



December 20, 2008

Fairport Wins Penfield Hunter-Holiday Tournament

By Tim Schneider

PENFIELD, NY — Penfield's 42nd Annual Hunter-Holiday Tournament took place on Saturday Dec. 20 at Penfield High School. Missing from this year's field was Pal-Mac and Fulton, two small school powers who usually attend the tournament. Though their absence impacted the final standings, plenty of quality wrestling took place. In the end Fairport managed to claim the top team spot with a total of 200.5 points. Fairport only had one individual champion, 189-pound Pat Trabold.

Host Penfield narrowly took second place over Wayne with 171. Wayne had 170 points.

Penfield amassed four individual champions, 103-pound Brandon Ling, 112-pound James Montante, 125-pound Shawn Murphy and 215-pound Jake Barnhart.

Wayne led all schools with five champions. 96-pound Al Dierna, 119-pound Bobby Dierna, 130-pound Tory Cain, 135-pound Vinnie DiGravio and 160-pound Chris Marvin.

Wayne's Bobby Dierna, last year's NYSPHSAA D1 state champion at 96-pounds took home the lightweight Most Outstanding Wrestler award. He defeated Fairport's Jeff Slabe in the 119-pound championship match by a score of 10-3. Dierna collected two 15-0, technical falls as well as an 8-1 decision in the semi-final before defeating Slabe in the final.

Greece Olympia's Josh Veltre continued his sensational start of his senior season by defeating sophomore Craig Scott, NYSPHSAA's 135-pound D2 fourth place winner, of Lyons in the 152-pound final to capture the heavyweight Most Outstanding Wrestler award. Veltre took sixth place at the

state championships last year in the 135-pound class.

Brighton's TJ Glickman won the 140-pound class in convincing fashion. Glickman's closest match was an 8-2 victory in the semi final. He won by major decision over Webster Thomas' Mike Clark 11-1 in the championship.

Lyons' Owen Scott won at 145-pounds. He collected three pins before winning the final 8-0 over Byron-Bergen's Colin Geer.

Byron-Bergen's Zack Green pinned his way through the 171-pound class. He went 4-0 with four pin including a victory over top seeded Jeff Cowden of Fairport by pin at 1:16 in the final.

The most exciting championship match took place between Fairport's Thomas Davis and Penfield's James Montante in the 112-pound bout. Montante and Davis battled through three grueling regulation periods without notching a point against one another. A scoreless one minute overtime led to 30-second ride out periods. Both wrestlers were unable to escape during their chances. Montante won the coin-flip for the final overtime criteria and elected the top position. Davis would have one last chance to escape in a final 30 second period. While nearly escaping on three different occasions, Davis could not escape from the grasp of Montante and Montante thrilled the home crowd with a 1-0 OTC victory.

-Fastest pin: 11 seconds - James Montante, Penfield

-Most pins: 4 - Zack Green, Byron Bergen