

Early pins boost Catholic wrestlers over Belaire, 25-23

By TONY ROMANACH
Advocate Correspondent

Dale Ketelsen was correct in predicting the 12 matches of the Catholic High-Belaire dual meet at Belaire's Bengal gym Saturday.

But the former LSU head coach, in his second year at Belaire, did not foresee the final outcome which read in orange and black, CHS 25, Belaire 23.

"I was hoping at 98 we'd do a little better," said Ketelsen in reference to one of two matches in which Catholic's Bears recorded the only pins of the meet. However, the Bears' Blake Hopkins had other thoughts in mind as he disposed of Rusty King in just 1:40.

"Coach (CHS) Bobby Navo told me I had to get a pin," said Hopkins. "I went into the match with that thought in mind."

And Hopkins did not disappoint his coach. "I just grabbed his arm and pulled it over while I hooked my legs across his," said Hopkins.

"The pins came through for us," reflected a jubilant Navo. "The pins and Gary's (Navo) major decision provided us with the additional points we needed to win."

The Bears' other pin came, as expected, in the 132-pound class where senior co-captain Lenny Cardenas, who had 13 successive victories before losing in the Belaire Invitational last week, rebounded to defeat freshman Robb Wilson in 3:40.

Cardenas jumped to a quick 2-0 lead via a take-down and raised the score to 4-0 on a near fall as the first period came to a close.

With the Bears ahead 12-8 at the time, and aware of Belaire's superiority in the upper weights, Cardenas did not waste much more time with the rookie.

"I just used the cross-face cradle and that set up the pin," explained Cardenas.

One who did not register a pin, but still gave Belaire the maximum six points awarded per match, was senior Kevin Tabor, who benefitted from Greg Murphy's default in their 145-pound match.

Tabor's victory cut the Bears' advantage to 22-14, after the Bears had recorded four points on the strength of Navo's major decision in his 138-pound bout against Gil Ferrier.

Navo, leading only 2-0 after two periods via an opening round take-down, managed two escapes and a pair of near falls in the third period to post a 9-0 shutout and thus

gain the four points on the basis of his victory by a margin between 8-12 points.

Another CHS winner was Scott Deumite, who remained unbeaten as he decisioned Bobby Sartin, 7-2, in their 155-pound clash. It marked Deumite's 21st victory of the season.

The other Bear co-captain had a rougher time than expected as Sartin managed two escapes in the first two rounds to offset an opening period Deumite take-down and forge a 2-2 tie after two periods.

Deumite's superior technique came through in the third round, however, as he scored three times via an escape, a take-down and a near fall to push the Bears ahead, 25-14.

But those were the last points CHS scored as the Bengals took the last three matches to close the final gap to just two points.

Still, the outcome could have been different if Belaire could have traded one of their three final winning decisions for a pin, which would have vaulted the now 6-2 Bengals to a 26-25 triumph over the 6-0 Bears.

The effort was there, though, in the last three bouts as Jack Carr, Robert Brooks and Darryl Boudreaux scored convincing decisions over their respective opponents. "But we lacked aggressiveness on our feet and better techniques," explained Ketelsen as he indicated the key to Belaire's inability to overtake the Bears.

"In Brooks match, when he was leading 7-3 in the third period, all Robert needed was a take-down and a near fall and he'd have won by a superior decision, but he just stood around and was called for stalling," reflected Ketelsen.

A superior decision in Brooks' 185-pound match would have pulled the Bengals within three points, at 25-22 going into Boudreaux's heavyweight bout against Stuart Broussard.

But with CHS comfortably ahead by five, 25-20, all Broussard needed to do was to avoid being pinned.

"He pinned me in the second round at the Brusly Invitational, so I just tried to stay on top to get an escape," said Broussard.

And Broussard did manage two escapes, which destroyed any hopes Boudreaux had for a superior decision as Broussard escaped with a 5-3 loss.

Overall the two coaches were satisfied with Saturday's performance, but both pointed out areas where there is still room for improvement.

