

16 teams in Cameron mat event

EMPORIUM - One of northcentral Pennsylvania's premier schoolboy mat events, the Cameron County High School Holiday Wrestling Tournament, is scheduled to get underway Wednesday with its largest field ever.

This year's event, the fifth annual, has 16 teams entered and a new addition, Falconer, N.Y., looms as the early favorite with ten seeds, including five top seeds.

Also among this year's entries are a pair of defending champions, who are undefeated this season and top seeds in their weights.

Bradford's Jeff Bean, who won the 100 pound championship last year with a 4-0 decision over Port Allegany's Steve Crowe, is the top seed at 112 pounds this year, with a 4-0 record.

Moshannon Valley's Mark Dugan is the other defending champ back, having decisively won Curwensville's Fred Irwin 5-0 at 114 pounds last year, as the number two seed. This year, Mark, who is 5-0-1, will be the top seed at 126 pounds.

Portville, another New York State squad with seven seeds, including two top seeds, and Coudersport, with six seeded wrestlers, none a top seed, are also rated a chance at the team title.

Mike Faulkner, last year's 128 pound top

seed who lost in the consolation match, will lead Portville this year, coming in as the top seed at 132 pounds with a 2-1 record.

Other teams entered include: Bolivar, N.Y.; Clearfield; Elk Christian; Johnsonburg; Kane; Northern Potter; Port Allegany; Ridgway; Smethport; St. Marys and Cameron County.

While Falconer, N.Y., placed five top seeds and Portville, N.Y., two, Johnsonburg, Cameron County, Bradford, Moshannon Valley and Smethport each placed a number one seed.

The combined season record for the top 12 seeds in this year's tournament reads 39 wins, four losses and two draws.

Coudersport leads the second, third and fourth seeds with six, Falconer, N.Y., and Portville, N.Y., drawing five each. Kane is fourth with four, Johnsonburg, Cameron County, Moshannon Valley and Port Allegany drawing three each, as Bradford placed two and Bolivar, N.Y., and Smethport landed one each.

Ridgway is the defending team champion, having unseated Curwensville last year, Ray Skraba and Ken Streich winning individual titles as the Elkers rolled up 132½ points. Curwensville finished second with 98 points as 12 teams took part in the event.

Wednesday's preliminaries begin at 1 p.m., at the Cameron County gym, with the quarter-finals to follow at 6 p.m.

Then, on Thursday, the semi-finals get underway at 1 p.m., followed by the consolations at 6 p.m. and the finals at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for each of the two-days will be \$1.25 for students and \$1.75 for adults for each of the sessions (preliminaries, quarter-finals, semi-finals and consolations and finals). However, one ticket may be purchased at \$3.00 for students and \$5.00 for adults, which will cover all four sessions, the consolations and finals being together.

The top seeds in each weight, school and season record follow:

- 98 — Ken Horning, Cameron County, 50.
- 105 — Norm Grabbitt, Portville, N.Y., 4-1.
- 112 — Jeff Bean, Bradford, 4-0.
- 119 — Bob Betts, Falconer, N.Y., 2-0.
- 126 — Mark Dugan, Moshannon Valley, 5-0-1.
- 132 — Mike Faulkner, Portville, N.Y., 2-1.
- 138 — Steve Moore, Falconer, N.Y., 3-0.
- 145 — Rick Delong, Johnsonburg, 4-0.
- 155 — Dan Thomas, Falconer, N.Y., 2-0.
- 167 — Mike Garvey, Falconer, N.Y., 3-0.
- 185 — Dave Walker, Falconer, N.Y., 1-1-1.
- Heavyweight — Jim Duffy, Smethport, 4-1.