

Observerland

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four individual champions each. Following Rocky Barker's overtime victory at 100, the Spartans had a 204-197 lead over the Shamrocks, who needed wins from their two remaining finalists — 189-pound John Abshire and Naysmith — to win the meet.

In a bout between All-Observerland football players, Abshire edged Clarenceville's Walter Ragland 3-1 and then Naysmith clinched the title with a second-period pin over Kalen

McPherson, a Clarenceville sophomore.

"What better person to get it than my grandson," Rodriguez said, referring to Naysmith. "He delighted grandpa. I'm always proud of him no matter what he does."

"I was especially pleased with John Abshire coming back. It was his first competition all year, and he gets in the finals and wins it. He jumped into the lineup and gave his whole heart to the team effort."

CC's other winners were senior heavyweight Casey Rogowski, who was named the most outstanding wrestler in the upper weights, and 162-pound senior Mitch Hancock.

Stevenson's Joe Moreau and Josh Gunterman shared the MOW award in the lower weights after winning the 103 and 112 titles, respectively. The fourth winner for the Spartans was 135-pound Imad Kharbush.

"Josh Gunterman came out of nowhere to win," Stevenson, coach Don Berg said, adding Gunterman was a No. 4 seed. "That was unbelievable."

"The kids wrestled hard and they wrestled well. That's all you can ask — they do their best and that's what they did."

Rogowski, the defending Class A champion who extended his record to 26-0 this season and (75-0) over the last two, and Naysmith were the only repeat winners.

"It's a good award to get after a hard day's work," Rogowski said of his selection for MOW honors, although he barely broke a sweat in competition.

His pin of Farmington junior Brian Brinsden at 135 was his longest bout of the day. He dispatched Clarenceville's Justin Green and Garden City's Brad Tinney in the first period, also.

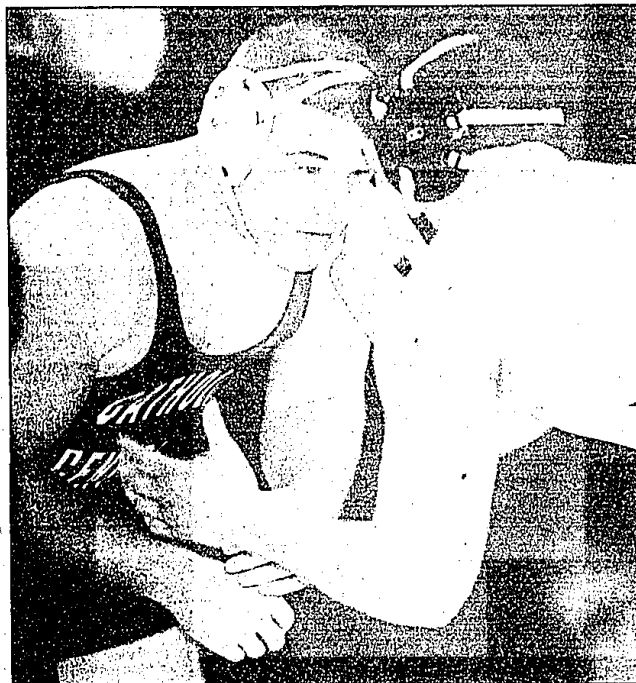
Rogowski, who will go to Central Michigan on a football scholarship, and the 6-foot-2, 240-pound Brinsden looked evenly-matched physically, but Rogowski shot the first takedown and quickly maneuvered for the pin.

"The last guy I wrestled was really strong, but I caught him in a move," Rogowski said, adding he later learned Brinsden didn't wrestle last year. "I've wrestled all four years, so experience might have been a factor."

"Casey is a very talented young athlete; he's on a mission," Rodriguez said. "He knows what he has to do, and he doesn't get sidetracked."

In the only head-to-head meeting between CC and Stevenson in the championship round, Moreau scored a technical fall over CC's Chris O'Hara, 17-2.

Moreau (34-2) was able to consistently outmaneuver his taller, heavier-looking opponent in



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

Heavyweights prepare to rumble: CC's Casey Rogowski (left) and Farmington's Brian Brinsden size up the competition in the 275-pound championship bout.

their first-time meeting.