"We're lacking in conditioning and are still making a few mistakes out there," noted Navo. "We looked good but we just let it be a bit too close," reflected assistant coach and former Jesuit wrestler, Pete Graffanino.

"Because we're younger and more inexperienced there's still more improvement ahead of us," warned Ketelsen. "We're in pretty good shape physically, but mentally we'll just have to wait and see."

Ketelsen's next chance to observe improvement is Wednesday when the Bengals travel to Redemptorist.

The same night Navo will see his Bears try to cut down on mistakes when they visit Tara for a dual meet against the Trojans.

Capitol, Lee defeat Carencro in 3-way wrestling meet

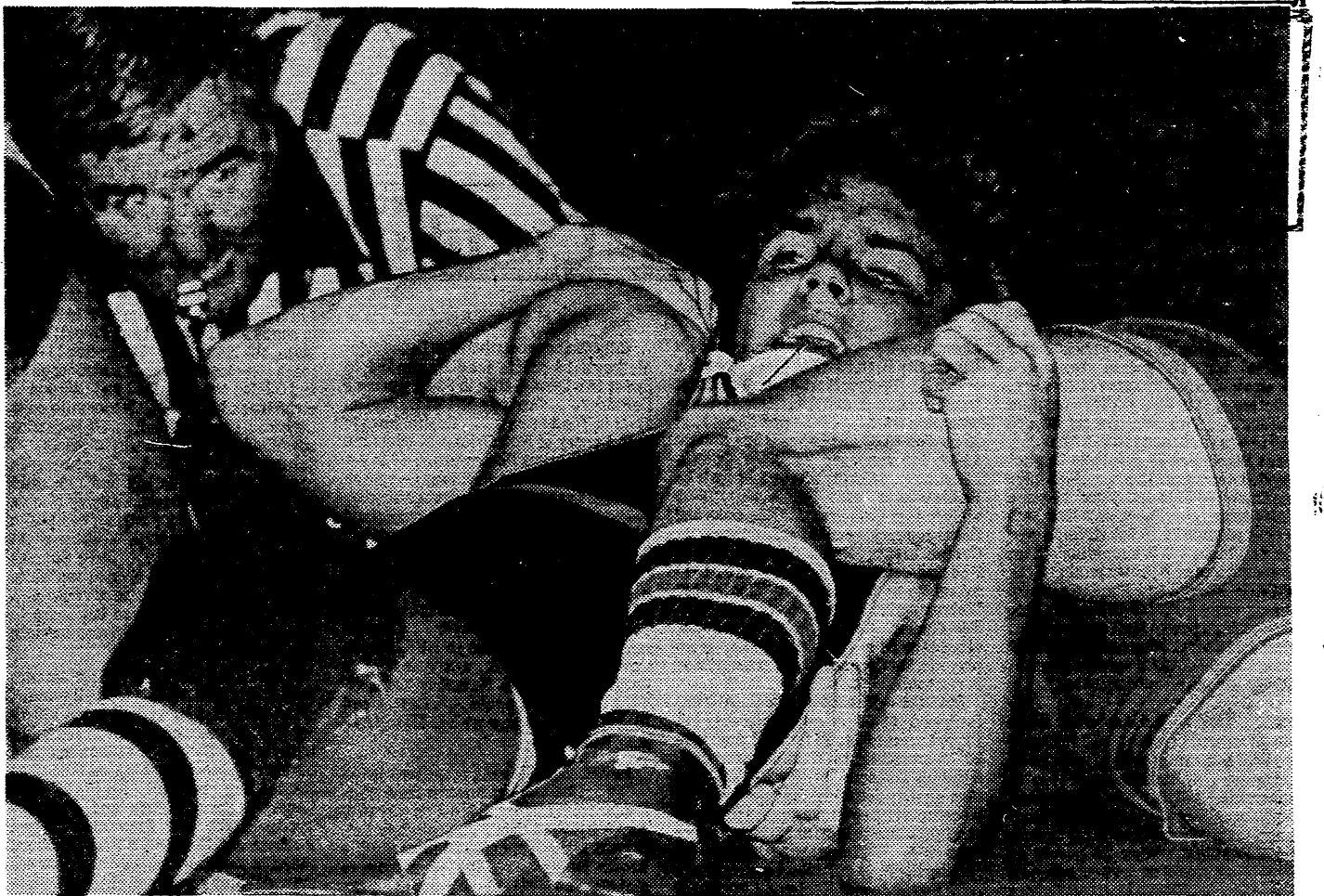
Capitol's wrestlers defeated Carencro, 46-14, and Lee, 38-24, while the Rebels defeated Carencro, 39-24, in a three-way wrestling meet at the Capitol gym Saturday.

