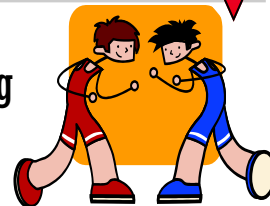


# JGHS WRESTLING

# Take Down

Don't say "I'll try"....say "I will".....Glenn Wrestling

## Wrestling Recaps



### Special points of interest:

- Lottery Fund-raiser
- Coaches Corner
- Wrestler of the Week
- Wrestling For Dummies
- The WHB

Where has the time gone? It has been 2 months since the last newsletter was distributed; some 96 days since the first day of practice started for these Rocket Wrestlers and their coaches. Since we last "went to press", the Rocket Wrestlers have had mixed results in their long season. As we head into the state tournaments, both team and individual, the squad has had to rely on a corps of young talent. With only a handful of seniors, Coach Polk had to juggle his lineup frequently, often relying on freshman and sophomores to fill the voids. With that, however, it's been encouraging to see this team step up in many instances; not the least of which was their capturing another Lakes Division title, going 5-0 in the conference. Only a crossover loss to top-ten ranked Canton in the Western Lakes Athletic Association, marred their outstanding performance in the league. It's noteworthy that, with the newly formed alliance with the Kensington Valley Conference, this was the last year for the WLAA.

Let us bring you up-to-date on everything that's happened since our December newsletter:

On January 5<sup>th</sup>, Glenn captured their third straight twelve team Troy Invitational garnering no less than seven individual champions. The following week, the Rockets traveled to Livonia Stevenson and disposed of the Spartans 46-18. Two days later, they competed in the always tough, Catholic Central Invitational. Glenn's lone champion was senior 125 pounder, Jeremiah Austin (who is currently ranked #1 in the state at his weight class). Junior Jared Stephens also got to the finals falling by one point in overtime.

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Parents Night this year was held on January 17<sup>th</sup> with Livonia Churchill providing the opposition. Glenn did not disappoint as they knocked off the Chargers 34-19. The next week, the "Young Guns" took care of Walled Lake Central 61-16. Rounding out the league schedule was Plymouth Salem which came to the "Rocket's Launch Pad" on the final day of January and were handled easily by Glenn 50-21, thus setting up the crossover match with Canton the following week. In between those two dates was the prestigious Observerland Invitational (January 26<sup>th</sup>) where Anthony Pavlich (103 lbs), Jeremiah Austin (125 lbs), and Jared Stephens (130 lbs) came home with the gold. Glenn placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall.

Canton continued their area dominance in the final WLAA conference meet on February 9<sup>th</sup>, capturing the title outright as Glenn fell to fourth. Pavlich and Austin were the two JG individual champions.

Senior Co-Captain, Jeremiah Austin remains undefeated to this point and Sophomore Anthony Pavlich and Junior Jared Stephens are also ranked in the top ten of their weight classes in Division I. It has been awhile, if ever, that Glenn has had three individuals ranked so highly at the same time. Pavlich, Wakeford, Austin, Stevens and Dan McCahill are moving forward to regional on the 23rd. Only the Michigan High School Athletic Association team and individual state tournaments remain for Coach Polk's winter warriors. We will report results in March.



# Lottery Fundraiser

We are two weeks away from the March 1st date with the first of 31 numbers that will be drawn for our lottery fundraiser. Funds have been collected on just over 200 sold tickets. There are just over 500 tickets signed out to be sold, and we still have in the neighborhood of 250-275 tickets that need to be distributed and sold. We are getting down to the wire and need everyone's help to accomplish our goal of selling 1000 tickets.

Judy Lawrence will be available to collect money and distribute tickets on **Wednesday, January 20th from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Tim Horton's on Wayne Road just South of Cherry Hill.** Mrs. Lawrence will be at the school again Monday, January 25th from 5:30 - 6:30, and Wednesday, January 27th from 5:30 - 7:00.

