

## Top 10 pound-for-pound

### 1. ANDY LOWY, SHERWOOD

Returning to the scene of his last loss (two years ago), Lowy (23-0) won the 130-pound title at the Grapple at The Brook, earning three first-period pins on his way to the finals where he majored Tyler Girch of Mount Hebron, 15-1.

### 2. MATT JONES, ROBINSON

Senior cruised through the CAA Duals at George Mason University over the weekend, even though the young Rams struggled in the dual meets. Jones is now 35-5 and remains the top-ranked wrestler in Virginia at 171 pounds.

### 3. MICHAEL BRESSLER, PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN

Won the most outstanding wrestler award at the Manassas Park Invitational, where he took the 152-pound title with a first-period pin. The fifth-year senior is off to a 34-4 start with all of his losses coming to out-of-area wrestlers.

### 4. ANDREW BANNISTER, MCNAMARA

Since Christmas, the sophomore has won four tournament titles, sharing Most Outstanding Wrestler honors in two of the events. On Saturday, Bannister (36-2) won 112-pound honors at the Delmarva Classic in Salisbury.

### 5. PORKER BOWERS, GAR-FIELD

Strong showing for Indians at competitive CAA Duals on Friday and Saturday. Bowers improved to 34-2 at 145 pounds as Gar-Field won four dual matches. Beat Prince William County rival Forest Park to take third.

### 6. MIKE RUSHIN, LEE

Think Rushin (140 pounds) was eager to bounce back after suffering his first loss of the year on Jan. 13 to Gar-Field's Justin Hickey? Saturday, Rushin (37-1) pinned wrestlers from Hayfield, McLean and West Springfield all in 91 seconds or less.

### 7. MIKE BOWMAN, LANGLEY

Pinned his opponent at the dual meet with McLean last Wednesday, improving record to 28-3 at 112 pounds. Tough day for the No. 6 Saxons, however, who lost to their Liberty District rival, 32-28, for the second time in three years.

### 8. SEAN McCARTY, NORTHWEST

Ran his record to 19-0, winning the 125 title at the Grapple at The Brook and leading the Jaguars to their first team title in the history of the event. McCarty needed a combined 75 seconds to dispatch his opponents in the last two rounds.

### 9. STEVEN OURS, HAYFIELD

Continues to roll through Northern Region competition at 152 pounds. The Northern Region runner-up last season is 25-6. He helped Hayfield to easy Patriot District wins over the weekend vs. West Springfield (49-21), Lee (72-12) and McLean (52-12).

### 10. CURTIS MOORE, GAR-FIELD

Maintained perfect record at George Mason University's CAA Duals. Moore (38-0) was unbeaten in five matches at 189 pounds. Competition rises this weekend against Great Bridge and Colonial Forge, No. 1 and No. 2 teams in Virginia.

# Weekly notebook ■ WRESTLING

by Kevin Dunleavy and Brian McNally

## Have singlet, willing to travel

### Hayfield's brutal schedule serves as postseason prep

By Brian McNally  
Examiner Staff Writer

It reads like the schedule of a well-traveled minor league baseball team: Lexington, Va.; Fort Mill, S.C.; Oviedo, Fla.; Liberty, N.Y.

But it shows just how far Hayfield's wrestling team is willing to go to keep the Northern Region championship trophy it has held six of the last eight years. Those obscure locales are places the Hawks have wrestled since the season started in early December as they roamed up and down the East Coast in search of the best competition around.

"That's the way it always is," said Hayfield junior 152-pounder Steven Ours. "You never want to lose a match. But you have to go out and get beat. We learn how to wrestle when we're down. We learn how to lose and still come back the next time."

Ours, who placed fourth at the Group AAA state tournament last year, has thrived on that competition. Ranked No. 9 in The Examiner's Top 10 pound-for-pound rankings, he is 25-6 with an individual championship at the Zac Jarzynca Ironman Tournament in Oviedo, Fla., an elite event featuring state championship programs from throughout the Southeast. Ours also won an individual title at the Beef O'Brady Invitational in Fort Mill, S.C.