Results of the individual matches follow.

- Capitol 46, Carencro 14**
 96 — David Esthette (Carencro) dec. Carlos Williams (Capitol), 7-0
 105 — Robert Morris (Capitol) pinned Arnold Andrus (Carencro), 5:25
 112 — Dexter Prejean (Carencro) dec. Michael Moore (Capitol), 8:2
 119 — Jonathan Brown (Capitol) pinned Dyke Dalfrey (Carencro), 5:25
 126 — Nathaniel Mallett (Capitol) dec. Kenny Harrison (Carencro), 7:4
 132 — Melvin Johnson (Capitol) pinned Lawrence Treuil (Carencro), 3:43
 138 — Carl Morris (Capitol) pinned Keith Duval (Carencro), 4:20
 145 — Joe Brown (Capitol) tied Hank Hebert (Carencro), 4-4
 155 — Stanley Toppings (Capitol) dec. Jon Thiede (Carencro), 7:0
 167 — Wadell Mullins (Capitol) won by forfeit.
 185 — Vernon Sanders (Capitol) pinned Lyle Moreau (Carencro), 4:45
 191 — Sidney Dupuis (Carencro) pinned Anthony Hawkins (Capitol), 3:44

- Lee 38, vs. Carencro 24**
 98 — David Esthette (Carencro) pinned Jeff Mire (Lee), 2:50
 105 — Arnold Andrus (Carencro) dec. Burr Tolle (Lee), 12:4
 112 — Tommy Chabreck (Lee) dec. Greg Laverne (Carencro), 7:2
 119 — Eddie Prejean (Carencro) pinned Darrel White (Lee), 4:16
 126 — Mike Smother (Lee) pinned Kenny Harrison (Carencro), 1:30
 132 — Dennis Serio (Lee) pinned Lawrence Treuil (Carencro), 1:50
 138 — Buck Kniffen (Lee) pinned Keith Duval (Carencro), 2:52
 145 — Hank Hebert (Carencro) dec. Shawn Crane (Lee), 5:2
 155 — James Dickson (Lee) pinned John Thiede (Carencro), 3:21
 167 — Aubrey Williams (Lee) won by forfeit.
 185 — John Hoffman (Lee) pinned Lyle Moreau (Carencro), 4:45
 191 — Sidney Dupuis (Carencro) pinned Patrick Payne (Lee), 3:51

- Capitol 38, Lee 24**
 98 — Carlos Williams (Capitol) dec. Jeff Mire (Lee), 20:5
 105 — Bert Tolle (Lee) won by default over Robert Morris (Capitol)
 112 — Tommy Schubert (Lee) dec. Michael Moore (Capitol), 11:2
 119 — Jonathan Brown (Capitol) pinned Darrel White (Lee), 5:19
 126 — Nathaniel Mallett (Capitol) pinned Mike Smothers (Lee), 2:10
 132 — Melvin Johnson (Capitol) tied Dennis Serio (Lee), 2:2
 138 — Buck Kniffen (Lee) pinned Carl Morris (Capitol), 1:04
 145 — Joe Brown (Capitol) dec. Greg Williams (Lee), 11:4
 155 — James Dickson (Lee) pinned Stanley Toppings (Capitol), 5:34
 167 — Wadell Mullins (Capitol) pinned Aubrey Williams (Lee), 7:15
 185 — Vernon Sanders (Capitol) dec. John Hoffman (Lee), 7:1
 191 — Victor Hall (Capitol) pinned Patrick Payne (Lee), 5:01



