

# Schiffert, Behrns grab Section VI mat honors

Two local wrestlers, Niagara Wheatfield's Vince Schiffert and Tonawanda's Steve Behrns, will represent Section VI at the 19th annual Intersectional Tournament in Syracuse on March 6-7.

Schiffert and Behrns advanced with first place finishes at 138 and 177 respectively in the Section VI Intersectional Wrestling Qualifier at Sweet Home over the weekend.

Two takedowns in the third period enabled Schiffert to take his title with a 7-4 decision in the 138 pound class. It came over defending champion Cheektowaga's Dave Hickson.

"I expected him to get to the finals," said Falcon coach Armand Cacciatore. "He's the most dedicated wrestler we've had in a long time."

The "Mauler," as Schiffert's teammates call him, said that he knew what he had in store for him wrestling against Hickson.

"I knew he was a real leg rider and I would have to counter his legs to win," explained Schiffert.

At 30-1 and in only his second season on the varsity squad, the incredible matman was also voted the Most Valuable Wrestler in the tourney.

"He's come a long way," said Cacciatore. "Schiffert's got a lot of mental toughness and he's a real hard worker."

The Wheatfield senior, who said that he really didn't expect to be where he is, added that now that he is on his way to Syracuse, "I'm not going to stop for anything."

Schiffert won his way to the finals with a pin

**WHILE the official checks on a possible pin** Tonawanda's Jamie Smith, foreground, tries to get out of the grasp of Pioneer's Darryl Rogers in the Section VI

wrestling championships over the weekend. Rogers defeated Smith in the match, but eventually lost 1-0 in the 132-pound finals.



over his first opponent, Iroquois' Dave Hannah, a 16-0 decision over Albion's Eric Erway and an 8-3 decision over third place finisher Sweet Home's Pete Rao.

Steve Behrns, who had only one point scored against him in all four matches, is not as new to the competition as Schiffert. The spectacular Tonawanda senior placed fourth in the competition last year and was pretty confident that he could win this season.

"All the guys who placed ahead of me last year were seniors and I knew what the competition would be like," Behrns explained.

At 33-0 and with National experience behind him, the 177 pounder is hopeful that this season his unbeaten record will not be broken.

"I'm pretty confident that I'll do good next weekend," he said. "When I wrestle tougher competition, I

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get tougher."

The dedicated senior, who wrestles all year round said, "I look forward to football season just to get a break from wrestling."

Behrns explained that he wrestled against some of the state champions during his summer experience. He took the Greco-Roman freestyle championship in North Carolina, and has come up against the state qualifiers in the Empire State games.

Determined and dedicated and with his goal to wrestle in the Olympics, Behrns attributes his success in this way.

"I can wrestle good because God wants me to," he said.

Falconer, the Southern Tier Wrestling Association's League champions dominated the other action, behind the brother act of Rob and Jeff Waddington.

Rob, an eighth grader, pinned opponent Dan Dabolt at :56 in the 91 class. Jeff also scored a pin at 105 over Dunkirks Robert Rosas at 3:54.

Mark Baglia placed first at 119 and Lynn Jose took second at 250 for the Falconer effort.

Iroquois also made a fine showing, placing three wrestlers in the state tourney. Matt Lewis Jones won at 132, Dave Radich at 145 and John Mariacher at 167.

Kemmore East's Dave Cacciatore finished third with an overtime pin on Pioneer's Jeff Owens.

Niagara Wheatfield also had three wrestlers capture third place victories. John Martino defeated Depew's Gary

Agosti in overtime at 145, Dom Cianchetti at 167 pinned Orleans Gary Stephens in 1:37 and at 250 Sherman Green pinned Portvilles' Rich Mott in 3:47.

Low-Ports' top-seeded Scott Freichlag also took a third with an overtime win over Cattaraugus Valley's Robert Johnson.

### SECTION VI CHAMPIONSHIPS

91-Rob Waddington (Fal) pinned Dan Dabolt (Pio) 0:56. 98-Doug Baer (SW) d. Mark Herrick (MG) 7-6. 105-Jeff Waddington (Fal) pinned Robert Rosas (DK) 3:54. 112-Pat Hughes (OP) d. Mike Massaro (W-S) 8-5. 119-Mark Baglia (Fal) pinned Drayton Wienckowski (Lanc) 1:13. 126-Len Anzivine (OI) d. Darryl Rogers (Pio) 1-0. 138-Vince Schiffert (N-W) d. Dave Hickson (Cheek) 7-4. 145-Dave Radich (Iro) d. Bob Broad (WSE) 13-10. 155-Jim Beichner (C-V) d. Rod Offhaus (Iro) 2-1. 167-John Mariacher (Iro) d. Dave Maiorana (Med) 4-2. 177-Steve Behrns (Ton.) d. Paul Marshall 4-0. 215-Brian Mallory (SW) pinned Pete Russell (New) 5:40. 250-Jeff Pusateri (Lanc) pinned Lynn Jose (Fal) 1:29.

### CONSOLATIONS

91-Mike Monile (Iro) d. Mark McInnis (SHO) 0-1. 98-Terry Norris (C-V) d. Chris LoPresto (Sal) 0-1. 105-Todd Slade (Iro) d. Ron Leder (Sal) 8-5. 112-Scott Reuter (Dep) d. Calvin Swanson (New) 4-1. 119-Gary Cacciatore (KE) pinned Jeff Owens (Pio) 0-1. 126-Ron Dabolt (Pio) d. Ron Macchioni (Fro) 9-2. 132-Jeff Fitzpatrick (Jam) d. Jamie Smith (Ton) 6-1. 138-Pete Rao (SH) d. Jesse Balcerzak (Med) 5-0. 145-John Martino (N-W) d. Gary Agosti (Dep) 0-1. 155-Dave Green (Pio) d. Keith Wynia (Dep) 5-4. 167-Dom Cianchetti (N-W) pinned Gary Stephens (OI) 1:37. 177-Doug Denn (SW) default Chris Furey (Op). 215-Scott Freichlag (L-P) d. Robert Johnson (CV) 0-1. 250-Sherman Greene (N-W) pinned Rick Mott (Po) 3:40.