"I think it's great," said Moreau of his MOW award. "I only wrestled one match before the finals because of an injury default, so I was all pumped up. After losing the last two years in the finals, it's nice to break that streak."

"After I took (O'Hara) down, he reversed me and had legs in, and I had to get out of that. After that, I got the bar-arm in and just kept turning him."

Stevenson's Gunterman is a 105-pounder who wrestled up a weight class and still topped the competition to improve his record to 20-0.

"I'm pretty excited because I was an underdog today," he said. "I beat a couple guys who had beaten me earlier in the year. It's really going to make me better for the state tournament."

Gunterman won a 19-10 decision over Westland Glenn's Jesse Purdon in the finals, evening their season series at 2-2.

"I don't know what was in me today," Gunterman said. "It was

my day, I guess. "Basically, I just wrestled my style — a lot of movement, not going upper body because I was going up size. I concentrated on shooting and getting out, not locking up with (Purdon) because he throws a lot."

"Also, I'm getting in better shape. The coaches have been working us hard. We've been having morning workouts. I think that's helping me a lot. I didn't seem to get very tired in my matches today."

Other champions are Wayne's Jon Gregg (119), Thurston's Eugene Antonelli (125) and Jeff

Usher (140). Clarenceville's Dave Lemmon (130), Churchill's Mike Carter (145) and Garden City's Brian Hinzman (171).

Kharbush, Carter and Barker scored takedowns in overtime to defeat Wayne's Nate Wensko, Canton's Kevin Stone and John Glenn's Pete Langer, respectively.

In the 135 final, Wensko rallied from a 5-2 deficit after one period to take a 7-6 lead over Kharbush on a takedown with 35 seconds remaining, but then he was assessed a stalling point with 16 seconds left, sending the bout into overtime.

WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Thursday, Feb. 4

Clarenceville at Uggitt, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 5

Clarenceville at Luth. East, 7 p.m.

Luth. Westland at Uggitt, 7 p.m.

Churchill at Canton, 7 p.m.

W.L. Western at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Stevenson at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.

John Glenn at Farmington, 7 p.m.

Salem at N. Farmington, 7 p.m.

Harrison at Northville, 7 p.m.

River Rouge at Wayne, 7 p.m.

Garden City at Allen Park, 7 p.m.

Thurston at Trossen, 7 p.m.

Redford Union at Fordon, 7 p.m.

Borgess at Notre Dame, 7:30 p.m.

DeSalle at Redford CC, 7:30 p.m.

St. Alphonsus at St. Agatha, 7:30 p.m.

Taylor Baptist at PCA, 7:30 p.m.

Huron Valley at Bethesda, 7:30 p.m.

W. Highland at Agape, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday, Feb. 6

Madison at Concordia, 3 p.m.

Wayne Co. at Oakland CC, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday, Feb. 6

Concordia at Madison, 3 p.m.

Wayne Co. at Oakland CC, 3 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Friday, Feb. 5

Whalers at Kitchener, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6

Whalers vs. Toronto Majors

at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 7

Whalers at Somalia, 7 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Thursday, Feb. 4

Andover vs. Franklin

at Det. Skating Club, 8 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 5

Redford CC at Alpena, TBA.

Churchill vs. Stevenson

at Eggar Arena, 8 p.m.

Farm. Unified vs. Northville

at Farm. Hills Ice Arena, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6

Redford CC at Alpena, TBA.

W.L. Central vs. Franklin

at Lakeland Ice Arena, 11:00 a.m.

Stevenson vs. Hixson

at Lakeland Ice Arena, 2:30 p.m.

Redford Unified vs. Dearborn

at Adair Arena, 8 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, Feb. 4

Clarenceville at Kingwood, 6:30 p.m.

Luth. West at Harper Vol, 6:30 p.m.

Mercy at Ladywood, 6:30 p.m.

St. Agatha at DePores, 6:30 p.m.

Inter-City at Phy. Christian, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 5

W. Highland at Agape, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6

A.A. Pioneer Invitational, 9 a.m.

Schoolcraft Invitational, 9 a.m.

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