Westfield, SCCS send five to sectionals

By MAGGIE FITZER
OBSERVER Sports Writer

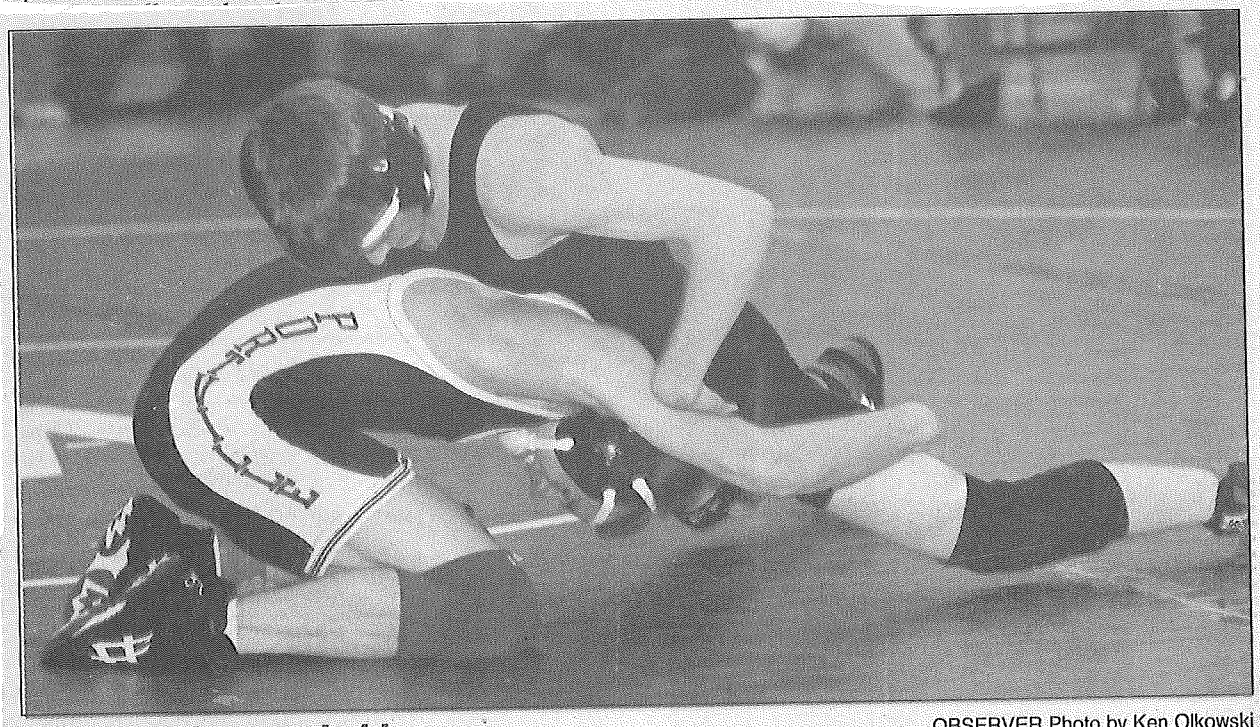
WESTFIELD — Portville tallied 186 team points to come away with the team title at the Section VI Class A wrestling tournament held in the Westfield High School Gym. The top area school was Silver Creek, which finished third with 131 1/2 points, behind two Division 1 schools. Franklinville placed second.

Gene O'Connor decisioned Akron's Rich Files at 112 pounds for the Black Knights' lone first-place finish. Files began strong as O'Connor struggled back and outscored Files 3-0 in the final two periods.

Fred Hallett placed second at heavyweight. Hallett's nemesis, Chris Gray of Frewsburg, pinned Hallett in three minutes and forty-eight seconds for the first pin of the championships. Hallett and Gray struggled through the second period. Hallett put Gray on his knees and held on as Gray attempted to stand with Hallett on his back. Gray gained a two-point advantage before pinning Hallett. Both will advance to the state qualifier at the University of Buffalo next weekend.

Also advancing from Silver Creek are Ron Kavanaugh (98), Scott Manning (119), and Carlos Alcivar (155).

"I was pleased with our performance," Silver Creek coach Kevin Davenport said. "All season we stressed team and we stressed the



OBSERVER Photo by Ken Olkowski

You've really got a hold on me

Ripley's Brad Rowe tries to apply pressure to Portville's John Debarbieri during the finals of the 119-pound bout in the Section VI, Class A Wrestling Tournament in Westfield Saturday.

Wrestling

individual here and we finished third behind two Division 1 teams."

Ripley will be sending four wrestlers to the qualifier. Brad Rowe (119) and Greg Bentley (132) won their bouts to advance. Aaron Rowe (91) and Ryan Bentley (126) lost their championship matches, but will still advance.