His only losses this season came when Hayfield hosted some of the best programs in Virginia and Pennsylvania at the Battlefield Duals on Jan. 6 and Jan. 13 at the Eastern States Classic, a tournament that included the top 45 teams in New York.

"I'm definitely ready for [the postseason tournaments]," said



Hayfield's Steven Ours (25-6) is looking to improve on last year's fourth place finish in the Group AAA state tournament. "You never want to lose a match ... We learn how to lose and still come back the next time," he said. — Jeff Mankie/Examiner

### FLYING HIGH

» Hayfield has another tough test scheduled for Saturday at the U.S. Marine Corps Ultimate Challenge, a tournament at Colonial Forge, the No. 2 team in the state, according to the Web site [virginiawrestling.com](http://virginiawrestling.com).

» Junior 152-pounder **Steven Ours** is ranked No. 2 in the state at 152 pounds. He has already beaten Colonial Forge senior **Steve Courtney**, ranked No. 3. Saturday he could face Courtney again as well as Great Bridge junior **Jared King**, ranked No. 1.

» The Hawks are 14-6 in dual meets and 6-0 against Patriot District competition. Hayfield has won six of the last seven district titles.

Ours, who as a sophomore was the Patriot District champion at 152 and lost a 5-4 decision in the region final to Robinson's Lee

Carsten. "That's why our schedule is worth all the traveling. It's something you can't get just wrestling the same teams over and over

again."

The opening of nearby South County two years ago may have robbed Hayfield's program of its once trademark depth. But multiple region title contenders remain, including 130-pounder Ronnie Ours (21-11), Steven's younger brother. Junior 103-pounder Raymond Borja is 28-5, won all eight matches at the Battlefield Duals and his weight class at the Beef O'Brady Invitational. He was also the runner-up at the Ironman Tournament. Senior 171-pounder Robert Desano is 26-7 and senior 160-pounder Zach Grimsley is 23-13.

## NEWS & NOTES

**FIELD TURF AT BLAIR:** Damascus High's long quest for Field Turf is well documented. But Montgomery Blair may become the first Maryland public school in the Washington area to install artificial turf, according to Mary Ellen Venzke, Capital Improvements Manager for the Montgomery County Parks Department. Money has been earmarked for Field Turf at Fairland Recreational Park this summer and for Blair in the summer of 2008, pending use issues.

"The school board and planning board needs to work out community issues. There has to be community use," said Venzke. "I don't see it as a problem. It's just a process that we have to go

through." Duke Beattie, head of MCPS athletics, welcomes the addition, saying it would give the county an option for inclement weather.

**FAIRFAX FISHES FOR HADDOCK:** Fairfax has hired Chris Haddock as its new football coach, activities director Tim Gordon said Monday. Haddock, 36, was the Rebels' defensive coordinator the last three seasons under Mat Shannon, who resigned in December. Haddock is also an assistant activities director at the school. A 1988 Chantilly graduate, Haddock played football and baseball at Hampden-Syd-

ney and was an assistant football coach for 10 years at Chantilly. He inherits a program that has struggled recently, especially since its move to the Concorde District in 2005. The Rebels have posted back-to-back 1-9 seasons and were 0-12 against district competition. Fairfax will return 12 starters next season. "Certainly the Concorde is the elite district in the state," said Haddock, also the head baseball coach at Chantilly from 2002-2004. "But I look at that as a great opportunity for our players to compete against the best. I feel like we're a lot closer to being competitive than people think."

**MILLOY TO BE INDUCTED:** Good Counsel football coach Bob Milloy, who set a Maryland public school record with eight state titles, will head this year's inductees in the Maryland High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Others to be inducted will be Doug DuVal (Wilde Lake) and Mike Pearson (Gwynn Park, Oxon Hill). They will be honored, along with members of this year's consensus all-state team, at the MHSFCA's annual banquet, Feb. 17, at M&T Bank Stadium. Among those receiving John Voight assistant coach awards will be Don Phelps (Bowie, DuVal), Bill Johnson (Douglass), and Joe Mencarini (Gaithersburg, Quince Orchard).