

Appalachian High Matmen Dominate Tourney

District Matches Held In Charlotte

By WILLIAM HIGH
The Appalachian High School Blue Devil matmen journeyed to Myers Park High School in Charlotte on Friday for the two-day South-Central District Wrestling Tournament.

The Appalachian wrestlers made a runaway of the tournament for the third straight year. Seven teams took part in the tournament and the team scores were Appalachian 128, Myers Park 85, South Mecklenburg 73, Beaver Creek 46, North Mecklenburg 27, East Mecklenburg 13, and Garringer 9.

Team points were scored in the first round, semi-final round, and consolation eliminations on the basis of two points for a pin, default, or forfeit, and one point for a decision. In the consolation finals five points were awarded for a pin and four points for a decision. The loser received two points. In the championship finals pins counted eleven points and decisions ten. The loser received seven points.

The Appalachian point total might have been higher, but Mack Critcher could not make weight in the 103 lb. class and he was forced to move to the 112 lb. class. This left the 103 lb. class open and this was very frustrating because Appalachian has two undefeated 103 pounders and either could have filled in and won the championship. The 103 lb. class was one of the weaker weight divisions at the tournament.

The quarter-final rounds were held Friday night and nine out of the eleven Appalachian wrestlers participating in the tournament wrestled and won. The other two wrestlers received byes. Eight of the nine wins were pins.

The semi-final matches were held Saturday morning and the winners went to the finals. Out of the eleven going to the semi-finals, ten of the Appalachian wrestlers got berths in the finals.

The consolation elimination matches for boys who lost to the finalists were held Saturday afternoon. These matches were very important because the winners were eligible to compete for third place.

Going into the finals Saturday night the tournament was very close with both Myers Park and Appalachian having 11 boys wrestling. Appalachian had ten wrestlers going to the championship finals and one going to the consolation finals.

Myers Park had seven in the championship finals and four in the consolation finals. Myers Park had only one champion, while Appalachian took seven of the individual titles. In five of the twelve championship final matches Appalachian wrestlers were pitted against Myers Park wrestlers. Appalachian took four of the matches, and this spelled the end of Myers Park's hopes for a big upset.

Appalachian (A); Myers Park (MP); Garringer (G); Beaver Creek (BC); North Mecklenburg (NM); South Mecklenburg (SM); East Mecklenburg (EM).

In the 95 lb. class Appalachian was represented by sophomore Johnny Cooke. In his quarter-final match he pinned Ennis (EM) in the second period. In his semi-final he was defeated by Russell (MP) on a judge's decision. Johnny decided McGarity (SM) 4-0 in his consolation elimination match and in the consolation finals he pinned Stubbs (NM) 1:18. He placed third in the tournament.

Appalachian was not represented in the 103 lb. class. In the 112 lb. class, senior Mack Critcher represented Appalachian. In his quarter-final match Mack pinned Edwards (EM) 4:7. In his semi-final match he defeated Yarber (BC) 4-0, and in his final match he defeated Byrd (SM) 9-0. Mack placed first in the tournament.

Junior Royce Carroll represented Appalachian in the 120 lb. class. In his quarter-final match Royce pinned Hartis (EM) in the first period. In his semi-final match he decided Jones (NM) 6-2. Royce's final match was a return meeting with Mike White of Myers Park. In their first meeting at Boone they tied 7-7, but in the finals of the tournament Royce won by a score of 4-1 in a very exciting match. He is district champion.

In the 127 lb. class Appalachian was represented by senior Johnny Cook. Cook was one of the top contenders for the outstanding wrestler trophy. In his quarter-final match he pinned Cox (NM) in the second period. In the finals he pinned Chapman (MP) 5:34. He was a district champion.

In the 133 lb. class Appalachian was represented by junior Alton Johnson. Alton pinned Hunter (NM) 1:13 in his quarter-final match and in his semi-final match he pinned Lambeth (BC) 4:11. In the finals Alton defeated Hastings (MP) 2-0. He was a district champion.

Senior Ronnie Smith represented Appalachian in the 138 lb. class. In his quarter-final match he defeated Fairley (EM) 4-1, and in his semi-final match he decided Corry (MP) 2-0. In the finals he was defeated by Goodman (BC) on a judge's decision. Ronnie placed second.

Sophomore Gary Hodges represented Appalachian in the 145 lb. class. Gary pinned Jewell (BC) 1:31 in his quarter-final match. In his semi-final match Hodges defeated Sandiford (MP) 6-5 and in the finals he defeated Hoyt (SM) 4-2. He was a district champion.

