13-10) and was pinned by Thurston's Harry Newton (5:10).

NORTH FARMINGTON coach Jim O'Leary was proud of his three survivors — especially senior Dan Orr, who won the 132-pound championship at Walled Lake Western despite not having wrestled for the last six weeks.
"Dan did a fantastic job," O'Leary

said. "He's been out for six weeks with a broken rib and he's practiced all of two days with us. It's really something for him to come back like that."

Orr won his 19th match in 24 starts when he beat Milford's Greg Stepanian on a criteria decision in the 132 final. Orr recorded pins over Milford-Lake-land's Justin Spewouk (2:54) and Flint Southwestern's Darryl Johnson (4:21).

Gasser, who owns a 29-8 record after his second-place finish at 98, lost to Birmingham Brother Rice's Todd

Snook on an 11-1 decision in the weight class final.

Gasser, a sophomore, advanced with pins over Birmingham Seaholm's Bob Kline (1:27) and Birmingham Groves' Louis Ferdinand (57 seconds) and a decision over Brighton's Red Norwood (6:0).

Cotter, a senior with a 28-6 record, lost to West Bloomfield's Bob Petrillo, 9-1, in the 145-pound final.

Please turn to Page 8C



North Farmington's Paul Cotter, who will wrestle in the regional tournament Saturday, works over a teammate during a recent practice.

Matt Gasser, North Farmington's 98 pounder, stayed alive in the state high school wrestling tournament.

Golden Gloves boxers punch way into suburbs

It's a strange partnership.
Big-time amateur boxing, a city game, is coming to the suburbs for the first time. Joe Louis and Thomas Hearns, native Detroiters, learned their trade in the Golden Gloves. They fought at Olympia, the State Fairgrounds and Cobo Arena.
The 1982 area finals, however, will be held outside the city limits on the grounds of Schoolcraft College in Livonia.
Young boxers in 12 weight classes and four divisions (Junior Novice, Senior Novice, Novice and Open) will battle for spots in the National Golden Gloves championships March 30 to April 3 in Kansas, Mo.
The card begins at 8 p.m. at the school's main gymnasium. General admission tickets are still available for \$3.
Interest in boxing has picked up in the suburbs. The Livonia Boxing Club, which helped bring the tourney to Schoolcraft, is well represented in the finals.
The event is annually sponsored by the Detroit News and the Detroit Golden Gloves Charities. Marv Gans, the energetic athletic director at Schoolcraft College, welcomed the tourney sponsors.

HE'S JAZZING up the card with a four-piece ensemble. The College's Madrigal Singers will sing the national anthem.



Brad Emons

Kronk Recreation Center, the hub of inner city boxing, will be bringing its show to unfamiliar turf. The local boxers should get their fair share of support. Most fans, however, will attend to get a peak at the new crop of rising young stars.
It's a shame that Craig Payne, the nationally ranked super-heavyweight from the Livonia Boxing Club, will not get an opportunity to show the local fans his potential.
Payne, a charismatic 21-year-old with a million-dollar smile, automatically earns a trip to Kansas City without throwing a punch.
His coaches, Dick Quilton and Paul Soucy, have had trouble finding matches for the eager youngster since he pounded his way into the semifinals of last year's national Gloves tourney in Toledo.
"The confident, but humble, Payne doesn't relish 'walkovers.'"
"I like to earn it," he said. "I'd rather do it in the ring."
The 1984 Olympic prospect gets bored with inactivity, but last month he was invited and spent two weeks at the U.S. Olympic Development Training Camp (Colorado Springs, Colo.), sparring with some of the nation's top super-heavyweights.

IT'S ONLY a matter of time before Payne takes his show national. He was passed over for a recent U.S. Boxing team tour of Russia, but a trip next month to Cuba is still a possibility.
Payne was disappointed he didn't make the trip, but is working vigorously in preparation for three upcoming national tourneys.
"I'll be on national TV someday," he said. "I've got my foot in the door now."
"The atmosphere in Colorado was good. I got in some good sparring that I really needed. They threw a lot of different styles at me."
"I learned you have to make sure you're the head honcho. You have to be the aggressor. You have to get in the ring and make your showing."
The young stallion remains patient through it all. His persistence rubs off on his teammates daily at the Jackson Community Center.
The discovery of Craig Payne will take a little longer. He remains loyal to his coaches and wants to put Livonia on the map.
The suburb's best boxer since Mickey Goodwin will go unnoticed locally for another year.
Patience, Craig. Your day will come.



Craig Payne automatic berth

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