Thank you to everyone who have taking part in this fundraiser thus far. Let's keep our fingers crossed and hope we can sell all 1000 tickets so this fundraiser yields the most profit possible for the benefit of the Glenn Wrestling Program. Remember, this fundraiser is a big part of how the funds that assist in paying for your wrestler's U of M Camp and summer wrestling opportunities are being obtained.



## UP COMING EVENTS —

Sat	02/23	Individual Regional
Fri	02/29	Team Finals—Battle Creek
Sat	03/01	Team Finals (cont.) - Battle Creek
Thur	03/06	Individual Finals—Auburn Hills
Fri	03/07	Individual Finals (cont.)-Auburn Hills
Sat	03/08	Individual Finals (cont.)-Auburn Hills
Tues	03/11	Booster Meeting @ Max and Ermas-6:30 p.m.
Tues	03/18	Banquet @ Laurel Manor-Doors Open 6:00 p.m.

## THE WRESTLING HISTORY BLOG



**The Sheik**

Are there readers of this newsletter that remember the name "The Sheik"?



The Sheik's riotous wrestling style defined the Detroit wrestling territory for a number of decades and the environment was developed on carnage and uncultivated mayhem week in and week out. Popular feuds were sold to the public and tens of thousands of fans enjoyed the spectacle at Cobo Hall and Olympia Stadium featuring some of the biggest names in the industry. Everything always came back to the Sheik and his dominating performances. He was the formidable figure in the region, and set the standard for a wrestling heel. Wrestling's popularity in Detroit began with Adam Weissmuller back in the 1930s, continued with Harry Light, and then reached fever pitches with the presentations made by Jim Barnett and Johnny Doyle.

## COACHES' CORNER—

By John Wood

With the team and individual state tournaments starting, activity on the internet is heavy. Everyone wants to know what's happening elsewhere since it can affect what happens to their wrestlers. So, people post results from different tournaments and others reciprocate or ask specific questions on various wrestlers. Now, allow me to explain how the state tournaments in Michigan work:

Years ago, (when I wrestled, then coached), the Michigan High School Athletic Association had a championship format that required a team to have individuals place high in the state championships to score points for their team. If a team had two or three state qualifiers get to the finals, for example, their team could place, maybe in the top five because of the high value of points assigned to first or second place. Each place winner earned team points. In the early years, only four placers were given "All State" honors. A number of years later, the placers were increased to eight.

From the research I've done, the MHSAA started sponsoring state tournaments in 1948 after the war years. Teams would go to a regional, and the top four place winners would go to the state finals. Later, as more schools added wrestling, it became necessary to put in a district, followed by a regional, before getting to the state finals tournament. For a time, there was a Class A tournament and another separate Class B-C-D tournament. Then, sometime in the 1980's, the MHSAA created a team championship based on dual meet results. The individual tournament stayed, but team points were no longer kept. Teams advanced through district, regional, and state finals in dual meet formats and these events were melded with the individual finals dates to work out. Thus, team dual meet competition would be assigned to weekdays and the individual to the weekends until the finals. The teams reaching the final eight at Battle Creek would be on one weekend and the individual competition the following weekend. That's why we now have a two week gap between the individual regional and the individual state finals. The team finals are sandwiched in between. There is a pre-determined draw based on what area one comes from and the eight teams compete on Friday (with four divisions). Losing teams are done. On Saturday morning, the remaining four go at it and the two winning squads vie for a state championship later in the day. No third and fourth places are contested. Yes, it is possible for the two best teams in the state to meet in the first round. In fact, that can even happen at the district level.

The last event of the season, the individual state finals, are in March and for the past several years have been held at the Palace in Auburn Hills. The state has four divisions of high school competition based on school enrollment. Instead of the aforementioned A-B-C-D classes, they have been put into Divisions I, II, III, and IV. The Upper Peninsula previously held its own finals, but now will join the rest of the state this year. (Thus, we're likely to see wrestlers from places like Escanaba and Marquette for the first time.) The top four wrestlers from four state-wide regional's will go to the finals creating a sixteen man bracket. Wrestlers are placed based on a formula. In the first round, a champion from one region will go against a fourth place finisher from another regional. Second placers go against third placers, and so on. This is why so many folks want to know what happened at other districts and regional events, so they can have some idea ahead of time whom they might have to face.