In the 154 lb. class junior Gary Brown represented Appalachian. Gary pinned Norris (SM) in the second period in his quarter-final match. In his semi-final match he defeated Goodman (BC) 4-1, and in the finals he defeated Gleason (MP) 3-1. He was a district champion.

The outstanding wrestler trophy was won by senior Baker



AT STATE TOURNAMENT.—Appalachian High School wrestlers participating in the North Carolina secondary school mat contest are, front row (l. to r.) Jerry Critcher, Mack Critcher, Johnny Stacy, Royce Carroll, Johnny Cook, and Alton Johnson; second row, Ronnie Smith (co-captain),

Edmisten who represented Appalachian in the 165 lb. class. In the quarter-final match Edmisten registered what must be a North Carolina high school tournament record when he pinned Wilson (G) in eleven seconds. In his semi-final match

App Wrestlers Defend Crown This Week End

Appalachian travels to High Point this week end to defend its state championship in the two-day tournament which will be held at High Point High School.

To be eligible for competition in the state tournament, a wrestler must place in the top three in his weight division at one of the three district tournaments.

Appalachian will be well represented in the state meet with eleven wrestlers competing.

First, second, and third place finishers were as follows:

- 95—Parsons (BC); Russell (MP); Cooke (A).
- 103—Thrower (NM); Convey (MP); Smith (G).
- 112—Critchler (A); Byrd (SM); Park (NM).
- 120—Carroll (A); White (MP); D. Cox (SM).
- 127—Cook (A); Chapman (MP); Harris (SM).
- 133—Johnson (A); Hastings (MP); Hunter (NM).
- 138—Goodman (BC); Smith (A); Corry (MP).
- 145—Hodges (A); Hoyt (SM); Sandiford (MP).
- 154—Brown (A); Gleason (MP); Goodman (BC).

Gary Hodges, Gary Brown, Baker Edmisten (co-captain), Buddy Storie, Larry Stansberry, and Coach Steve Gabriel. Not pictured is Boyce Brown who suffered a knee injury shortly before the tournament.—Staff photo.

Edmisten who represented Appalachian in the 165 lb. class. In the quarter-final match Edmisten defeated Mitchell (SM) 4-0. He was a district champion. In the 180 lb. class Appalachian was represented by junior Buddy Storie. In the quarter-final round Storie received a bye. In the semi-final round he defeated Holmes (MP) 5-1 and in the finals he was defeated by Boyd (SM) 6-2. He placed second in the tournament. In the heavyweight class Appalachian was represented by

Parkway Tourney Scores

- Friday night—Boys' Game: Cranberry 63—Virginia-Carolina 30; Lansing 55—Riverview 33.
- Girls Game: Newland 51—Blowing Rock 24; Piney Creek 20—Bethel 19.
- Saturday night—Boys' Game: Newland 92—Piney Creek 29; Cove Creek 59—Blowing Rock 44.
- Girls Game: Crossnore 40—Cove Creek 18; Cranberry 48—Newland 38.
- Monday night—Boys' Game: Cranberry 38—Newland 37; Lansing 46—Cove Creek 44.
- Girls' Game: Crossnore 46—Bethel 20.

The finals were played Tuesday night, March 5.

Speaking Of Golf

By JOE MAPLES

The "down the mountain" highways have really been active during the recent pretty weather as local players made haste to get on some of the foothills golf courses. Thinking that perhaps Monday would be a good day to sell a few memberships in the local club for the coming season, I started making the rounds. My timing was very bad though as most of our players were "out of town" for one reason or another and can't say as I blame any of them as pretty as it was. Perhaps the only one of our regular players that isn't doing any golfing this winter is Jerry Coe. He says he will just wait until the local course opens so he can play two or three times a week without having to drive thirty to fifty miles. He doesn't figure that playing just once ever now and then will do his game any good and he may be right too.

Carolina professionals will be on the trail of their number one prize this week down at the New Bern Golf and Country Club where the annual championship of the section will be played. Prize money totaling over four thousand bucks will be up for grabs as will be an automatic qualifying place in the National PGA Championship which will be played in Dallas, Texas this summer. Things will get underway on Wednesday with a small pro-am followed on Thursday by the Pro-Pro Championship where two pro's team up in a best ball of the pair event against the field.

