E. Rochester, Mynderse picked in AHS mat tourney

A strong field is entered in

A strong field is entered in tomorrow's 10th annual Auburn Invitational Wrestling Tournament at Auburn Community College with a well balanced Mynderse Academy squad and undefeated East Rochester picked as the pre-tourney co-favorites.

However, all six other schools are capable of pulling out the victory. Rush-Henrietta is the defending champion squad and their outlook is unknown because of the lack of a roster prior to the tournament.

This year as in other years the tournament will feature some of the strongest teams in Central New York with Rush-Henrietta and East-Rochester, two of the powers from the Monroe County League and Mynderse and Geneva both perennial powers in the Wayne Finger Lakes Conference.

From the East, Rome and Oneida are always strong clubs with several outstanding wrestlers.

Auburn hopes to improve on last year's fourth place finish. The Maroons have won their own tournament three times in nine years, the last time in 1964.

AHS will send five undefeated wrestlers into the days activities with Fred Hemans in the 105 lb. class, Dan DeChick at 114 lbs., Dave DiFablo in the 135 lb. class, Doug Chapin at 140 lbs. and Henry Humphrey a heavyweight unbeaten.

Dick DiFabio in the 129 lb. class has lost only one match this season and will make a strong bid in his weight class.

The Maroons are only 1-2 on the season so far but both lossea have been to strong teams by close scores.

The rest of the local team will be Jeff Brewster at 97 lbs., Jerry Stapleton in the 122 lb. class, Terry Lattimore at 147 lbs., Ed Ehberhardt — 157 lbs., Tom Blair in the 167 lb. class and Scott Guild 177.

Action will get underway at 10:30 a.m. with two mats being used in the ACC gymnasium. The boys will have to arrive early as weigh-ins start at 8:30 a.m. and there is a coaches and officials meeting at 9:30 a.m.

After first round matches in the morning, the first round of the consolation matches begin at 1 p.m., followed by the semi-finals at 3 p.m. and then the consolation finals immediately after.

There will be a supper break, all the athletes eating at ACC, then the third place matches in the 13 weight classes will get underway at 6:30 p.m. followed by the final matches.

Other schools entered in the tournament are the host Auburn High Maroons, Geneva, Oneida, Rome Free Academy and Waterloo. All participated last year except Waterloo as it replaces Jordan-Elbridge.

There are three known champions of last year's tournament returning for action this year. Rush-Henrietta had three individual champs last year and it is not known if they graduated or not.

Emedio Sebastian of East Rochester will be back to defend his 97 lb. crown. Jim Smieropi of Mynderse will be jumping a weight after winning the 114-lb. bracket last year and will be grappling at 122-lbs. The other defender will also be from East Rochester and he will be Mike Duffy at 156-lbs.

One of the top wrestlers is likely to be Dave Moreland of Mynderse who last year wrestled in the heavyweight division and fared well against far bigger opponents, coming in third. This year he will be in the 177-lb. division.

Moreland won the 175-lb. crown in the Caledonia Holiday Tournament Saturday as he led the Blue Devils to the championship. Al Calabro was the 112-lb. champion and Paul Kronenwetter was tops at 154. Three other Mynderse grapplers finished second and two others were third. Rush-Henrietta was also in the tournament.

The outstanding wrestler in the tournament last year was Jim Tortorici and while he will not be back this year brother Sam will be involved in the 114-lb division matches for E. Rochester.

Henry M Vetter, Auburn High athletic director, is in charge of the tournament with assistance from Dick Jones, AHS wrestling coach and faculty manager for the athletic department.

There will be trophies for the team champion, first and second place finishers, the fastest pin and the outstanding wrestler. Third place winners will be awarded medals.

East Rochester has always been a powerful contender in the tournament, finishing in a tie for second last year, winning in 1963 and finishing second in 1964 at Auburn. Clyndersa tied for second last year, finished second in 1963 and third in 1965.

The host Auburn team finished third last year, having two individual champions including the outstanding wrestler in Sam Rogers. The locals won the tournament in 1961.

Coaches of the teams entered are: Auburn Jack Jones; Mynderse Abe Meyers; Geneva, Ed Dedel; Rome, Ed Weed; East Henrietta, Gordon Gilfillian; Oneida, Bill Ferbl; and Waterloo, Norm Fennell.

Tickets will be on sale at the door for all matches.

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Biff Buff

By KEARNEY EGERTON

"My good husband Paul Gagliano is being a saint since he wants to go to Chicago for the Petersen Bowling Tournament."

Inside Football

By DUFFY DAUGHERTY
Head Football Coach
Michigan State University

When some one said to Woody Hayes that his sophomore loaded Ohio State football team ought to be even greater in 1969 he replied: "You never can tell."

Maybe this is Woody's way of psyching his team for their Rose Bowl trip against unbeaten but tied Southern California and fabulous O. J. Simpson on New Year's Day.

When the Buckeyes started 18 sophomores on their two platoons in their Big Ten championship game against Michigan and won by a one-sided score people began speculating about the future. Many figured that Ohio State might go unbeaten for two more seasons.

"No coach can put together three unbeaten seasons," said Bud Wilkinson, who made football history at Oklahoma.

"You did it," Wilkinson was told, and Bud, being a humble man, was stopped. He apparently forgot for the moment that he had coached the Oklahoma Sooners to their third straight perfect 10-0 season only 12 years ago.

Since World War II only four coaches besides Wilkinson have put together two perfect seasons in a row. Besides Bud's three straight unbeatens, his 1949-50 teams also were unbeaten and untied.

Frank Broyles of Arkansas, whose Razorbacks take on unbeaten Georgia in the Sugar Bowl, was the last coach to see his teams compile two perfect seasons. His 1964-65 elevens went unbeaten and untied but his '65 team was upset in the Cotton Bowl by LSU 14-7.

Biggie Munn coached Michigan State to perfect seasons in 1952 and '53. Princeton in 1950-51 was unbeaten and untied under the late Charlie Caldwell and in 1949 Pappy Waldorf coached California to its second straight 10-0 record.

The unbeaten-untied theme may be overemphasized somewhat but it is one of the things that makes a number of bowl games so inviting this season. There is more pressure on a team that hasn't been beaten or tied.

Take Coach Bill Hess whose Ohio University Bobcats won all 10 games and the Mid-American Conference title. They face Richmond, a team that has lost three times, in the Tangerine Bowl at Orlando on Friday. Frank Jones took over a winless Richmond team in 1966 and in three seasons led the Spiders to the Southern Conference title. Hess will emphasize that this team must be respected because it would like nothing better than to topple an unbeaten.

In senior quarterback Buster O'Brien, Richmond has a standout performer who has completed 149 of 255 passes for 21 touchdowns. His favorite target is split end Walker Gillette who has all the moves, great hands and good speed. He caught 51 passes last year for 702 yards and a school record. This year he did even better with 50 catches for 857 yards and 8 TDs.

Ohio also has a great passer in Cleve Bryant, a 175 pound junior who has figured in 22 TDs this season. And in 215-pound Bob Houmard they have a fullback who tied for fifth in national scoring with 114 points on 19 TDs.

Penn State's Nittany Lions haven't been beaten in their last 28 games but Coach Joe Paterno knows their Orange Bowl date with Kansas won't be any picnic. Kansas averaged 38 points a game and presents a varied attack whether passing or rushing. The once-beaten Jayhawks scored 47 TDs, 33 of them on the ground.