Ryan Bentley, ranked eighth in the state at his weight, battled Chad Caros of Franklinville, the number two wrestler in the state at 126. Bentley took his match into overtime as he scored one point with five seconds left in regulation. Caros scored two points 25 seconds into the overtime period for the decision.

Ripley finished fourth overall with 130 points.

Alex Clutter (138), Alan Pagano (119), J.J. Gillian (105), Brad Smith (145) and Matt Pagano (155) move ahead for Westfield. Clutter decisioned Pine Valley's Bryan Smith, 5-3, at 138 for first place. Ben Ferry (Wilson) decisioned Matt Pagano at 155. Pagano placed second.

"As a team I expected to finish in the top five or six," Westfield coach Rich Marotto said. "We finished one point out of fifth place.

See WRESTLING, Page B2

Wrestling

Continued from Page B1

Overall I couldn't be more pleased with how the kids did."

Smith finished second behind Clutter. Dennis Stein placed fourth for the Panthers at 132 while Rob Green placed third at 177.

Tim Davis placed fourth for Cassadaga Valley at 167 pounds.

Westfield finished sixth as a team with 122 points as Pine Valley placed 12th with 59 1/2 points and Cassadaga Valley earned 42 points for 13th place.

Brad Verboskey (Maple Grove) made the quickest pin in the championship matches as he downed Randolph's Ben Cuckler in the unlimited match-up.

The wrestling coaches at the tournament voted Mike Butler of Akron the Most Outstanding Wrestler of the tournament. Butler won the 98-pound bout.

Team standings

1-Portville 186; 2-Franklinville 166 1/2; 3-Silver Creek 131 1/2; 4-Ripley 130; 5-Maple Grove 123; 6-Westfield 122; 7-Frewsburg 104 1/2; 8-Akron 93; 9-Salamanca 88; 10-Wilson 83; 11-Panama 78; 12-Pine Valley 59 1/2; 13-Cassadaga Valley 42; 14-Randolph 39; 15-Holland 24.

Individual places

91-Vic Arena (Sal), Aaron Rowe (Rip), Pat Dove (Frw), David Lowe (Frk), Ryan Marvin (SC), Elijah Eddy (Pan); 98-Mike Butler (Ak), Matt Warters (Port), Ron Kavanaugh (SC); Seth Lind (MG), Ed Palcic (Pan), Chris Reese (Wfd); 105-Joe Sweet (Frk), Kevin Ellis (Wils), J.J. Gillian (Wfd), Travis Kirsh (Hol), Johsn Miller (CV), Todd Weaver (MG); 112-Gene O'Connor (SC), Rich Files (Ak), Matt O'Connor (Wils), Bill Crooks (Frk), Brian Olson (Wfd), Bill Stefan (Port); 119-Brad Rowe (Rip), John DeBarbieri (Port), Scott Manning (SC), Alan Pagano (Wfd), Ed Dallas (Pan), Biff Weigle (Frk); 126-Chad Caros (Frk), Ryan Bentley (Rip), Bill Prince (Frw), Jeremy Hollabaugh (Pan), Jason Hoffmier (Port), Bob Mills (Rand); 132-Greg Bentley (Rip), Walt Stanton (Frw), Joe DeBarbieri (Port), Chad Birch (Pan), Dennis Stein (PV), John Vogan (MG); 138-Alex Clutter (Wfd), Bryan Smith (PV), Loren Gray (Frk), Al Weitzel (Sal), Dan Wilson (MG), Jim Neal (Rand); 145-Rod Kelly (Frk), Brian Keefer (MG), Matt Dove (Frw), Brad Smith (Wfd), Chuck Baum (Rip), Trevor Swanson (Pan); 155-Ben Ferry (Wils), Matt Pagano (Wfd), Jim Giboo (Frk), Carlos Alcivar (SC), Bryan Yates (Port), Jack Vail (Sal); 167-Brad Early (Sal), Jess Caya (Port), Eric Kraft (MG), Tim Davis (CV), Phil DePasquale (SC), Gilbert Henry (Rip); 177-Adam Babcock (Port), Bill Roberto (Ak), Rob Green (PV), Jason Caros (Frk), Byron Bauer (Pan), Justin Ramsdell (SC); 215-Chris Gray (Frw), Fred Hallett (SC), Bryan Scanlon (Port), Lucas Schrock (Ak), Steve Duncan (Rip), Jim Caldwell (MG); UNL-Brad Verbosky (MG), Ben Cuckler (Rand), Josh Bova (Port), Jeff Durham (Wils), Todd Fryberger (SC).