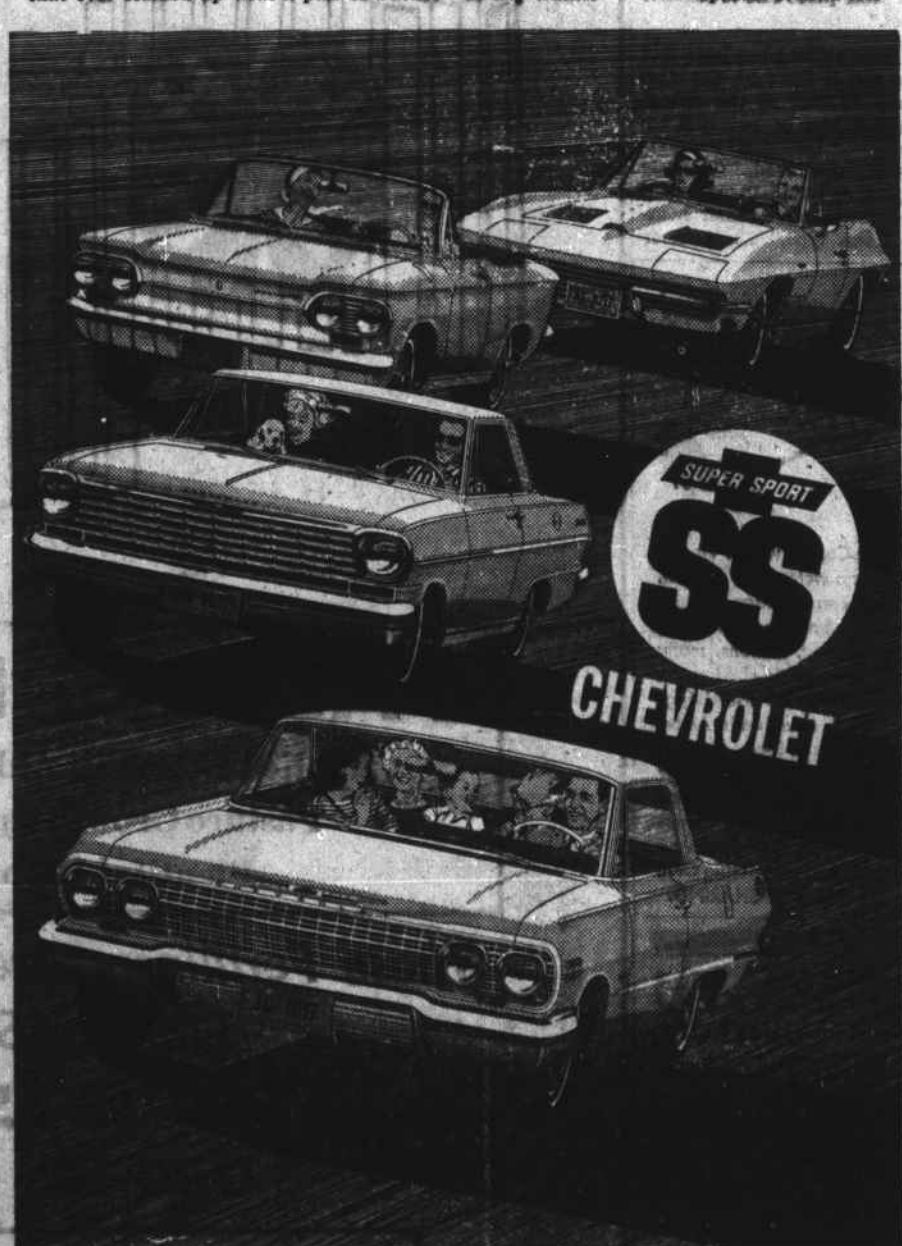
Joe Cheves and I will be playing as one of the teams that will be out to unseat defending champions Mack Main and Terry Atkins. Then on Friday, the championship itself gets underway with fifty-four holes of play during the following days, ending on Sunday with a hole in one contest to see who can win a golf cart being given away by the E-Z-Go Car Company, sponsors of the tournament. It should be one of the finest sectional PGA championships in the history of the Carolinas Section if the weather is good to us. If any of you happen to be down that way over the week end, you are most welcome to drop in and watch the boys at work. You'll see some fine golf played by the top professionals in the two Carolinas, all out to win their share of the prize money and a place in the National PGA championship this summer.

RUSK AND CUBA

Secretary of State Dean Rusk said Russia had placed four heavily armed combat groups in Cuba and Soviet pilots there are flying MIG fighters capable of carrying nuclear weapons. The continued presence of Russian armed forces on the island is a "matter of real concern" to the United States, Rusk said. But he followed the Administration line that the Red forces essentially are defensive in nature.

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"Because," he replied, "you are always up in the air. You are continually harping on something, and you never have a thing to wear."
—PAUL & RALPH

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