



# Spencerport Wins Clayton Barnard Tournament

TIM SCHNEIDER • JANUARY 17, 2009

Spencerport won the Clayton Barnard Memorial Tournament at Hilton on Saturday. The Rangers won the tournament for the 12th consecutive year and 17th time in 18 years. This year's event was the 29th annual event. Spencerport has won 21 of the 29 tournaments.

Fresh off a narrow dual meet win over Fairport, Spencerport dominated the tournament, finishing with 258 points. Fairport was second with 181 while Greece Olympia edged out host Hilton by one point for third with 143 points.

With eight finalists Spencerport was able to collect five champions. Scott Barrett, Steve Maier, Paul Morabito, Nick Baxter and Enzo Zagari all won their respective weight classes. No other school had more than four finalists (Greece Olympia.) In total, 13 of Spencerport's 15 wrestlers placed in the top six.

While Spencerport may have won the team title, the biggest win of the night came at the expense of one of their wrestlers. Defending state champion Paul Glover lost a 3-1 decision to Brockport's Christian Boley after Boley scored a takedown with five seconds to go in the third and final period. Boley is usually a 189-pound wrestler but went up a weight class for this tournament to make room for another teammate to wrestle. He took third in the state at 189-pounds last year and is a favorite to return to the podium again this year.

Holley's Quinton Murphy, a state champion, won the 119-pound championship with ease. Murphy defeated Olympia's Mike Gentlecore by a 17-5 major decision. Murphy collected a tech fall and two major decisions in the tournament. Murphy won the 103-pound weight class last year.

Murphy's teammate, Tim Banks collected his third championship in four years by narrowly defeating hometown favorite Nate Smith 4-3 in

the 130-pound championship. Holley's third finalist Kyle Steadman was also victorious at 189 pounds. He defeated Olympia's Zack Shotwell 4-2 in the final.

Geneva's Joe Smaldone took second at the state tournament last year and won this tournament for the third consecutive year. Smaldone defeated Fairport's Thomas Davis 9-2 in the final.

Spencerport's Paul Morabito continued his march to the state tournament by winning the 145-pound class in convincing fashion over Baldwinsville's Nate Russell. Morabito won the final by a 15-4 score and collected two major decisions, a tech fall and pin in the tournament.

Spencerport's Nick Baxter continued his torrid ascension to the top of the 171-pound class. After collecting a pin against Fairport's Jeff Cowden earlier in the week Baxter ripped through the tournament and won the 171 pound title by fall in 1:45 over Canandaigua's Skyler Miller. Both Miller and Cowden are ranked ahead of Baxter in the latest armdrag.com rankings. Baxter earned two pins a technical fall and a decision during the tournament.

Olympia's Joe Bonaldi won the tournament for the second year in a row. Bonaldi edged out Hilton's Jesse Baymer 9-5 to win at 135 pounds. He won the 125-pound class last year.

Teammate Josh Veltre followed in his footsteps and won the 152-pound class 7-3 over Fairport's Dave Foley. Veltre remains unblemished in the loss column as he hopes to reach the state tournament again this year after placing sixth as a wildcard entry last year.

With the Monroe County Championships two weeks away there is a high chance some of these finalists will meet again. □

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