WRAPPED UP — Catholic High Schools' Gary Navo is all wrapped up in his 138-pound match with Belaire's Gil Ferrier in the two schools' dual meet Saturday. Navo won the match by a 9-0 decision as Catholic's Grizzlies took a 25-23 victory over the Bengals.

Dural tight-lipped about recruiting

Advocate Acadiana Bureau
LAFAYETTE — Junius Dural of Lafayette-Acadiana, one of the state's blue-chip running back prospects, is tight-lipped when it comes to recruiting talk.

But his high school coach, Bill Dotson, offers a bit more insight to the plight of the Outstanding Offensive Player in Quad-A.

"I really think he's going to Houston," said Dotson, who was taught the Veer offense by a close friend on the Houston coaching staff. "LSU is probably his second choice."

Dural, who gained more than 1,900 yards in 11 games last season, would give no indication as to where he might go or when he might sign.

"Whenever I'm ready," he replied to the "when" question. "Whenever I find the right one, the one I like and think could benefit me the most."

The 5-10, 172 pound speedster would not

even say which school he has visited or plans to visit, but he did say he "most probably" would go to a school that runs the Veer — his high school offense which allowed him to gain more than 3,500 yards in three years.

Dural says he has received letters "from

all over the place. I can't count 'em. I wouldn't try. I quit keeping track. Some of 'em I don't even read. I got tired of reading them."

But few scouts have become tired of watching films of Dural, who has helped Dotson's Wrecking Rams to a 17-4 record

McNeese increases recruit list to 27

LAKE CHARLES — McNeese State lifted its football recruiting list to 27 with four signees during the recent holiday period.

Joining the Cowboy fold were running backs Joey Granger of Kinder and Milton Stiebing of Rummel of New Orleans, quarterback Jeff Major of Catholic High of Pointe Coupee and linebacker James Hughes of Rummel.

Major totaled more 1,500 offensive

yards this season in earning most valuable player honors in his district while Granger was a power runner for the Yellow Jackets of Kinder as well as a standout defensive player.

Stiebing netted more than 1,300 yards rushing for Rummel and was named the outstanding offensive player in the city of New Orleans while Hughes was an all-district linebacker.

the past two seasons in tough District 5-AAAA competition.

Despite the constant letters, phone calls and visits from college coaches, Dural says he has not felt "hassled" by the recruiting.

"I pretty much have my mind set on what I want to do," he says.

But when and where he decided to do it is another matter.

Already, three of Dural's teammates have signed letters of intent to play college football.

Quarterback Timmy Anderson has signed with USL. McNeese signed defensive back Neal Lege and Northeast lured offensive tackle Barry Broussard.

Before this year, according to Dotson, Leroy Gedward — who signed with McNeese last year — was the only Acadiana player to sign a football scholarship directly out of high school.

Central takes title in Park Forest event

The Central Wildcats won the Park Forest Junior High Invitational Basketball Tournament, defeating the Park Forest Raiders, 37-28, at the Park Forest gym Saturday.

Leading the scoring for Central was John Allen with 14 points, and for Park Forest Glen Clark had 10 points.

The Raiders got to the final by beating Westdale, 43-31, on the scoring of Clark's 16 points. Lee Hancock led Westdale with 18.

Earlier, Park Forest defeated Valley Park, 41-20. Clark again led with 14 points, while for Valley Park, Jim Trice scored seven points.

In the first game of the day, Westdale defeated Scotlandville, 49-46. Greg Finley scored 24 points for Westdale, and Phillip Harrell 16 for Scotlandville.

Lee Hancock of Westdale was voted most valuable player of the tournament, averaging 16.75 points in four games.

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