

Webster Grapplers Hold First Home Meet Friday



WEBSTER'S WRESTLING SQUAD will hold its first home meet of the season on Friday, January 4 at 4 p.m. in the WCS gym when they play host to the Wayne Central squad. Kneeling, left to right: Lloyd MacBride, mgr., Dave Bilek, Richie Hogan, Roy Hiler, Dave Robinson, Bill Kehrig, John Elter, and Bob Swift, mgr. Middle row: Chuck Allen, Ron Holtz, Harry Swift, Roy Munson, Cory Clark, Bill Tolt, Alan Henderson, and Chris Gibson. Back row: Carl Bunschuh, Steve Larsen, Bill Eggert, Wesley Wisick, Berno Kutlock, and Jim Butwick.

The world has known many types of wrestling. Wrestling is probably the most ancient of all sports, since it is probable that when cave men lost their bludgeons in combat over some pretty (?) cave woman, they wrestled to determine who should have the privilege of owning her. Ancient Egyptian murals show different holds and moves in wrestling, and the Greeks immortalized the sport as one of the original Olympic contests.

Besides being one of the oldest of sports, it is also the most useful in combat. There have been many exhibitions between wrestlers and other advocates of other physical combat sports, but always the wrestler comes out on top. Once the boxer, for instance, allows the wrestler to reach his body, he is helpless. On the other hand, the wrestler can dodge his blows all day before simply tackling him. It works the same way against judo or ju-jitsu experts.

There are many forms of wrestling. Professional 'grunt and groan' wrestling is the type known to most people, and this is almost the exact opposite of most other forms of grappling.

Another kind is the Greco-Roman wrestling, in which combatants engage only the upper half of the body and the object is to dump the opponent before he topples you. Ju-jitsu wrestling, judo, and sumo wrestling are standard in the Oriental countries and a form of judo was used by U.S. Marines in both wars. Olympic amateur wrestling is close to the American amateur style, except that the instant both shoulders or both scapula touch the mat in that sport it constitutes a fall. American amateur follows just a little different type, but is close to the Olympic sport.

In the amateur match, the wrestling is a clean, scientific sport. Such professional standbys such as striking, butting, kicking, gouging, strangling, or anything that endangers life and limb is not allowed. No hold is legal which could be classified as a punishing hold, which puts pressure on joints and limbs in forcing them in unnatural directions.

For instance, the hammerlock is legal in both pro and high school grappling, but the differ-

ence is thus. In prograppling the hammerlock is used in an effort to injure or punish the opponent. In amateur wrestling it is employed only as a means of turning an opponent over and cannot be beat on an angle of less than 90 degrees, or further than an 'L' joint.

Matches range from six minutes in high school to nine minutes in college, being divided into three separate periods, each two minutes long in high school and three minutes long in college.

The first period is started with the wrestlers on their feet, and they will remain standing until one wrestler manages to take the other down and gain a position of advantage, for which he is awarded two points for the takedown. The man on the bottom tries to reverse his opponent and come out on top, in which case he will be awarded two points for a reversal.

If he succeeds in breaking away from the top man and gaining a standing or neutral position, he will be awarded one point. The man on top tries to hold the wrestler on the bottom in the down position by control of the legs, arms, and trunk. In the second period, one wrestler has the choice of either the top or bottom position, and in the final period the positions are reversed.

Scoring for individual wrestlers in matches are given for the following moves: reversal, two points; take down, two points; escape, one point; predicament, one point; near fall, two or three points; and time advantage, one point. A fall is awarded when one wrestler's shoulders are held to the mat for a period of two seconds, in which case five points are awarded to the winning wrestler's team.

In the case of one wrestler outscoring the other, three points are awarded to the winning team. In case of a draw, both teams receive two points.

While success in professional wrestling may be aided by such means as superior hitting power, greater ability to absorb punishment and greater ability to apply the most pressure and worst punishment at the right time, and last but surely not least, ability to remember all details of the script, success in high school

wrestling has to do with ability in different lines.

Ability is based on knowledge of methods used in going behind or making the takedown, reversal of position and escape, retaining position of advantage, working for pin, and blocking and countering an opponent's position.

Several important rules include: locking of hands or arms around defensive wrestler's waist, leg, or both legs is forbidden unless defensive wrestler is in a standing position or offensive wrestler is working for a pin; straight head scissor and front headlock are illegal; bending or twisting head beyond normal limits is a violation of rules; and it is illegal to lock hands to form a double arm bar when in a neutral position—this one is new this year, and hard to remember if you've been wrestling long enough.

Webster's first home meet of the year will be held Friday, January 4, in the WCS gym at 4:00. Wayne Central's squad, never beaten by the Ridgemen in three years' competition, will be the guests of the Blue and Gold team. Wayne lost practically their whole first team through graduation, however, and the Ridgemen have a very good chance of breaking the Wayne winning streak.

After three meets this season the Ridgemen have yet to be defeated, sporting a 2-0-1 record. This unblemished record will get the acid test Wednesday, January 9, when the Ridgemen face Charlotte's grappling squad in another away meet. The Blue and Gold squad scrimmaged the Charlotte team last week, and most of Webster's wrestlers wore long faces on the trip home.

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