

Rebel wrestlers tuning up for another season with a series of special exhibition matches

By CAYLEY GRESSWELL.

The GDHS Rebel Wrestling team competed in their last meet before the new year on Saturday in Hamilton. This meet was the Bishop Ryan Invitational, where Georgetown was the defending champions. Both coaches, Ray Smith and Bob McKay were pleased with how Georgetown wrestled, but despite good showings by the wrestlers, Georgetown only managed to take third place.

This year our team found the competition a lot keener than in other years, and as coach McKay said, "Finish-

ing third didn't hurt us." The top place at the meet went to Bayview High School, with 61 team points, second place went to the host team, Bishop Ryan, with 47 points. Georgetown was a close third with 43 points.

This was a very tough meet for Georgetown, and the top five teams showed that wrestling isn't just strong in one area, as the top teams are a good cross-section from all over Ontario. Wrestling in this meet were at least six individual Ontario champions, and this could account

for the fact that although GDHS did reasonable well, they did not have any first place wrestlers.

Coming in second place for Georgetown was Bob Swee-zie, a grade nine student at the high school, who wrestled at 90.5 pounds.

Couch McKay feels that "he had as good of day as we could expect this early in the season." Doug Gillespie, also "showed a lot of promise", by taking second place in his weight category of 97 pounds. Wrestling at 127 pounds was Joe Ibuki, who in the coaches opinion "has really matured as a veteran wrestler" and who is expected to have a good year. Bill Davis, who wrestled at 134.5 pounds had an excellent match, also taking second place. Bill won his weight category at OFFSA when he was in grade nine, and it is hoped that he'll do well this year. (he's now in grade 12).

Finishing third for George-

town was Mike Taylor (112.5 pounds), and Dean Scallen at 141 pounds. Frank Meidzinski and Pat Jacobs finished fourth in very difficult weight categories. Also wrestling at this meet were: Tim Dixon, Jeff Wood, Jim Wittmeir, Mark deHueck, Ron Martin, Ken Ward and Kevin Brown.

Couch McKay has been absent from the wrestling scene for the early part of the season, and is really pleased with the way the wrestlers are improving. He stated that, "we could have been sharper, and are going to have to be, but the competition was very tough. This type of meet shows that the calibre of wrestling has improved and it will be tough to predict any championship teams."

Although the team doesn't compete again until January 5th, they "can't afford to take a week off" over Christmas, and will practice

through the holidays, hoping to reach a peak for the fourth

annual GDHS Invitational on January 12th.



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