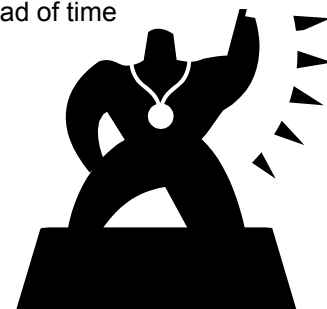
It's almost every wrestler and coach's dream to get to the state finals, team or individual. It is not easy. That's why they call it "the Show."

## Wrestling

### Technical Violations

**There are six types of technical violations. Except for the false start or incorrect starting position, each is penalized without warning.**

## For Dummies



# Your Wrestler Highlight



With his undefeated dual meet season and five individual tournament titles, one could make a case for senior Jeremiah Austin as "Wrestler of the Week" every time. Jeremiah was awarded Co-Captain in recognition of his hard work and dedication to the wrestling program.

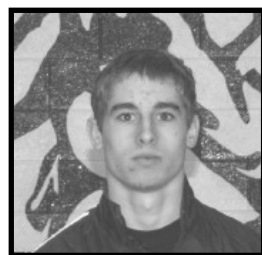


On January 26<sup>th</sup>, while the varsity was competing at Observerland, Glenn sent another varsity "B" team to a team tournament at Hazel

Park. Sophomore Steve Shak went 5-0 that afternoon for his first undefeated day.

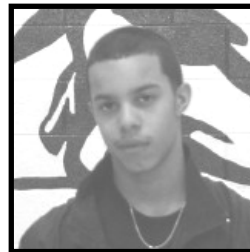
Several other Glenn matmen have made contributions that are noteworthy and so, each week, Coach Polk and his committee selects an individual who has accomplished something significant.

February 2<sup>nd</sup> saw the Rockets JV squad travel to Livonia Stevenson for a team dual meet tournament. Sophomore Mikkel Tipton was the lone Glenn wrestler to go undefeated that day.



The week of January 5<sup>th</sup>, Senior Co-Captain Gary Lawrence was one of seven title winners at the Troy Invitational. But Gary not only won the 160 pound title, he pinned every opponent on the way through the competition making him an obvious choice for the honor.

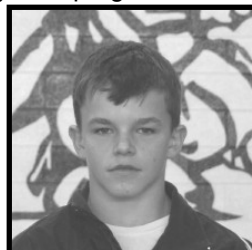
Junior Jeff Adkins has been in and out of the lineup this season, but on January 10<sup>th</sup>, Jeff pulled out a huge victory for Glenn in a dual meet with Livonia Stevenson, coming from behind and then pinning his opponent in the final seconds to really put the Spartans in a hole from which they could not get out. The following Saturday, Jeff, though unseeded in his weight class, knocked off the #5 seed and then the #4 seed to secure a fourth place medal at the Catholic Central Invitational.



Sophomore Josh Austin, who has been a starter since his freshman season, took another step forward in becoming a "force to reckon with" as he made it to the consolation finals at the WLAA conference tournament (February 9<sup>th</sup>)

and easily disposed of his rival garnering a third place medal in the process.

The same day as CC, Sophomore Steve Wakeford captured the 103 pound championship at the Riverview Invitational. The following week, Coach Polk inserted him into the varsity lineup against Livonia Churchill and he came through with a big win. The following Saturday, Glenn hosted their own JV invitational, which he also won, giving him very strong overall records at both varsity and JV.



Now the pressure increases for those varsity members who enter into team and individual districts. The JV wrestlers have finished their schedule and no longer have to make a weight class. They continue to come and work with the starting varsity members as well as hone their skills for next season. For Glenn's seniors, there's no tomorrow. All want to go as far into the state finals as possible, starting with Individual Districts on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Top four out of 16 go to the Individual Regional on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Two districts combine for one regional in the state, thus a regional will have an 8-man bracket. Top four from the regional go to the state finals.